

Fertility Treatment and COVID-19

As the world faces an epidemic of unprecedented proportions, physicians in reproductive medicine and their patients are faced with choices that will be most difficult.

Our priority is the health and well-being of patients and healthcare providers. Because COVID-19 is a novel virus, our recommendations are based upon the best clinical guidance considering the impacts of patient care and elective treatments.

Very little information about COVID-19 and pregnancy is available, and almost no information concerns the first trimester as organogenesis occurs. Infection can be present without the presence of symptoms.

- We recommend that health organisations, fertility experts and patients avoid pregnancies and discontinue all fertility treatments whenever possible.
- We recommend that providers suspend the initiation of all new treatments and postpone all non-urgent fertility interventions until more is known. Age and diminished ovarian reserve do not constitute urgent conditions.
- We recommend that individuals and couples pursue oocyte and/or embryo cryopreservation in order to postpone pregnancy.
- Elective surgery should be postponed.

About FIGO

FIGO is a professional organisation that brings together obstetrical and gynecological associations from all over the world.

FIGO's vision is that women of the world achieve the highest possible standards of physical, mental, reproductive and sexual health and wellbeing throughout their lives. We lead on global programme activities, with a particular focus on sub-Saharan Africa and South East Asia.

FIGO advocates on a global stage, especially in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) pertaining to reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health and non-communicable diseases (SDG3). We also work to raise the status of women and enable their active participation to achieve their reproductive and sexual rights, including addressing FGM and gender based violence (SDG5).

We also provide education and training for our Member Societies and build capacities of those from low-resource countries through strengthening leadership, good practice and promotion of policy dialogues.

FIGO is in official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO) and a consultative status with the United Nations (UN).