



The medical history review

During the donor approval process, we collect and review the medical history of the donor applicant and his family members. The purpose of our review is to assess the risk of hereditary predispositions being passed on to children conceived with donated sperm.

The process spans several steps:

- 1) The donor candidate fills out a questionnaire to detail the medical history of his family members going back three generations.
- 2) We carry out a structured interview with the candidate about his family history. We ask for him to elaborate on cases mentioned in the questionnaire, but we also ask generally about the health of his family members to ensure that we get a comprehensive overview of any medical conditions in the family. We systematically inquire about conditions in all organ groups as well as auto-immune diseases, cancer, malformations, disabilities and psychiatric conditions.
- 3) In cases of late on-set diseases, we expand the family tree beyond three generations to adequately assess whether there is a hereditary predisposition in the candidate's family.
- 4) The donor candidate completes a thorough physical examination by a specially trained GP.
- 5) We run a series of blood tests to check the health of the donor applicant's organs. For instance, cholesterol levels, liver enzyme levels and kidney values.
- 6) As a final check before he is approved, we go over the medical history again with the donor candidate to ensure that we have all relevant information.

Grounds for disqualification

Donor candidates are not allowed to donate sperm before the family medical history is complete and approved by our Medical Director. We disqualify the donor candidate if our review of his family concludes that there is a hereditary predisposition to a serious medical condition that can affect his offspring.

In addition, we don't allow donors who have:

- / A history of substance abuse.

- / Physical deformities. As the only exception, we do allow donors with a superficial fusion of the second and third toe/finger (webbed fingers or toes).
- / Congenital hearing loss.
- / Poor eyesight. Individuals with strabismus (crossed eyes) or a decreased visual acuity of more than 5 +/- dioptries are unable to become donors.
- / Chronic diseases (donors with mild asthma, allergies and eczema are allowed).