

Questions That Help You Find the Right IVF Doctor

QUESTIONS FOR YOU, THE PATIENT

- Do you like the vibe of the practice?
 - Is the waiting room comfortable, clean, well-attended to? Is there a bathroom, water? Is the staff attentive? Do you feel good about spending quite a bit of time here?
 - How long did it take you to get here? How was the commute? Can you picture coming in every day at certain points in your treatment?
 - Is the staff attentive? Do things feel grounded or chaotic?
 - Is the clinic a member of SART or recognized by other reputable medical societies?
 - Has it been recommended by your OB-GYN or other trusted providers?
 - Do some poking around – who owns the practice? Many IVF clinics today are owned by private equity firms, is there an economic incentive to be aware of?
 - Look up your state's laws regarding IVF and embryos – there are several states with laws that could impact you and you might want to consider going to another state.
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QUESTIONS FOR THE DOCTOR/MEDICAL TEAM:

- What course of treatment do they recommend for you?
- What is their success rate overall? What would they expect your chances of success to be based on your unique factors?
- Can they explain, step by step, what is involved in your treatment plan? Can they give you the full picture from pre-testing, through egg retrieval and embryo transfer?
- Do they have a 24-hour/7-day on-call team in case of emergencies or complications?
- Who is your point person, what is the average response time?
- If you have an underlying medical condition or history of complications with IVF - are they familiar with cases like yours?
- What kind of pain management do they use during retrieval and other procedures?
- What are the likely side effects you will experience?
- Who is on your medical team? How often will you meet directly with your doctor?
- Do they have a social worker or support group available to you?

HARBOR

IVF DOULA SERVICES

QUESTIONS FOR THE FINANCE TEAM

- Can they enumerate all fees – based on your insurance plan – including:
 - Genetic testing of patient and partner (if applicable)
 - Initial evaluation and baseline fertility work-up and blood work or patient and partner (if applicable)
 - Pre-implantation testing of embryos
 - Medication required for cycle
 - Syringes and needles required for cycle
 - Costs for additional procedures such as SHG or polyp removal
 - Are there additional costs for doctors who bill outside of the clinic group (e.g. anesthesiologist?)
 - What is the cost of storing your frozen embryos on an annual basis?
- Do they offer any kind of financial support?
- Will they work directly with you/your insurance company if a particular medication is not covered to find an alternative?

Questions as you consider IVF

- What size family do you (and your partner) envision?
- How important is family, vs. work, travel, career, other parts of life to you (and your partner)?
- How much do you feel comfortable budgeting for IVF?
What financial or logistical pressures might exist?
- Is this a good time? Even a smooth process is usually 6+ months.
- Have you checked your anti-mullerian hormone levels?
Do you need to be concerned about your egg reserves?
- IVF success rates decrease significantly with age –
do you have age considerations that impact your decision?
- Do you have a partner? If not, how important is having a partner to starting a family for you?
Do you have a support system?
- If you want a family, and are not sure about IVF, what other options might you consider?