

Intrauterine Insemination

Intrauterine insemination (IUI) is a common procedure used to treat couples with a variety of infertility problems. The procedure involves placing the sperm cells through the cervix into the uterus near the opening of the fallopian tubes. This increases the number of sperm in the tube and improves the chance that the egg will be fertilized. This procedure is similar to a Pap smear and is performed in our office. There are several steps involved in this process:

Ovarian stimulation:

Combining stimulation of ovulation with IUI increases the chance for success. This usually means taking a drug such as Clomid or Letrozole on days 5-9 of your cycle.

Testing for ovulation:

Accurate timing is critical to the success of the IUI procedure. To determine the optimal time for the procedure patients test each morning beginning about day 11 for ovulation. Any of the over the counter ovulation tests are acceptable. The test is usually negative for several days and then turns positive. This indicates that you are entering the most fertile part of the cycle. Call our office when you see the first positive test and we will schedule the IUI procedure for the next day. These can be scheduled 7 days a week.

The insemination procedure:

On the morning that the IUI procedure is scheduled you will be given a time to arrive at our office. A sperm sample may be collected at our office or brought from home. If you are bringing a sample from home we would like to receive it within 2 hours of collection. Time is less critical than temperature; as long as the sample stays near body temperature for the ride to our office it will be fine. Call us if you need a collection container.

Once our lab receives the sample it will be processed for the IUI, a process that takes about 45 minutes. Once the sample is ready the IUI procedure will be performed. Much like a Pap smear it requires a speculum to see your cervix. A tiny catheter is then threaded through the cervix to place the sperm into the uterus. Once complete you will rest in the room for 10 minutes prior to discharge. There are no restrictions on your activity once you leave.

Total cost for the procedure - \$350.00



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* Fees updated 07/09 and are subject to change. Please contact MFI for the most recent fees.