

Tip Sheet

8 Tips to Find the Right IVF Clinic Abroad

It's really difficult to make a decision about which clinic to use for IVF treatment abroad. Here are some tips and help to make your choice a bit easier.



1. Create a 'must-have' sheet

Faced with lots of choices of clinics, many people have found that putting together a check list of 'must-haves' makes the task of choosing a bit easier. For example you may have in your 'must-have' column – my budget, blastocyst transfer, good clinic success rates, predominantly does my treatment etc. etc. Against the list of 'must-have's', tick off the two or three clinics you are most interested in. This should narrow things down.



2. Cost of treatment

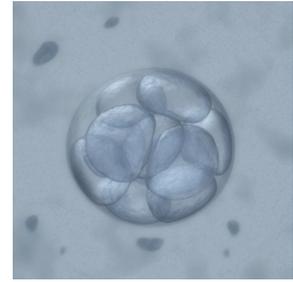
Research fully how much the treatment will cost at each clinic. Ask about possible "hidden" extras that you may have to consider. For example:

- First Consultation - is it deductible from treatment cost?
- Is sedation included in price for egg collection?
- Is sperm freezing included?
- Is embryo freezing included?
- Are there any guarantees e.g. pay for 2 cycles and get third free.



3. Clinic experience

Not all clinics are expert at everything. Some do more of one treatment than others. For example, PGD/PGS is offered at most places, but usually only a few centres are experts. Same with egg donation. Some clinics may do more of this treatment than others. This type of information may help you decide using your 'must-have' list.



4. Clinic results

Everybody wants good success rates. Ask the clinic about success rate per embryo transferred. A good success rate based on multiple embryos transferred is not the same as a good success rate based on one embryo transferred. Putting multiple embryos back can lead to a greater risk of multiple pregnancy.



5. Waiting time for treatment

Ask the clinics early on about the waiting time for treatment. Some people spend a lot of time deciding on one clinic only to find that the waiting list is too long for them and they have to start all over again.



6. Egg Sharing Programs

If you have decided to go to a clinic which runs an egg sharing program, find out how many recipients you will be sharing eggs with. If it isn't clear from the website then ask.

7. Clinic Staff

Find out information about the clinics staff. What is their experience and how long they have worked there. A high turnover of staff may point to problems.



8. Take time to do research

Like anything in life, the more preparation you do, the better the outcome. This is a really important decision you are making so make sure you do research. Some people, after narrowing down to 2-3 clinics, actually visit them to get a 'gut-feel'. This isn't going to be open to everyone to do, but can make a difference if you can afford the time and money.

For information on IVF clinics abroad you can visit www.fertilityclinicsabroad.com