

Patient Story - Egg Sharing and Treatment with Donor Sperm

I'd had a life plan that by the age of 30 I would have a good job, a nice house, a car, I'd be married and about to have children – I got the first three but not the two most important ones! I have always wanted children, and when I came out of a long-term relationship, I didn't want to spend the next 10 years waiting to meet the right person to start a family with. I thought long and hard about what to do, I really didn't want to leave things until it was too late for me to have a baby! I finally decided to have fertility treatment using donor sperm to help me have the child I so longed for.

I had originally planned to have IUI but after discussion with the staff at CARE Sheffield, decided to have IVF, and share some of my eggs. I really liked the idea that I could help other women who needed donor eggs to achieve their dream of becoming a mother, at the same time as hopefully, I was achieving mine. I have three friends who would only be able to have children using donor eggs, and so for me it was an easy decision. I knew how much I wanted a baby, if giving some of my eggs away meant I could help someone else have a baby then I really wanted to do it. When you egg share, you only pay for the drugs (around £600), and of course I also had to pay for the sperm (£600).

My first pregnancy sadly ended in miscarriage, which was really difficult, but my second attempt was successful and Theo was born in the autumn of 2009. I have also been told that two ladies have had babies (one twins), thanks to my eggs, which makes it all even more worthwhile.

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