

A word to our participants:

The CReATe Biobank is a large collection of bio-samples. We are the first and largest fertility biobank in Canada. Our mission is to collect high quality human reproductive biological materials, along with relevant clinical data, to facilitate ongoing and future research in fertility, and to support the development of novel tests and treatments.

This brochure will provide you with information about biobanks and, specifically, about the CReATe Biobank. Please read this Information brochure carefully. Feel free to ask questions and to discuss the CReATe Biobank with a relative, friend or your local health care worker.

Yours Sincerely,

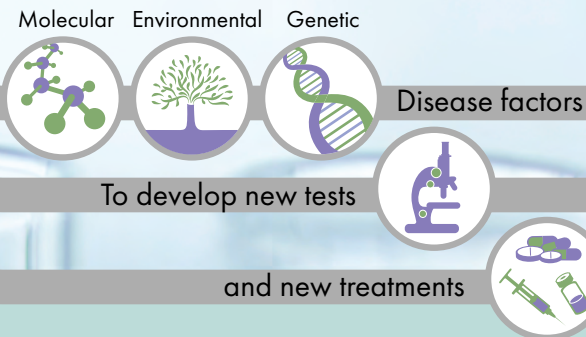
CReATe Biobank Team

What is Biobank?

A biobank is a collection of biological samples linked with anonymized patient information, which is organized in a structured, readily analyzable format and made available to researchers.

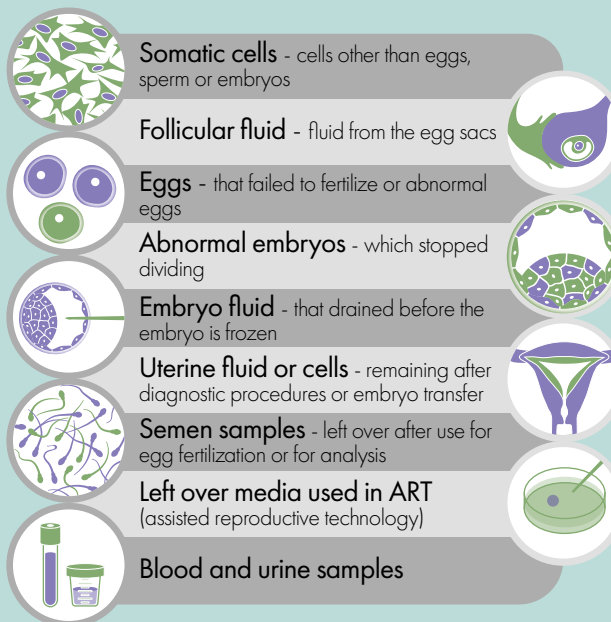
Many scientists struggled to obtain sufficient samples for research prior to the advent of biobanks.

Nowadays, the researchers use the stored samples in biobanks to study:



This greatly impacts medical progress which will eventually benefit every sick person.

CReATe Biobank was established in 2015 within the framework of our reproductive health clinic and preserves many types of samples for research including:



How are the samples collected?

Majority of our banked samples are IVF waste material.

After some ART procedures, there can be leftover cells and tissues which are not needed clinically, and which otherwise are routinely discarded in a biological waste container.

As an alternative to discarding this material it could be used by research for various studies directed at

- Improving IVF techniques
- To promote advances in the treatment of infertility
- To increase medical knowledge about the causes of medical conditions and miscarriages

On the other hand, our non-waste biobank includes blood, urine and buccal swab samples.



Sequence of events

Understand what the Biobank is about

Decide if you want to donate your biological material

Sign a consent form

Biobank staff will **collect** the samples and associated clinical data:

Waste-materials:
Will be collected following your clinical procedure

Non-waste materials:
Will be collected while you're visiting the clinic for your routine care

Anonymity and patient confidentiality

- All collected samples and associated clinical data will be identified by a coded numbering system to ensure anonymity throughout all investigations.
- All collected information will be kept in a locked and secure area and will be retained until research using the banked samples is completed.



Risks and concerns

- You have the right to say **NO** to the donation of your biological samples.
- The donation is voluntary and your decision to donate or not, will not impact your clinical care at this clinic or the diagnostic testing your doctor ordered.
- You can withdraw your unused samples at any time.
- Your samples are numerically coded to reduce the risk of a breach in patient confidentiality.

Your participation may help to identify new causes of infertility and improve treatments

If in the future you decide to change your consent or if you have further questions about the biobank or our research studies, please contact us at:

Email: createbiobank@createivf.com

Phone: 416-323-7727 ex:2255

To learn more about our research program and the ongoing projects please visit:

<https://www.createresearchprogram.com/>

Thank you for taking the time to consider participating in the CReATe Biobank

The CReATe Biobank has been approved by Veritas IRB (Independent Research Board)

If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, you may contact the Manager of Veritas IRB at 514-337-0442 or toll-free at 1-866-384-4221



CReATe Biobank

