

REPRO LAB (NY)

1/5/17	Private Email
<p>In June 1992 I went to ReproLab in New York where they were to inseminate me using a donor I had chosen at my doctors genetic counselors office.</p> <p>In March 1993 I had a daughter. In 2006 we joined the DSR. In March 2015 a match reached out to us who had the same donor number. In April we discovered the girls did not match DNA. In May 2016, the young woman matched DNA with a young man who shared the donor number I thought I had been given. In August I filed a complaint against ReproLab for records violations. My complaint included over 40 pages of evidence. The heartache this has caused my daughter and myself was unbelievable. But in September 2016 we matched DNA with a half sister, who has a different number, and my daughter met her in November and is now in contact with her true donor.</p> <p>We are our children's advocates. This letter from the NYS DOH* is my vindication. If no other family ever goes through what we did it will have been worth the thousands of dollars in DNA tests, legal costs to get my medical records, and the time and attention it took just to write the complaint.</p> <p>*See NY Dept. Health letter on the "Which Sperm Bank" page of the DSR.</p>	

6/2016	Private Email
<p>Advice from a mom helping several families who used Repro Lab who have found out that the donor they thought they used isn't the one that was used to create their child:</p> <p>"You have time to do three things: 1) Request your full medical records form Mt Sinai; 2) file a complaint with the NY State Department of Health once those records are received showing the wrong blood type 3) if you haven't already, get your son's DNA tested (and yours). Ancestry has the largest database.</p> <p>I went to Columbia where my doctor used to practice and they have my medical records in 24 hours. If it says the donor is xx and you have DNA proof (as well as the lists you sent me), showing that his blood type couldn't possibly have come from donor xx then you can file a complaint against both Mt Sinai and ReproLab for violating record keeping regulations. If neither place has your records you can file a complaint for violating records retention regulations.</p> <p>To get you records, complete one HIPAA Release and the Mt Sinai Release, sign them and send them Certified Return receipt to Mt Sinai at one of these locations: Mount Sinai Hospital Faculty Practice Associates Medical Records Patient Rights Coordinator One Gustave L. Levy Place – Box 1111 One Gustave L. Levy Place – Box 1621 New York, NY 10029 New York, NY 10029; Mount Sinai Hospital Queens Northshore Medical Group Medical Records Medical Records 25-10 30th Avenue Huntington, NY Long Island City, NY 11102.</p> <p>To file a complaint, send the complaint form (one for ReproLab and one for Mt Sinai) along with your proofs (the list of donors, a blood test showing your son's blood type or DNA shows it can't be his donor) to NY State."</p>	

10/26/11	http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/14693
<p>I found Repro [Lab] very helpful, in fact they kept the files for the women who got pregnant and were able to give me the donor number, which I never received from the doctor.</p>	

9/21/11	http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/14544
<p>I'm a donor, and have encountered the same problem. I've called Repronlab in NYC approximately five times, and sent several emails, requesting information about the number of offspring I have. I've been carefully routed to dead ends and voicemails, with no answer. I'm not sure why banks are so reluctant to give out this information. I don't know of any regulation that allows for a donor or child to get that information. If anyone comes across anything, please let me know.</p>	
5/13/11	http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/14172
<p>A number of the banks have agreements with other banks and labs so that their list of donors is more diverse. My daughter was conceived at Repro Lab in NYC with a donor from Fertility Center of California in San Diego. I didn't find that out until this year and my daughter is now 18! I'm sure there are banks all over that used the same business model.</p>	
8/4/08	http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/10956
<p>Repro Lab (NY) uses some donors from Fertility Center of CA. Numbers with the letters in front of them seem to be Fertility Center of CA donor numbers.</p>	
5/1/08	http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/10537
<p>I have a 15 year old son that was conceived with donor sperm. Last year I called Dr. Debrovner's office and they told me they destroyed the records after 12 years. I then called Repro Labs (which is where the sperm was stored and they told me they have do not hold records that long. I found at the time that it was odd there were no records of the donor but I thought that this was the norm. Now I wonder, since they told one person 21 years and me 12 years.</p>	
4/29/08	http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/10525
<p>Fertility Bank Accused of Losing Embryos By MATTHEW CHAYES Special to the Sun March 6, 2007</p> <p>A lesbian couple from New Jersey is seeking \$3 million from a Murray Hill fertility bank they accuse of losing their frozen embryos.</p> <p>The women, Cathy Berger and Adriana Pacheco of Hoboken, say in a lawsuit filed Friday in Manhattan Supreme Court that in 2003 they paid Repro Lab Inc. to store six embryos, created with eggs from Ms. Pacheco.</p> <p>When Ms. Berger who had been taking drugs to prepare her body for implantation visited the storage facility last year to retrieve the embryos, clinic officials told her the "embryos were missing, could not be found, and had been lost," according to the court papers.</p> <p>Their lawyer, Susan Dennehy, said the clinic searched again, but couldn't find the eggs. Ms. Dennehy said her clients told her not to comment beyond what was written in the legal papers in order to protect the privacy of their children.</p> <p>As a result of loss, the women "have sustained the loss of irreplaceable property, the embryos, as well as suffered pain, injury, mental anguish emotional distress," as well as "loss of chance," the papers say.</p> <p>Ms. Berger had a miscarriage, according to an article in Mothering magazine.</p> <p>The suit calls Repro Lab "negligent in the hiring and supervision of medical personnel who were careless" and "unskillful," adding that the couple trusted the clinic to safeguard their reproductive tissue.</p> <p>A Repro Lab employee who answered the clinic's phone and identified herself only as Deborah, said she hasn't seen a copy of the lawsuit, which also seeks punitive damages.</p> <p>"I have nothing to say," she said.</p> <p>Repro Lab which calls itself "the semen cryobanking center that cares" made news when it refused to release a sperm sample it was storing to the parents of a 23-year-old cancer patient who paid the clinic before he died to store his semen.</p>	

The lab said the man said he wanted the sample destroyed upon his death. A state judge last year ordered the deposit destroyed.

In addition to embryo storage, Repro Lab offers lab testing, an anonymous donor program, and other reproductive services.