



## INDIAN EGG DONORS & SURROGACY4ALL.

### **DIVISION OF DGA, INC.**

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### *Summary of Egg Donor Process, Fees and Costs*

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**Dear Intended Parent:**

#### **Ovum Donation Overview and Costs**

We are an egg donation facilitation and surrogacy agency that helps guide Prospective Parents and Egg Donors through the egg donation process, from start to finish. Our agency matches Prospective Parents with Donors and manages all the complex arrangements associated with an egg donation cycle. We are in the business of helping families conceive children that they are unable to conceive on their own due to a wide variety of reasons. We are here to be your "helping hand" throughout your egg donation cycle.

Our Agency staff emphasizes the importance of confidentiality, sensitivity, communication, and support with our clients. Our agency works with a wide variety of clients, including single, gay, and lesbian Prospective Parents, in addition to traditional couples. With our main offices in New York, our Agency works with Egg Donors and Prospective Parents throughout the world.

#### **Donor Criteria**

- Donors must be between the ages of 21 and 31 and in good health.
- Donors must have obtained a High school diploma or preferably a college degree.

- Egg Donors must be non-smokers and drug-free. Egg Donors must have abstained from smoking for at least six months prior to submitting an Egg Donor application and may not have a history of drug use. Urine toxicology tests may be completed during the Egg Donor screening process to confirm abstinence.
- Donors preferably must be able to travel anywhere within United States to complete an egg donation. Typically, Donors are required to travel for approximately 5-10 days for the egg donation monitoring and retrieval if cycling with a clinic in another state. Travel requirements vary greatly from clinic to clinic, however, ranging from 2 to 12 days
- We cannot accept Donors who have completed more than five donations, and we can only match our Donors for a maximum of six donations, in adherence with egg donation guidelines set forth by the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM).
- Donors are responsible for updating their profile/application annually.
- Donors' Body Mass Index must be between 18 and 29 because overweight Donors' health and egg quality may be at placed risk when taking medications necessary for an egg donation cycle. Please visit the Centers for Disease Control's website to determine your BMI at <http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpa/bmi/calc-bmi.htm>
- Donors cannot have obtained any tattoos, body piercing or blood transfusions within the past 12 months prior to initiating an egg donation. D Donors may not obtain any new tattoos or body piercing while undergoing an egg donation cycle.

## The Matching Process

The following steps describe the typical egg donation matching process at Indian Egg Donors and Surrogacy4all.:

1. The Donor submits an application/profile to our Agency.
2. Our Agency reviews the application to ensure that the Donor meets our criteria and, if the Donor is accepted, she is included in our online Donor Database.
3. There is a "waiting period," during which we wait for Prospective Parents to show interest in working with the Donor. It is difficult to estimate the length of this waiting period (anywhere from days to months). The Donor's profile is released to Prospective Parents via our online Donor Database (no identifying information, such as Donor's name, address, contact information, etc, is released to Prospective Parents.).
4. Our Agency will inform a Donor when Prospective Parents have decided that they are interested in pursuing an egg donation agreement with her.
5. Prospective Parents may ask additional questions of the Donor that are not addressed in her profile and/or may request to have a phone conversation with the Donor (which Our Agency can set up anonymously via three-way calling) and/or may request to meet the Donor. The Donor can decide what level of contact with Prospective Parents, if any, she feels comfortable with.
6. Prospective Parents complete a brief profile about themselves, which will be given to the Donor they are interested in working with (minus identifying information). The purpose of this profile is to enable the Donor to get a sense of whom she will be donating to.

7. If the Prospective Parents decide that they want to work with the Donor, they must submit a non-refundable deposit equivalent to the agency fee to our Agency, to reserve that Donor. A Donor's availability cannot be guaranteed until this deposit is submitted. The Prospective Parents will then sign a service agreement with Our Agency and deposit funds into a Fund Management Account to cover the financial aspects of the egg donation arrangement.
8. The Donor and Prospective Parents will then sign an egg donation contract with one another (each party will be represented by an independent lawyer). This contract will address all the legal implications of the egg donation agreement, including the legal responsibility of both parties, compensation agreement terms, ownership of eggs resulting from the donation, etc.
9. Once the contract has been signed, the Donor will then be medically and psychologically screened. The Prospective Parents' fertility clinic/physician will determine exactly what type of screening the Donor must undergo. This screening may either be completed at the Prospective Parents' clinic or Our Agency can arrange for the screening to be carried out at a clinic more convenient to the Donor. Some clinics do require that the Donor be screened at their site, however, in which the case the Donor must be willing to traveling to said clinic to complete this mandatory screening.
10. If the Donor successfully passes all her psychological and medical screening, the actual egg donation cycle begins.

