

Attitudes toward Egg Donation among Individuals with Infertility

Request for Cooperation

Q1. When did you start to worry about fertility issues? Please circle one of the following responses.

1. Within the first 6 months of being married	2. Between the first 6 months and the first year of being married	3. One to 2 years after getting married	6. More than 5 years after getting married
4. Two to 3 years after getting married	5. Three to 5 years after getting married	7. Other ()	

Q2. What was the most important determinant of your infertility treatment? Please circle one of the following responses.

1. My own decision	2. Husband's recommendation	3. Parent's recommendation
4. Relative's recommendation	5. Friend's/acquaintance's recommendation	6. Other ()

Q3. Please answer "Yes" or "No" to the following questions about stopping infertility treatment.

Have you considered stopping treatment?	1. Yes 2. No	Have you discussed stopping treatment with your partner?	1. Yes 2. No
Have you stopped treatment?	1. Yes 2. No		

Q4. If you were to experience a series of infertility treatments without success, how long would you continue treatment?

Until the age of

For about years

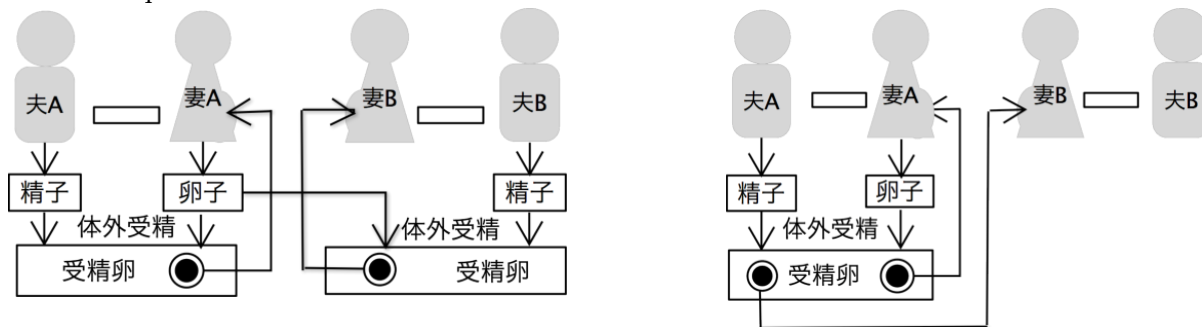
Q5. Please rate each of the following factors related to infertility treatment according to the degree to which it is stressful by circling the number that best represents your reaction.

	1. Strongly agree that it is stressful	2. Agree that it is stressful	3. Undecided	4. Disagree that it is stressful	5. Strongly disagree that it is stressful
(a) The high cost of treatments	1	2	3	4	5
(b) Lack of cooperation from my partner	1	2	3	4	5
(c) Insufficient explanation by doctors	1	2	3	4	5
(d) The frustration of multiple failed attempts	1	2	3	4	5
(e) Differences of opinion with my partner	1	2	3	4	5
(f) Strong peer and family pressure	1	2	3	4	5
(g) Feelings of guilt toward my partner	1	2	3	4	5
(h) No idea of when to stop the treatment	1	2	3	4	5
(i) The physical stresses of the treatment	1	2	3	4	5
(j) The future health effects of the treatment	1	2	3	4	5
Please feel free to add other sources of stress, if any.	<input type="text"/>				

Q6. How familiar were you with the following before you started infertility treatment? Please circle the number that best represents your reaction to each of the following.

	1. Very familiar	2. Somewhat familiar	3. Not so familiar	4. Not familiar at all
a) How ovaries function, including the fact that the quality of eggs declines with age.	1	2	3	4
b) That older mothers have a higher risk of excessive bleeding, hysterectomy, miscarriage, and stillbirth/fetal death.	1	2	3	4
c) That late childbearing is associated with increased risk of fetal disorders such as Down syndrome.	1	2	3	4

Next, we want to ask you about egg sharing and embryo donation. Please read the explanation below and then answer the questions.



【Egg Sharing】 Egg-sharing is an in vitro fertilization (IVF) treatment that brings together women having conventional IVF (sharer A) with those unable to produce their own eggs (recipient B). Egg-sharers receive discount IVF treatment, and recipients receive the eggs they need for IVF.

