



SPERM BANKING:

The Cancer Patient's Guide To
Preserving Your Fertility

www.canamcryo.com



When you are diagnosed with a serious illness like cancer, many aspects of your life may seem uncertain and out of your control.

But you can make decisions now that will give you more control over your future.



Sperm banking lets you focus on recovery now, giving you the freedom to start your family when you're ready

How can cancer treatment affect my fertility?

It is important to speak to your doctor about fertility protection before starting cancer treatment. Chemotherapy, radiation therapy and surgery may all cause permanent infertility.

Temporary infertility can also affect family planning. Repeated cancer treatment doses can cause long delays in the return of fertility, sometimes up to 10 years.



How can sperm banking help me?

Storing your sperm before cancer treatment has even begun is your best insurance policy against treatment-caused infertility.

Storing sperm by cryopreservation (freezing) allows you to postpone making any permanent – and sometimes irreversible – decisions about having children until you are ready.

Why is CAN-AM Cryoservices my best option to bank sperm?

CAN-AM offers a unique sperm banking program for its long-distance clients: the **preServe** Sperm Transport Kit™. Now you can ship your sperm deposits directly to the laboratory by courier, without the time and expense of travelling to the clinic in person.

CAN-AM Cryoservices has been providing outstanding sperm freezing and storage services to Canadians for more than 10 years. Our laboratory is inspected annually by Health Canada and is fully compliant with Canadian regulations.†

CAN-AM holds membership in several international organizations of Reproductive Medicine, including the Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society (CFAS), the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) and the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE).

What is sperm cryopreservation?

Cryopreservation means freezing at very low temperatures. When biological cells, like sperm, are frozen and stored at cryogenic temperatures, their metabolic activity stops and they do not decay. Sperm can be frozen indefinitely. Normal pregnancies have been achieved using sperm frozen for more than 20 years.

† Assisted Human Reproduction Act (2004),
Processing and Distribution of Semen for Assisted Conception Regulations (1996)



Can I bank my sperm while I am receiving treatment? What if I am unable to leave the hospital to make deposits?

It is recommended that you complete sperm banking before cancer treatment begins. Some cancer treatments can increase the risk of birth defects and storing sperm during treatment is not recommended. Speak to your doctor about whether storing during treatment is right for you.

Even if you are unable to travel, you can still access our sperm storage services, by transporting your deposit directly to CAN-AM Cryoservices, using the **preServe** Sperm Transport Kit™.

Storing sperm before cancer treatment starts is your best insurance policy against treatment-related infertility

What kind of testing do I need before banking?

Infectious disease testing is necessary to safely store sperm. We require the following blood tests to be done before or within 30 days of your sperm storage:

- HIV (AIDS) 1 & 2 Antibody
- HTLV I&II Antibody
- Hepatitis B Surface Antigen
- Hepatitis B Core Antibody
- Hepatitis C Viral Antibody
- Syphilis screen

Storage may be available for patients with positive or missing test results, but separate (quarantined) storage space is required, at an additional cost.



How do I make a deposit using the **preServe** Sperm Transport Kit™?

The **preServe** Sperm Transport Kit™ is designed to protect and maintain the sperm until it is delivered to the laboratory for assessment and freezing by a technician. To use the kit, the semen is collected by manual stimulation (masturbation). "Transport Media" helps the sperm survive until the Kit is delivered to the lab. Contact 1-888-245-3471 for more information, or to request the Kit.



How many deposits will I need? Will I be able to have more than one child?

The sperm quality of the deposits, and how you plan to use the sperm in the future, will help you decide how many deposits you will need.

Sperm quality depends on the number of sperm, and how many are active (motile). If sperm quality is poor, storing more than one deposit may allow you to use more affordable fertility treatments later, or to plan for more than one pregnancy.

There is no additional storage fee to store more than one deposit.



What are my options for fertility treatment using cryopreserved sperm?

Cryopreserved sperm can be used in any fertility treatment that uses “fresh” sperm.

If you are only able to bank a single deposit, or if your deposits have only a few healthy sperm, you may still successfully undergo fertility treatment, using more advanced IVF techniques like ICSI (intra-cytoplasmic sperm injection), in which one healthy sperm is injected into each egg. No difference has been shown in the rate of success of IVF treatment between fresh and cryopreserved sperm.

Over one million children have been born worldwide using cryopreserved sperm. The use of cryopreserved sperm has not been found to result in higher rates of birth defects or health problems.



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What does sperm banking cost?

Costs include assessment and freezing of each deposit, and cryogenic storage using liquid nitrogen. Deposits may be banked for short-term storage or in long-term storage for one year or more. Prepaid storage fees cost as little as \$16.25 per month. For the most current pricing, please contact one of our representatives at 1-888-245-3471 or visit our website at www.canamcryo.com.



What should I do once I am ready to start my family?

Once you are ready to begin having children, ask your doctor to refer you to a reproductive specialist to have your fertility tested.

If you will need to use your banked sperm for fertility treatment, simply complete the paperwork to release the sperm from storage, and have it shipped to your doctor. You may continue to store unused deposits for future pregnancies.



Your treatment may limit your travel,
but don't let it limit your options

CAN-AM Cryoservices' **preServe**
Sperm Transport Kit™ offers clients
an easy, convenient way to access
our sperm banking services without
leaving home.

To order the Kit, or to learn more about our services,
please visit our website at www.canamcryo.com,
or speak with one of our representatives at
1-888-245-3471.



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