

REPROMED LTD (CANADA)

6/20/13	http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/15675
<p>The Vancouver-based sperm banks all import from the US - mostly Fairfax and Xytex. One of them also allowed clients to use Repromed, but I'm not sure if they still do. And now Repromed imports from the US too. My understanding is that there's only about 30 donors in Canada. The rest of the sperm comes from the US.</p>	

6/20/13	http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/15674
<p>My parents went through a local clinic. Apparently they were told that many of the donors were US college students, but not much beyond that. Last year we emailed the clinic, found out the donor number, and were told that it would have been from Repromed. It was through the DSR and the old donor lists in this group that we found out that Repromed imported from Cryogenic Laboratories (the person at Repromed would not address that when asked).</p>	

6/20/13	http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/15673
<p>When we were looking for a donor in 2003 our fertility clinic recommended Repromed. We met with them with a couple of donors already in mind from their catalogue.</p> <p>The woman looked at my husband and said she had an idea of who she would recommend but wanted to hear what we were thinking. We had wanted a donor that closely resembled my husband and the counsellor's top choice was the same as ours. She told us she had met with the donor personally several times and I had no reason to question that (and still don't). They were very helpful and provided us with a more detailed profile as well as pictures of the donor's individual features so we could see things like eye shape and colour, shape of the nose and body type. They could not show us pictures due to anonymity requirements.</p> <p>We ended up using that donor and we had no issues with the sperm or delivery. I got pregnant my first cycle.</p> <p>After our daughter was born, we bought three cycle's-worth of sperm from them and stored the vials there. Two and a half years later there was no issue with retrieval and we got pregnant my second cycle. As we weren't planning to have more children, I told them I would release the last month's-worth of vials. They said they would sell our vials to the next person who wanted that donor instead of selling from their inventory, then refund the purchase price. I didn't think we'd see any money back and forgot all about it until we got a surprise cheque in the mail from them about a year later.</p> <p>We now have a beautiful 0 year old daughter and adorable 6year old son.</p> <p>All of this is to say that our experience with Repromed was very positive (albeit 6 years ago now).</p> <p>It is possible that clinics that tell you to use one or two specific banks and bad mouth others you are considering may be getting kickbacks.</p>	

6/20/13	http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/15671
<p>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,</p>	

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!

6/23/12 | <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/15223>

My donor was on the ReproMed list for a number of years but did not originate in Canada. The vials were shared by CLI out of MN in the U.S., and I found the donor profile on the ReproMed list a number of years ago (with the same donor number). I emailed ReproMed to see if those children can also be registered, the answer was no. I am sure my kids have Canadian siblings we will never find.

6/22/12 | <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/15218>

Here is the link if anyone would like to sign up.

<http://repromedsiblingregistry.ca>

They are prioritizing children born after 2005 but will not refuse any direct request to have a profile added to the site. They took mine for a onetime fee of roughly \$150 and my child was born in 1998. I have also been able to e-mail back and forth with one of their physicians and get a little bit of info that I did not have before.

5/17/12 | <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/15171>

I have to say that the clinic I used- Repromed- has been accommodating each year when I ask for an update. It is usually sent almost immediately through email. Mind you, I am dealing directly with the sperm bank and not the actual clinic which I had some issues with.

2010 | Email to Wendy Kramer

I don't trust that weasel who runs the clinic at all. They had a booth at a women's show in Toronto last November and my sister let the guy have it who was there for being irresponsible and not counseling women more in-depth on the after-effects of using a donor in terms of issues that may arise- for ex. having to explain to a child that they don't have a father in their life, etc. He basically said that their job is to help people have babies and the rest is not their responsibility.

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.

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:

-CLI, IC, and Follas all use ReproTech Ltd. a freezing facility located at the same address as CLI in Roseville (it opened in 1990). CLI of MN and ReproMed Ltd. of Canada have some of the same numbers (they do not change from list to list). Seem to be 3000 and 3100 numbers. A donor that originated from CLI (was on lists for sure from 1986 until 2002) was found to be on Repromed's 1993 until 2002 lists, so they share some donors.

-ReproMed, a Canadian sperm bank, shares some of its numbers with CLI. These are usually the ones that are the ones in the 3000 and 3100 ranges, sometimes 3200 and older 1000 ones. CLI and ReproMed were both connected to John Olson in earlier years, so they are probably both a part of Fairfax/CLI now.