【Embryo Donation】 Embryo donation is a form of third-party reproduction. In this technique, the embryos that remain after one couple (donor A) complete IVF treatment are given to another couple (recipient B), followed by the placement of those embryos in the recipient woman's uterus to facilitate the recipient's pregnancy and childbirth.

Q7. What is your opinion about the implementation of the following treatments in Japan? Please circle the number that best represents your reaction to each of the following.

	1. Agree	2. Somewhat agree	3. Undecided	4. Somewhat disagree	5. Disagree
(a) IVF with egg donation	1	2	3	4	5
(b) Egg sharing	1	2	3	4	5
(c) Embryo donation	1	2	3	4	5

Q8. Would you like to share your eggs with or donate your eggs to other infertile couples if you had the chance to do so during your IVF treatment? Please circle one of the following responses.

1. Yes	2. Depends on the circumstances	3. No
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Q9. What is your opinion about egg sharing? Please circle the number that best represents your reaction to each of the following.

	1. Strongly Agree	2. Agree	3. Undecided	4. Disagree	5. Strongly Disagree
(a) The financial benefit it offers is helpful.	1	2	3	4	5
(b) It would allow me to help another infertile couple.	1	2	3	4	5
(c) The birth of a biological child is a good thing, even if he/she is born to another couple.	1	2	3	4	5
(d) Sharing my precious eggs with another person decreases my own chances of conceiving.	1	2	3	4	5
(e) The birth of a biological child born to another couple makes me uneasy.	1	2	3	4	5
(f) Egg sharing is like selling my eggs.	1	2	3	4	5
(g) I oppose egg donation in the first place.	1	2	3	4	5
(h) Egg sharing might enable another couple to have a baby even though I might not conceive myself.	1	2	3	4	5
(i) I'm afraid that the child will recognize me as her/her biological parent.	1	2	3	4	5

Please feel free to add your opinion.

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Q10. Would you like to donate extra embryos to another infertile couple after the end of your IVF treatment? Please circle one of the following responses.

1. Yes	2. Depends on the circumstances	3. No
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Q11. What is your opinion about donating extra embryos to another infertile couple? Please circle the number that best represents your reaction to each of the following.

	1. Strongly Agree	2. Agree	3. Undecided	4. Disagree	5. Strongly Disagree
(a) I don't need them for my own reproductive purposes.	1	2	3	4	5
(b) I could help another infertile couple.	1	2	3	4	5
(c) I could not bear to destroy my extra embryos.	1	2	3	4	5
(d) The birth of a biological child is a good thing, even if he/she is born to another couple.	1	2	3	4	5
(e) The birth of a biological child born to another couple makes me uneasy.	1	2	3	4	5
(f) I worry about the adequacy of the recipients.	1	2	3	4	5
(g) I want to store them for my further treatments.	1	2	3	4	5
(h) I'm afraid that the child will recognize me as her/her biological parent.	1	2	3	4	5

Please feel free to add your opinion.

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Next, we would like to ask you about various options. To answer the following question, imagine that you found pregnancy via husband–wife IVF difficult.

Q12. Under those circumstances, what is your opinion about the parent–child or biological relationship? Please circle the number that best represents your reaction to each of the following.

	1. Strongly Agree	2. Agree	3. Undecided	4. Disagree	5. Strongly Disagree
(a) I want to give birth to and bring up a child on my own.	1	2	3	4	5
(b) I want a biological child of my own.	1	2	3	4	5
(c) I want a biological child with my husband.	1	2	3	4	5
(d) It's difficult for a couple to raise a child as their own when the child has no genetic link to neither of them.	1	2	3	4	5
(e) A complete genetic connection is not important to my ability to nurture a child as my own.	1	2	3	4	5
(f) Building a positive relationship is possible even when a child has no genetic link to neither of a couple.	1	2	3	4	5

Q13. Please circle the number that best represents your familiarity with each of the following.

