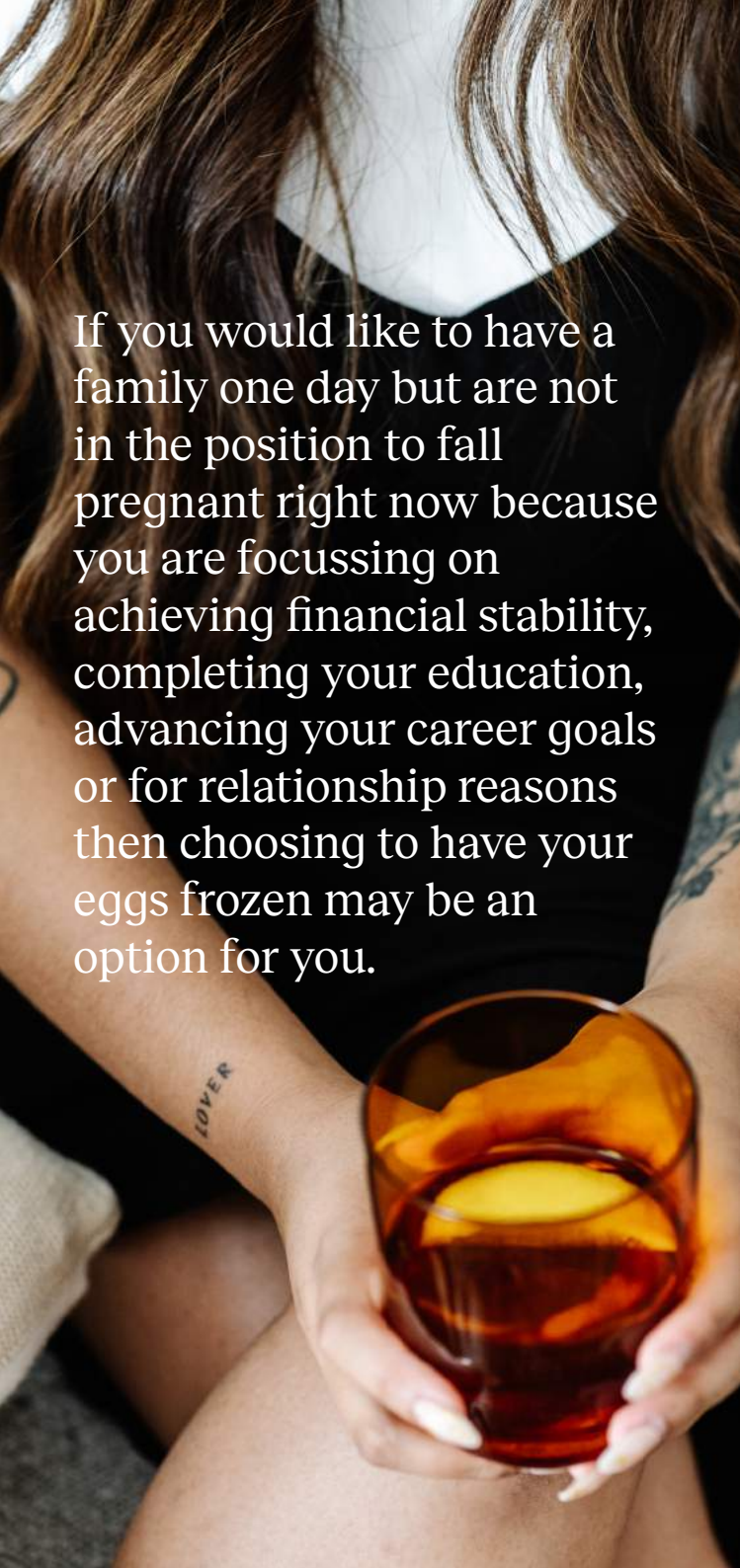




repromed

# Elective Egg Freezing



If you would like to have a family one day but are not in the position to fall pregnant right now because you are focussing on achieving financial stability, completing your education, advancing your career goals or for relationship reasons then choosing to have your eggs frozen may be an option for you.

## What Is Elective Egg Freezing?

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Egg freezing is a method of storing your unfertilised eggs; preserving your eggs now so that you can start your family later.

At Repromed eggs are frozen via vitrification and then safely stored until you are ready to fall pregnant. Eggs frozen via vitrification can be stored indefinitely. Please note embryos can only be transferred to the person carrying the pregnancy if they are under 52 years of age.



## Who Might Consider Egg Freezing?

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At Repromed, we know that fertility declines with age making it harder for some women to fall pregnant naturally later in life.

We also know that Australian women on average are choosing to fall pregnant later in life as the percentage of women giving birth who are 35 years or older increased from 16% in 1998 to 22.3% in 2007. And the average age of first time mothers has also progressively increased over the past 10 years from 28.9 years to 29.9 years.\*

You might consider egg freezing if:

- you are not in a position to have a baby right now but would like the opportunity to start a family beyond the age when fertility naturally declines (ie 35 years of age)
- you have a low ovarian reserve
- your fertility is at risk from a serious illness such as cancer

Generally women in their 20s and early 30s are relatively fertile with their ovaries still containing good numbers of healthy eggs therefore egg freezing is often a viable option for them.

Women in their late 30s generally have lower quality and quantity of eggs therefore freezing becomes less beneficial as only a small number of suitable eggs may be collected.

## What Does The Process Involve?

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To obtain eggs for freezing you will usually have hormonal stimulation for 10 – 14 days, enabling a number of eggs to mature at once. There are a variety of stimulation techniques and you will decide which is best for you in discussion with your Repromed Fertility Doctor.

Leading up to the day of your egg collection you will have at least one blood test and an ultrasound scan. These help to monitor how your ovaries are responding to the stimulation medication.

On the day of your egg collection you will visit Repromed's Day You will be in our recovery area for 1-2 hours. The procedure is usually carried out under light general anaesthetic or sedation. Using an ultrasound guided probe inserted into your vagina, a

collect your mature eggs. You will not feel a thing during this procedure nor will you have any cuts or scars.

Once collected your eggs are passed directly to an Embryologist who identifies the mature eggs (only mature eggs are frozen as immature eggs do not create viable pregnancies). Your mature eggs are then transferred directly into our Embryology Lab where they are frozen.

Generally you can go home 1 -2 hours after your procedure but are advised not to drive and to rest for the remainder of the day.

Repromed's lab will notify you of the number of eggs successfully frozen. You will also have a follow-up appointment with your Repromed Fertility Doctor to discuss your cycle and results.

## Success Rates For Egg Freezing

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Each woman's response to the Follicular Stimulating Hormone medication is varied.

At Repromed we would expect that:

- A stimulated cycle would result in the collection of 10-12 eggs. Possibly more in women younger than 35 years of age.
- Approximately 85-90% of eggs will survive the freeze-thaw process.

On surviving the freeze-thaw process, each egg has:

- Approximately 50-70% chance of fertilising with the sperm.
- Approximately 40% of fertilised eggs will develop into mature embryos.

**We suggest you discuss Repromed's current success rates with your treating Repromed Doctor as they can provide you with a more detailed information sheet.**



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