2/13/08 <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/10246>

Well, I think my kids' sibling numbers just increased a lot, from the 24 that we know about (all in the U.S.) because of geographical restrictions to a lot more (although the 24 number was probably a lot higher already because not all people report their births). I used CLI, and he was available there from at least 1986 until 2002. I knew he was on the Repromed 2002 list, but I just found him on the Repromed 1993 list, too. I think I remember something a while back being said about Canadian patients not getting any information on the sperm bank used or the donor himself. Anyone who used any clinic and was not told where the vials came from should seriously consider doing the DNA testing at CaBRI. I have both my son and daughter's DNA they got from our donor on file there, also my son's is at Family Tree DNA. Others have put their kids' DNA on file too, so maybe there is a match out there you Canadians don't know about (and a donor number and sperm bank used). I know that Repromed started in 1990, so anyone who conceived after that and doesn't know where the vials originated, please consider contacting CaBRI, being you can't get any answers from your clinic or doctor. This would probably also pertain to the other sperm banks that are in Canada, depending on when they started and if the secrecy (not telling patients where the vials came from) was around during that time.

2/13/08 <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/10245>

A Repromed 1993 donor list was just uploaded to the files section here on the Yahoo Group. There are quite a few CLI numbers on it. CLI recipients and Repromed recipients may want to look at both lists.

2/12/08 <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/9952>

CLI and Repromed refuse to give donors their numbers. (Some donors forget or never received their numbers). This makes it extremely hard to make themselves available for contact. I spoke with a CCB donor over the weekend who said he has tried several times to call California Cryobank to update his medical history, and no one will return his phone calls. I have many parents-to-be writing me to ask my opinions of sperm banks (more than 50 this past weekend). Issues like these are very important to pass along.

3/11/06 <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/6382>

Not sure where to go I have called Repromed in Toronto to let them know what has happen, my daughter is almost 4 and has been diagnosed with MPS 1 Hurler Scheie, her donor #### we do know that I carry Scheie mutation but that means the donor carries the Hurler mutation, other than them calling it an adverse reaction they are doing nothing, any ideas what to do next? It takes two parents with a defect but only one to pass along the mutated gene and most people don't know they carry this until a child is diagnosed. Being a life threatening illness I would like the donor to know or at least other offspring to know they carry the condition.

3/6/06 <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/6285>

When I was going through the archives I found CLI from MN and International Cryogenics from MI donors that were on both. CLI and ReproMed Ltd. (Canada) also had the same donors listed. Follas, International Cryogenics, and CLI had some in common, although I figured out these were the ones with letters in front of the donor number CLI usually does not have the letter, I don't think, Follas has F in front of theirs, International Cryogenics uses letters in front of theirs). The connection they all seemed to have was that they all used ReproTech, a freezing place that opened in 1990 that is located at the same address as CLI in MN and

is affiliated with them. These entries have all been using the same donor number and are easy to cross-reference at the different labs, the problem would be if the labs would start changing the numbers. Fairfax has on its website a place to click to go to its affiliate (CLI) for more donors, and the same is true about CLI having a link to Fairfax.

9/14/05 | <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/5442>

I had earlier posted a message (#5389) about the same thing with ReproMed Ltd. and Cryogenics Laboratories. I got a response from someone who said they had gone through ReproMed and received the specimen from CLI through ReproMed. There might also be crossovers with these two labs.

2/16/05 | <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/4160>

I was at an Infertility Network Conference in Toronto a few years ago and met David Towles from Xytex in Georgia. We were staying in the same B&B and I watched him unload tanks from his van that he was delivering to ReproMed. During the quarantine of Canadian donor sperm a while ago, clinics were regularly receiving sperm from Xytex and other places like CCB and the Sperm Bank of California. Cryos in Denmark is shipping worldwide and setting up clinics in the US. It's like the second Viking invasion. When the directors of the UC Irvine clinic fled the country out of fear of fraud charges for using embryos contrary to their owners' wishes, most of their unclaimed embryos were delivered to Cappy Rothman at CCB, who apparently is just storing them in limbo.

Donor Michael Beany wrote, in a semi-autobiographical novel "Children of Eden," about donating at three different clinics at the same time in London during the sixties. These clinics compete with each other so I doubt they share their databases about their donors. Since the counts and quality drop with too frequent donations, I doubt this happens much or the donors would not be acceptable. Nothing theoretically stops a retired donor from donating under another ID number at another clinic after he reaches his first clinic's limit (those that have such limits). I remember an interview several years ago with a Canadian RE who said that he didn't have the resources to check out a donor's background or medical history. As he said, he was not "the morality police."

All this demonstrates the need for consistent regulation of this business/profession on an international level.

1/10/04 | <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/2671>

Just wondering if anyone has had any dealings with Repromed once you are pregnant? I am currently expecting my first child through DI using donor from Repromed. This bank offers a donor likeness services which I was interested in finding out about so I sent them an email asking some questions regarding the donor likeness and I also asked about the option of sending in pictures or updates of the child to be included in this donors file. Well I have sent that email three times now I they haven't bothered to respond to one yet. I am really frustrated and mad about this. I could understand over the xmas holidays because things are busy but we are in to the New year now.