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preServe™ SPERM TRANSPORT KIT INFORMATION

FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

Survival rates for Canadians diagnosed with cancer are among the highest in the world. However, cancer treatments such as chemotherapy, radiation therapy or surgery can impact fertility. ***Storing sperm before starting cancer treatment is the best chance to prevent treatment-caused infertility in patients****.*

BENEFITS FOR YOUR PATIENT

Using the **pre*Serve™*** Sperm Transport Kit, patients all over Canada have access to the same sperm-storage services found in larger cities and larger treatment centres, including:

- Patients who are confined to their homes or hospital room
- Patients with weakened immune systems for whom travelling is not recommended
- Patients who face time constraints due to scheduled treatments and procedures
- Patients who cannot travel due to caring for children or other dependents
- Patients for whom travelling (and overnight accommodation) is cost-prohibitive
- Patients who cannot take time from work or school to travel to a sperm banking facility

For these patients, the **pre*Serve*™** Sperm Transport Kit makes state-of-the-art fertility preservation convenient and accessible.

***PLEASE NOTE*:** The use of cryopreserved sperm by sexually intimate partners is regulated by the *Assisted Human Reproduction (AHR) Act (2004).*

Sperm cryopreserved using the **pre*Serve*™** Sperm Transport Kit is intended for **sexually-intimate partners only** and does not meet the screening and testing requirements for use in third-party donation, as established by the Semen Regulations*.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS for Health Care Providers

The **pre*Serve*™** Sperm Transport Kit is simple and convenient to use from home or in a hospital setting. You will find answers to common questions about sperm banking in our Brochure, ***SPERM BANKING: THE CANCER PATIENT'S GUIDE TO PRESERVING YOUR FERTILITY***.

As a Health Care Provider, you may have additional questions about sperm banking using the Kit. Please contact us at 1-888-245-3471 if you have any additional questions or concerns.

* *Processing and Distribution of Semen for Assisted Conception Regulations (1996, 2000)*

Appreciate the Quality. Experience the Results.

How is does the Kit allow sperm to be collected at home or in hospital and stored at CAN-AM?

The Kit contains a sterile semen collection vessel and a container of Transport Media, which supports the sperm in transport. The Kit is kept at the optimal temperature for transport in an insulated shipping container using ice packs until it is delivered to CAN-AM Cryoservices in Hamilton, ON.

Will using the Kit delay the beginning of cancer treatment?

CAN-AM recommends a **minimum of 48 hours of sexual abstinence**, and a maximum of 5 days, before the first semen collection in order to collect the best quality specimen. If using multiple Kits to store several deposits, a minimum of 24-48 hours is recommended before each Kit is used.

If **postponing the start of cancer treatment** to achieve the recommended abstinence is not possible, the Kit may still be used, although sperm concentration, viability and motility may be somewhat reduced. In many cases, assisted reproduction technologies like ICSI (intra-cytoplasmic sperm injection) can successfully utilize even poor-quality viable sperm samples.

Should my Patient use more than one Kit? How many vials should he store?

Each Kit is processed and aliquotted into one or more cryovials for cryopreservation (freezing). The quality of the sperm will determine how many vials can be frozen from each Kit.

The number of vials that a Patient should plan to store is dependent on sperm quality and the type of fertility treatment that will eventually be used. Some fertility treatments (such as insemination) may require the use of several vials per cycle of treatment, while others (like ICSI) may require fewer. Achieving pregnancy may require multiple treatment cycles and sibling pregnancy attempts will also require the storage and use of additional vials.

CAN-AM can provide the Patient's physician with the results of the sperm quality assessment from each Kit, including the number of vials frozen, enabling physcians to provide guidance regarding the collection of additional semen specimens.

What kind of testing is performed on the Patient's sperm?

CAN-AM performs a cryopreservation assessment of the sperm at the time of freezing. This includes sperm concentration (sperm per mL), sperm count (sperm per vial), percent motility, and sperm viability. These parameters are intended to help guide Patients and their physicians when determining whether further sperm storage is recommended.

How would my Patient receive and ship Kits?

The Patient or a Care Provider may call CAN-AM at 1-888-245-3471 to request one or more Kits. CAN-AM will ship the Kit(s) overnight by FedEx directly to the patient's home or hospital room.

The Transport Media has an expiry date of approximately 2 weeks. If more than one Kit is needed, CAN-AM may ship all requested Kits at once to the Patient. However, **each Kit must be returned to CAN-AM as soon as possible after the specimen is collected**.

Before he collectes the semen specimen, the Patient must call FedEx at 1-800-GOFEDEX (1-800-463-3339) to **find out the scheduled pick up time is for his location, and arrange for a Pick Up** at that time. He will then need to plan to collect his semen specimen as close to this time as comfortably possible, in order to minimize the time between collection and cryopreservation.

Return shipping to CAN-AM by FedEx is prepaid. Using another courier will result in additional charges. Please see our attached Fee Guide for the most current pricing.

Do I need to provide any special equipment or items to the Patient so he can use the Kit?

The Kit does not require any additional items to be used, but **Patients must have access to refrigeration.** The Kit contains Sperm Transport Media, which will help the sperm survive transport to the cryolab at CAN-AM. This fluid must be kept at 2-8℃ prior to use.

The Kit also contains several ice packs to help ensure it remains at the proper temperature during transport. To best ensure a cool, stable transport temperature back to the lab, these packs should be frozen prior to transport.

Patients who require a collection condom may purchase one from CAN-AM and it will be included in the Kit shipment (see next question).

What if my patient is unable to collect his semen by masturbation?

CAN-AM recommends masturbation as the method of semen collection, in order to reduce the chances of contamination. If your Patient cannot collect their semen specimen in this manner due to a physical cause, such as paralysis, or due to religious or other reasons, semen may still be cryopreserved after collection by electro-ejaculation or using a collection condom.

Please contact CAN-AM if you patient requires the use of a collection condom, which can be provided with the Kit.

How is the sperm processed and stored?

Once the Kit arrives at the lab, the specimen is processed to remove the Transport Media and an assessment is performed. The specimen is aliquotted into one or more cryovials.

The vials are cryopreserved and stored in liquid nitrogen or nitrogen vapour (quarantine), depending on the results of the required infectious disease testing performed on the Patient (see next question).

What kind of infectious disease testing is required for my Patient?

Infectious Disease testing is required by CAN-AM in order to comply with storage recommendations of the Canadian Standards Association for reproductive tissue storage. The following testing must be completed **within 30 days prior to semen collection, OR within 2 weeks after collection**. Please send results to CAN-AM within 2 weeks of blood draw (by mail or fax).

Required Test		Test Code
HIV 1&2 Antibody	HIV 1/2 EIA	-
HTLV I&II Antibody	HTLV I/II EIA	-
Hepatitis B Surface Antigen	HBsAg (diagnostic)	V13
Hepatitis B Core Antibody	Anti-HBc (diagnostic)	V18
Hepatitis C Virus Antibody	Anti-HCV	V19
Syphilis	CMIA	S17

Semen collected from Patients with **Positive/Reactive, Indeterminate or missing test results** (or testing that was done outside of the acceptable testing period) cannot be stored in standard storage units. These semen specimens **must be stored in a special quarantine tank** to prevent cross-contamination, at additional cost.

CAN-AM provides **optional serum storage** for Patients storing semen at our facility at no additional charge. This stored serum can help CAN-AM perform retrospective disease testing for the Patient as Standards and Regulations are updated. Serum shipped to CAN-AM must be collected in a gold or SST-type blood collection tube and centrifuged prior to shipment. Please refrigerate until shipment.

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