	1. Familiar	2. Somewhat familiar	3. Somewhat unfamiliar	4. Unfamiliar
(a) The difference between "regular" adoptions and "special" adoptions.	1	2	3	4
(b) Private adoption agencies.	1	2	3	4
(c) That some domestic clinics offer egg-donation services.	1	2	3	4
(d) That some domestic agencies provide an overseas egg-donation service.	1	2	3	4
(e) That some domestic clinics offer backup care for infertile patients who seek overseas egg-donation services.	1	2	3	4

Q14. Please circle the number that best represents your reaction to each of the following statements.

	1. Agree	2. Somewhat agree	3. Undecided	4. Somewhat disagree	5. Disagree
(a) Parents don't need to tell their children they were born with the assistance of donation.	1	2	3	4	5
(b) It is desirable for parents to tell their children about the role of gamete donation before they become adults.	1	2	3	4	5
(c) Children have the right to know about the role of gamete donation if they request the information.	1	2	3	4	5
(d) Identifying information about donors should not be disclosed to the children to protect privacy.	1	2	3	4	5
(e) Identifying information about donors should be made available at the child's request.	1	2	3	4	5

Q15. Would you seek egg donation if your doctor told you that your IVF treatment involving your partner would not work? Please circle one of the following responses.

1. I would seek egg donation	2. Depends on the circumstances	3. I would not seek egg donation
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Q16. What is your opinion about overseas egg donation? Please circle one of the following responses.

1. I would like to participate in egg donation in Japan.	2. Both domestic and overseas egg donation are acceptable.
3. I would like to participate in egg donation overseas.	4. Neither domestic nor overseas egg donation is acceptable.

Q17. Please circle all of the following experiences with egg donation that you have had.

1. I collected information about egg donation from the Internet.	2. I posted messages on a message board asking for advice.
3. I spoke with my partner about egg donation.	4. I spoke with my relatives (<i>e.g.</i> , sister) about donation.
5. I spoke with my doctor about egg donation.	6. My doctor referred me to overseas egg-donation clinics.
7. I asked my relatives/acquaintances to donate eggs.	8. I looked into clinics in Japan that offer egg donation.
9. I applied to agencies in Japan that offer egg donation.	10. I visited the websites of overseas egg-donation agencies.
11. I applied to overseas agencies that offer egg donation.	12. I searched for clinics that offer backup care for overseas egg donation.
13. I applied to clinics that offer backup care for overseas egg donation.	14. Not applicable

Q18. How much would you be willing to pay for egg donation (all inclusive, including medical costs and donor compensation).

1. Less than ¥500,000	2. ¥500,000–¥999,999	3. ¥1,000,000–¥1,999,999	4. ¥2,000,000–¥2,999,999
5. ¥3,000,000–¥3,999,999	6. ¥4,000,000–¥4,999,999	7. ¥5,000,000 or more	
8. I won't consider egg donation	* 1 JPY = 0.0102 USD (2013 Jun)		

Q19. Please circle the number that best represents your reaction to each of the following statements about egg donation.

	1. Agree	2. Somewhat agree	3. Undecided	4. Somewhat disagree	5. Disagree
(a) Finding an egg donor in this country is difficult	1	2	3	4	5
(b) I'm anxious about egg donation overseas	1	2	3	4	5
(c) The total cost of egg donation is unaffordable	1	2	3	4	5
(d) Egg donation violates natural law	1	2	3	4	5
(e) I want a biological child	1	2	3	4	5
(f) I'd feel uneasy about the child given his/her origin	1	2	3	4	5
(g) Parental relations can be complex	1	2	3	4	5
(h) Egg donation has potential health risks	1	2	3	4	5

	1. Agree	2. Somewhat agree	3. Undecided	4. Somewhat disagree	5. Disagree
(i) Realistically, I have no other options except egg donation if I want to get pregnant	1	2	3	4	5
(j) An adoptive relationship would make me insecure	1	2	3	4	5
(k) Egg donation would allow me to be pregnant while hiding my infertility from others	1	2	3	4	5
(l) I want a child that is biologically related to my husband	1	2	3	4	5
(m) My husband wants a biological child of his own	1	2	3	4	5
(n) I can have a biological child by using a relative's donated egg	1	2	3	4	5
(o) I can give birth myself through egg donation	1	2	3	4	5
(p) Through egg donation, I can nurture the child from infancy	1	2	3	4	5

Please feel free to add your opinions

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Q20. Would you seek to adopt if your doctor says your IVF treatment with your partner will not work? Please circle one of the following responses.

