



**West Texas Reproductive Center**

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### **Donor Program**

I want to thank you for your interest in our program. The following contains information about our program, which will be of interest to you.

Since the birth of the first “test tube” baby in 1979, new and safer techniques have been developed with the goal of improving *In Vitro* Fertilization (IVF) services. IVF describes a process whereby oocytes (eggs) that are removed from a woman’s ovaries are mixed with a man’s sperm outside the body, usually in a glass dish. Eggs that are fertilized are called embryos. These embryos are subsequently placed back into the women’s uterus in hope of achieving a pregnancy. In the donor egg program, it is the donor who undergoes treatment to stimulate the ovaries and then the eggs retrieved. The eggs would then be inseminated in the lab with the sperm of the recipient’s husband. After fertilization occurs, the resulting embryos are then transferred into the recipient’s uterus.

Oocyte donation is applicable for a variety of circumstances. These include women:

1. Who have undergone premature menopause, also called premature ovarian failure
2. Who are over the age of 40 and have failed other fertility treatments
3. Who have poor fertilization or poor egg quality at the time of IVF on multiple occasion
4. Who carry a genetic trait of certain diseases