

CAN AM CRYOBANK (CANADA)

6/20/13

<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/15671>

In 2010, when I was trying for my son, I was working with Ovo in Montreal. They did not have an active sperm bank of their own at the time and I had a meeting with a nurse and their embryologist who explained about sperm donors. They highly recommended that we use either Can-Am Cryo (distributor of Fairfax and California Cryobank), or Outreach (distributor for Xytex and shortly after added a few donors from the European Sperm Bank). I had asked about Repromed and they said they had had bad experiences - either with shipping or storage and quality of sperm but they remained vague and said they had always had positive experiences with the other two so recommended them strongly. When I searched the Repromed website, at the time, they only offered Canadian donors, all were anonymous and they only had about 30 donors to pick from and there were no photos and donor profiles were very limited. In 2011 when I started trying for a second, Can-Am Cryo, Outreach and even Repromed all offered donors from all of the larger American sperm banks.

With open donors, patients are required to place their orders directly with the supplier. However, if you use an anonymous donor in Quebec, you can purchase from the American banks (donor must be anonymous and sperm unit be washed for it to qualify for medicare coverage), but you fill out the forms on the clinics website and the clinique places the order for you. In Montreal, Procrea clinique will supply you with a unit of an anonymous donor of their selection unless you specify you want to use what they refer to as an external donor. This seems to be a novel concept to many of the clinics' staff so I have a feeling it's not a common option - even the therapist you need to meet prior to treatment and the lab personnel push strongly for using the clinics anonymous donors. In hospitals that offer assisted reproductive treatment to singles outside of the Montreal area actually don't give you a choice, you HAVE to use anonymous donors (unless you have a husband) and you cannot opt to buy from a sperm bank if you insist on open donors. They do not say where they get the sperm from and I cannot imagine that they have an ample supply of altruistic sperm donors (as there is no remuneration for such a service despite all the hoops the donors need to jump thru to qualify), that are readily available, especially in regions outside of the major urban areas, to treat the ever increasing number of single or gay women... No identifying information for the donors is ever divulged and no mention is ever given. Either they purchase from the sperm banks or there are a few fertility doctors that have been very prolific, just like the good 'ol days!

9/20/11

<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/14524>

I was reading more about this number of offspring/sibling issue and interestingly I have been trying to get in touch with the sperm bank for some time to register the birth of my daughter.

I was in touch with the fertility clinic who told me I needed to report with Fairfax Cryobank who told me I needed to report with CanAm Cryo who has still not responded to my inquiries by email.

I am starting to wonder if they are limited by the amount of sperm they can sell based on 'number of reported births' and if they discourage the reporting of births so they can continue to sell the sperm?

Wondering if a good idea is to include a 'use-by' date so buyers would have a time limit they need to act by and the sperm banks / fertility clinics would have to comply. I realize people could have the choice to take it home and store it, however, it could help with the number of offspring from an individual donor.

10/1/08

<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/11216>

The Director from GIVF Cryobanks (Fairfax Cryobank and Cryogenic Laboratories, Inc.) has different information than we show on our clinic list (which was compiled from former clients). It's easy to see why there is so much confusion!

I have agreed to post his information, as follows:

1. The Genetics & IVF Institute's (GIVF) main office is in Fairfax, VA. GIVF no longer has offices in Ashburn, VA and Gaithersburg, MD., where clients seeking infertility treatment were seen. GIVF is made up of Divisions,