1. I would seek to adopt	2. Depends on the circumstances	3. I would not seek to adopt
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Q21. Please circle all of the following experiences with adoption that you have had.

1. I spoke with my partner about adoption	2. I spoke with my parents or relatives about adoption
3. I participated in adoption events (e.g., symposia briefings)	4. I did volunteer work with children
5. I received advice from a children's consultation office	6. I became a registered foster parent
7. I contacted a private agency	8. I registered with a private agency
	9. Not applicable

Q22. Please circle the number that best represents your reaction to each of the following options if it becomes clear that your eggs do not work.

	1. Very favorable	2. Somewhat favorable	3. Undecided	4. Somewhat unfavorable	5. Very unfavorable
(a) Using eggs donated by your biological sister	1	2	3	4	5
(b) Using eggs donated by a close relative other than your biological sister	1	2	3	4	5
(c) Using eggs donated by a sister-in-law	1	2	3	4	5
(d) Using eggs donated by an acquaintance or friend	1	2	3	4	5
(e) Using eggs donated by an unknown altruistic donor	1	2	3	4	5
(f) Using eggs donated by a paid donor through an agency	1	2	3	4	5
(g) Using eggs donated by other infertile patients (egg sharing)	1	2	3	4	5
(h) Using excess embryos donated by other infertile couples	1	2	3	4	5
(i) Married life without children	1	2	3	4	5
(j) Adoption	1	2	3	4	5

Please select the three most favorable options from those given in Q22.

1st 2nd 3rd

Q23. Please circle the number that best represents your reaction to each of the following statements about the following new technologies being developed to enable infertile women to use their own eggs.

	1. Very favorable	2. Somewhat favorable	3. Undecided	4. Somewhat unfavorable	5. Very unfavorable
(a) Egg freezing at earlier stages of women's reproductive life	1	2	3	4	5
(b) Nuclear transfer, where the nucleus of a patient's cell replaces the nucleus of a donor egg cell	1	2	3	4	5
(c) Producing healthy eggs from the iPS cells (induced pluripotent stem cell) of an infertile woman	1	2	3	4	5

Q24. The following questions ask about how you have been feeling during the past 30 days. Please circle the number that best describes how often you had each feeling.

During the past 30 days, about how often did you feel ...						
		None of the time	A little of the time	Some of the time	Most of the time	All of the time
1	...nervous?	1	2	3	4	5
2	...hopeless?	1	2	3	4	5
3	...restless or fidgety?	1	2	3	4	5
4	...so depressed that nothing could cheer you up?	1	2	3	4	5
5	...that everything was an effort?	1	2	3	4	5
6	...worthless?	1	2	3	4	5

Q25 The next questions relate to various aspects of your life. On a scale from 1 to 7, where 1 and 7 represent the extremes, please indicate how frequently you have had the following experiences by making a check mark in the appropriate box. Please give only one answer to each question.

1. How often do you have the feeling that you don't really care about what goes on around you?						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Very seldom or never					Very often	
2. How often have you been surprised by the behavior of people whom you thought you knew well?						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Very seldom or never					Very often	
3. How often have people you counted on disappointed you?						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Very seldom or never					Very often	
4. Until now, has your life had:						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
No clear goals or purpose					Very clear goals and purpose	
5. How often do you have the feeling that you're being treated unfairly?						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Very often					Very seldom or never	

6. How often do you have the feeling that you are in an unfamiliar situation and don't know what to do?						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Very often			Very seldom or never			
7. Doing the things you do every day is ...						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A source of deep pleasure and satisfaction			A source of pain and boredom			
8. How often do you have very mixed-up feelings and ideas?						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Very often			Very seldom or never			
9. How often do you have feelings inside you that would rather not feel?						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Very often			Very seldom or never			
10. Many people, even those with a strong character, sometimes feel like losers in certain situations. How often have you felt this way in the past?						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Very often			Very seldom or never			
11. In general, do you usually						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Overestimate or underestimate the importance of events			Keep events in proportion			
12. How often do you have the feeling that the things you do in your daily life are of little meaning?						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Very often			Very seldom or never			
13. How often do you feel that you're not sure you can keep a situation under control?						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Very often			Very seldom or never			

