

Fertility Preservation for Cancer Patients

Cancer treatment, such as chemotherapy, radiation therapy, or surgery, may affect an individual's fertility or ability to have children.

Fertility preservation is the process of saving or protecting eggs, sperm, or reproductive tissue so that a person can use them to have children in the future. Seeing a fertility specialist can help you know your options. It's important to consult with a fertility specialist prior to starting cancer treatment if possible.

Things to Consider

Starting the conversation

- Don't wait for your care team to bring up fertility preservation - you can ask for more information or a referral yourself!

Insurance coverage and costs vary

- Some health plans cover the cost of fertility procedures for cancer patients. You can appeal the decision if your health plan tells you that fertility preservation isn't covered by your plan.

Financial assistance can help

- There are numerous options for financial assistance - make sure you talk with your fertility specialist about this as well as your care team.

Questions to Ask Your Doctor

Speak up and ask your oncologist and care team members about your options for fertility preservation!

These questions can help get the conversation started:

- How will my cancer and cancer treatment affect my fertility?
- Based on my treatment plan, what is my risk of infertility [high, moderate, low]?
- What are my options for fertility preservation before I begin cancer treatment?
- How much time do I have to pursue fertility preservation before I begin cancer treatment?
- If I don't preserve my fertility before treatment starts, what are my options later?
- Can you refer me to a fertility preservation specialist to discuss all my options?
- If I decide on preservation, what tests will I need before I begin?

(Source: Oncofertility Consortium)

Talk to your oncology team about your fertility options:

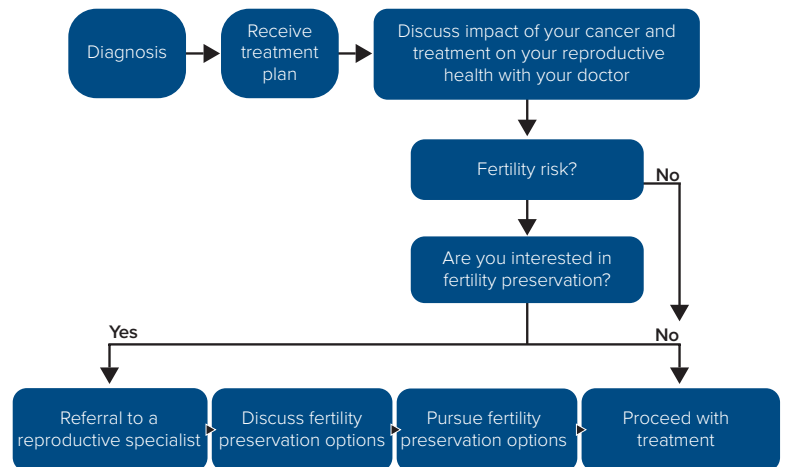
EARLY: Before cancer treatment starts

OFTEN: If your treatment plan changes

AFTER: Once cancer treatment is over



Fertility Preservation - Where Does it Fit?



(Source: Oncofertility Consortium)

Information and Resources

For more information and next steps, first talk to your oncology team. It will also be important for you to ask your health plan about insurance coverage for fertility preservation.

Save My Fertility
savemyfertility.org

Alliance for Fertility Preservation
allianceforfertilitypreservation.org

LIVESTRONG Fertility
livestrong.org/fertility

Oncofertility Consortium
FERTLINE (866-708-FERT)
preservefertility.northwestern.edu

UC DAVIS
HEALTH

COMPREHENSIVE
CANCER CENTER