- that specialize in infertility, genetics, sperm sorting, cryobanking, infectious disease testing, and pre-implantation genetic testing. Certain divisions have locations in various states (TX, CA, MN, PA) and internationally (China and Mexico) however not all divisions and services are represented in those locations. Please refer to our web site for additional information regarding our products and services: www.givf.com
2. CLI is not able to confirm the statement that the same donor had previously donated at Zygen Laboratories and California Cryobank. However, if the donor number from the CLI donor in question is forwarded to CLI management they will follow up with the donor.
 3. CLI has NEVER changed any donor numbers. It cannot be done. Donor numbers are written on the vials that contain the semen. Once frozen, the numbers cannot be changed without thawing the vials and then refreezing them. Such a process would render the semen unacceptable for distribution. CLI is also AATB accredited and this practice would be in direct violation of the AATB standards which require that a unique identifier be assigned to each donor.
 4. CLI was acquired by GIVF from John Olson in 2002. The 2000 numbers were from donors that were recruited following the acquisition and were not from other banks. Some donors with pregnancies listed are b/c they have children of their own and have created pregnancies as their samples were used.
 5. CLI, IC and Follas have NEVER used ReproTech Ltd. as a freezing facility. In fact, ReproTech Ltd. an independently owned company does not operate a freezing facility they are a storage facility only.
 6. ReproTech Ltd. was located in the same building as CLI in Roseville, MN until 2007. In 2007, they moved to a new location in Minneapolis/St. Paul.
 7. CLI and ReproMed Ltd. were both started by John Olson. CLI donors and ReproMed donors were shared with distribution in the US and Canada. The first ReproMed donor was donor #3000. The CLI affiliation with ReproMed Ltd. was discontinued in 1999. ReproMed Ltd. is currently independently owned and operated. There are currently no shared donors between CLI and ReproMed Ltd. ReproMed and CLI have one donor (# 3040) in common on both catalogs currently. All other donors that CLI and ReproMed had in common are sold with ReproMed.
 8. CLI has and continues to distribute semen produced by some of the following banks. Supplies of these donors are limited and once they are gone, there will be no additional units available from CLI. Clients interested in future specimens on these donors will have to contact the original bank to check availability. InternationalCryogenics, Inc. (ICI), Follas Laboratories, and Park Avenue Fertility (PAF), Reproductive Resources, University of Nebraska (currently out of business), Washington Fertility Study Center (currently out of business). (NOTE: The sperm banking division of Follas Laboratories was sold to General BioTechnology LLC and is currently doing business as Genome Resources). Donors from the other banks, were/are distributed with the same donor number as the originating bank. The CLI profiles on the donors were created with information supplied by the originating banks.
 9. CLI has NEVER had any donors listed on the Biogenetics donor catalogue.
 10. CLI has NEVER distributed California Cryobank (CCB) donors and likewise CCB has not distributed CLI donors.
 11. Fairfax Cryobank DID NOT purchase Follas Laboratories or any other bank (see above) . GIVF of which Fairfax Cryobank is a division, owns CLI. GIVF has not purchased any other cryobanks.
 12. Each cryobank has its own donor numbering system. Therefore, several banks can have the same donor number on a past or current catalogue, however, they are not the same person.
 13. Can Am Cryoservices, Inc. in Hamilton, ON distributes donor semen throughout Canada produced by Fairfax Cryobank and Cryogenic Laboratories, Inc. The samples are produced in the US and imported into Canada. All donors and their samples must meet strict Health Canada regulations regarding screening and infectious disease testing. Some donors are distributed both in the US and Canada at the same time. They would have the same donor number in both the US and Canada.
 14. GIVF egg donor program is separate from Fairfax Cryobank sperm donor program. In addition, Fairfax Cryobank sperm donor program is separate from the CLI sperm donor program. Likewise, egg donor screening is different than sperm donor screening. All three programs are FDA registered and FDA inspected.
 15. CLI NEVER had an affiliation with the University of Utah for donor sperm.

9/29/08 | <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/11204>

AFAIK CanAm, <http://www.CanAmCryo.com> (privately owned in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada) gets all its sperm from Fairfax in USA; CanAm does not recruit its own Canadian donors.

8/4/08

<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/10954>

A member recently wrote to ask about Fairfax Cryobank and which other clinics they have bought up or sold sperm for. Here is the information that we've collected about who shares/sells/buys sperm:

-Victoria Fertility Center in Canada sells donors from Fairfax. Clients do not know where sperm originated from.

-CanAm and Fairfax interchange and use same numbers. In 2001 there was an exclusive agreement signed between the two to sell sperm. One of these listed is also listed under Biogenetics and changes numbers.

10/22/07

Email to Wendy Kramer

I have a good story which may be a bit of a novelty.....

I purchased sperm through CanAm who were, in my case, operating as a 3rd party distributor. It is a fairly small operation and the people there are fantastic. Very open and accessible.

When my daughter was just over two we were informed by CanAm that the donor had been restricted and if we had any questions we should call the Fairfax geneticist. She was very responsive- another sibling (there are quite a few:) had been born(roughly six weeks prior) with an ear deformity and a mild heart defect. There was no evidence that it was a genetic issue (on the part of the donor or the mom) but they couldn't be sure. The donor was placed on restricted status which to Fairfax means that the sperm will only be sold/used by women who already have a child by the donor and want a full sibling and only after they have "signed off" that they are aware of the situation with the child in question.

I was and continue to be very impressed by both companies and would recommend them.

P.S. I have since met the child in question and she is a bright, happy, healthy child. Another wonderful gift! ☺

9/13/05

<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/5439>

I just joined this list so didn't read the post you mentioned below about cross marketing of sperm, but there is a Canadian bank called Can-Am Cryo Services that uses Fairfax's sperm. I am using a Fairfax donor that my clinic ordered through Can-Am and they've got the same donor number as Fairfax uses but the vials are marked "CAC" for Can-Am Cryo, rather than Fairfax. It's still clear to me that the sperm came from Fairfax, but I suppose it could be confusing.