Q26. Please let us know about you and your partner's.

a) Your age	years old	b) Age at first marriage (including common law marriage; does not apply only to the present marriage)	years old							
c) Your partner's age	years old	d) Length of current marriage	years							
d) Divorced • Widowed • Remarried	Yes • No	f) Do you have any sisters?	Yes • No							
g) Household members	1. No members	2. Husband	3. Children	4. Parent(s)	5. Parent(s)-in-law	6. Brothers/Sisters	7. Brothers/Sisters-in-law	8. Other Relatives	9. Non-relatives	10. Other()

Q27. Please circle which of the following describes your employment status:

1. Unemployed	2. Full time	3. Seasonal full time	4. Part time
5. Work at home	6. Self-owned business	7. Family business	8. Other

Q28. What is your annual income?

1. 0	2. -¥999,999	3. ¥1,000,000-¥1,999,999	4. ¥2,000,000-¥3,999,999
5. ¥4,000,000-¥5,999,999	6. ¥6,000,000-¥7,999,999	7. ¥8,000,000-¥9,999,999	8. ≥¥10,000,000

Q29. What is the annual combined income of you and your partner?

1. -¥1,999,999	2. ¥2,000,000-¥3,999,999	3. ¥4,000,000-¥5,999,999	4. ¥6,000,000-¥7,999,999
5. ¥8,000,000-¥9,999,999	6. ¥10,000,000-¥14,999,999	7. ¥15,000,000-¥19,999,999	8. ≥¥20,000,000

Q30. Please circle the statement that best describes what you think about “working women.”

1. Women should try to reconcile working and housekeeping/bringing up children.	2. The woman's job should not interfere with her household duties and child-care responsibilities.
3. Women should devote themselves to their household duties.	4. Other ()

Q31. Please circle the item that describes what led to your diagnosis of infertility (choose all that apply):

1. Uterine or cervical problem (e.g., endometriosis, luteal dysfunction, adenomyotic uteri, fibroid, cervical mucus)	4. Precocious menopause
2. Fallopian tube problem (e.g., tubal blockage, tubal stenosis, fimbria problems, chlamydial infectivity)	
3. Ovum or ovarian problem (e.g., ovulation disorder, polycystic ovarian syndrome)	6. Repeated miscarriages (e.g., hyperprolactinemia, habitual abortion, chromosomal defect)
5. Age-related infertility (egg quality/ovarian function)	
7. Intercourse problem (e.g., no sex, erectile dysfunction, dyspareunia)	8. Sperm problem (e.g., aspermia, sperm motility disorder)
9. Other ()	

Q32. Which was considered the major cause? Please choose one problem. _____

Q33. Please provide the following information regarding your previous infertility treatment(s). (If an item does not apply to you, enter “0.”)

a) Treatment length (in total) _____ years _____ months	b) AIH (artificial insemination by _____ Yes • No husband)
c) IVF _____ Yes • No	d) Pregnancy by fertility treatment _____ times
e) Miscarriage/stillbirth/abortion _____ times	f) Number of stored frozen embryos _____
g) Aspiration (egg collection) times _____ times	h) Embryo transfer _____ times
i) Government-subsidized IVF _____ times	

Q34. How much is has your infertility treatment cost you (out-of-pocket expenses) up to now?

1. -¥499,999	2. ¥500,000-¥999,999	3. ¥1,000,000-¥1,999,999	4. ¥2,000,000-¥2,999,999
5. ¥3,000,000-¥3,999,999	6. ¥4,000,000-¥4,999,999	7. ≥¥5,000,000	

Q35. What do you want from Japanese reproduction policy and law? Please feel free to add your opinions about infertility treatment, egg donation, cross-border reproductive care, adoption systems, or anything else.

Thank you for your cooperation.

