



CANADIAN FERTILITY AND ANDROLOGY SOCIETY
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE FERTILITÉ ET D'ANDROLOGIE

Position Statement on Payment to Gamete Donors

2012

Some people seeking fertility treatment identify extremely poor or absent gamete (male or female reproductive cell) production as the root cause of their infertility. Whether this is attributed to the sperm-providing intended parent, the oocyte-providing intended parent or both, these couples require access to “donor” gametes (gametes from an individual not intending to raise any resulting offspring) in order to have a reasonable opportunity of achieving a successful pregnancy.

Couples may have friends or relatives willing to donate gametes to assist them in their effort to become pregnant. However, many couples are unable to identify a suitable and willing gamete donor whom they know and must, therefore, find an anonymous source. Using either known or anonymous gamete (sperm or oocyte) donors is relatively common throughout the world and is an accepted practice in Canada.

The Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society (CFAS) Board of Directors recognizes that this is an acceptable practice and asks its members to make themselves aware of relevant Canadian regulations regarding donor testing and compensation. At this time, Canada has strict rules for donor screening and quarantine of gametes during the screening phase. In addition, it is not legal to compensate a gamete donor in excess of expenses incurred as a result of the donation process. The Board is unable to offer an opinion on the risk of using gamete donors where treatment occurs outside Canada.