## Donation Cycle

1. Once the matching process is complete, all medical and psychological screening must be completed before the egg donation cycle begins. Whenever possible, Our Agency attempts to schedule the entire screening process during one office visit, but clinical requirements/schedules do vary. This initial consultation may require the presence of the Donor and her partner (if applicable) for a period of approximately 3 to 5 hours, depending on the clinic's screening protocol. The Donor's screening is completed as required by the Prospective Parents' clinic and may include the following:
  - **Medical Screening:** Generally, consists of a series of blood tests, cervical cultures, a physical exam, and a vaginal ultrasound. This screening is carried out to confirm that the Donor is medically healthy and able to donate. Additionally, a blood test is usually required on the third day of the Donor's menses to assess hormonal levels.
  - **Genetic Screening:** Generally, in the form of blood tests; investigates whether the Donor is a carrier of genetics diseases, such as Cystic Fibrosis.
  - **Psychological Screening:** Conducted by a psychologist or social worker to ensure that the Donor is aware of all the psychological implications of the egg donation process. This screening will also help determine whether the Donor is psychologically sound enough to be a Donor.
  - **Partner Screening:** If the Donor has a sexual partner, s/he may also be required to undergo blood tests to screen for sexually transmitted diseases.

2. The Donor will be put on birth control pills to help regulate her menstrual cycle and to coordinate it with the recipient's (e.g., Prospective Mother's or surrogate's) cycle.
3. If a "Lupron Cycle" is used, at (approximately) the end of the third week of her cycle, the Donor will begin taking Lupron (daily self-administered injections) to stop her ovaries from ovulating. Prior to beginning Lupron, the Donor may be monitored via a blood test and vaginal ultrasound to confirm that she is ready to administer these injections. If an "Antigon Cycle" is used, the Donor will not take Lupron, but will begin with Step 5 (see below).
4. The Donor can expect to receive a portion of her compensation, in the amount of \$750, when she begins her Lupron or Antigon injections.
5. After taking Lupron for 7-14 days, the Donor will then begin taking stimulation medication (self-administered injections), which will cause her egg follicles to grow. This medication is generally taken for 8-11 days. Though these medications come in many different brand names, Fertinex, Follistim, and Gonal-F are the most often used brands (these are also self-administered injections).
6. The Donor will be monitored during this 8-11-day period (via blood tests and vaginal ultrasounds) to ensure that her follicles are growing at an expected rate and to monitor medication dosages. This monitoring will help the physician determine what day the final HCG injection should be administered (see next step). Some clinics require that most of this monitoring be completed at their site, whereas other clinics will allow the Donor to be monitored at a clinic convenient to her until the last few days of the cycle. The Donor will again be screened for STDs (via blood tests) during this time.
7. When the follicles are determined to be "ready" for retrieval, the HCG injection is given, which prepares the Donor's ovaries to release the eggs. This injection is generally injected in the muscle (clinical requirements may vary), so the needle may be somewhat longer than it has been for previous medications. The physician will inform the Donor of the exact time she should administer this injection. The timing of the HCG injection is crucial, so it is important that the Donor take the injection exactly as instructed.
8. The retrieval is scheduled for 36-40 hours after administration of the HCG injection.
9. During the retrieval, the Donor will usually be under light anesthesia and the eggs are retrieved from the Donor's ovaries via a "vacuuming procedure:" a tiny needle is inserted through the vaginal wall into the ovaries and the eggs are vacuumed from each follicle. While under anesthesia, the Donor should not feel anything during this procedure. The entire procedure itself takes only 15-30 minutes. It is the Donor's responsibility to arrange for a companion to travel with her to and from the retrieval procedure, since she will be unable to travel alone the day of the retrieval. If this is a problem, she must make alternative arrangements with Our Agency prior to signing her egg donor contract to ensure that appropriate arrangements can be made.
10. After the eggs have been retrieved, they are combined with the Prospective Father's or Sperm Donor's sperm to fertilize as many eggs as possible.
11. After the procedure, the Donor will remain at the clinic for 1-2 hours to recover from the anesthesia, after which she can return home. The Donor will be expected to rest for the remainder of the day, as she may feel some bloating, cramping and other side effects the day of the retrieval. It is required that the Donor arrange for a companion to drive her

home after the retrieval. Further, it is highly suggested that her companion stays with her throughout the day, if she experiences unexpected complications. Again, it is the Donor's responsibility to make arrangements for this companion.

12. The Donor will receive the remainder of her compensation within a week after the retrieval, once our agency has been informed that the retrieval is complete.
13. Donors typically resume all normal activity, except for physically strenuous activity or exercise, the day after the retrieval procedure.

## Compensation

Our Agency will offer Donors guidance in setting appropriate compensation requests. According to the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), appropriate and suggested compensation for Donors is \$8,000. Under extraordinary circumstances, Premium Donors may request higher compensation with Our Agency' approval. Please note that Donors may not request additional compensation for lost wages and/or childcare expenses associated with the egg donation process, as Our Agency considers these expenses to be encompassed in the Donor compensation. We ask that Donors recognize that the more reasonable their requested compensation, the sooner they will be matched with Prospective Parents. We also ask that Donors consider the fact that egg donation is a very costly process for Prospective Parents and can cause financial strain on many individuals who so desperately want to have a child. Compensation requests may not exceed \$10,000 per the guidelines set forth by the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM).

## Expenses

Prospective Parents are responsible for the expenses incurred as a result of the egg donation cycle, in addition to your Donor compensation. These expenses include the following:

- All Medical Expenses
- Donor Compensation
- Our Agency Fee
- Attorney Fee
- Accidental Donor Insurance
- Reasonable Travel Expenses (if travel is required for the egg donation):
  - Excessive mileage/gas: Paid to any Donor required to drive over 60 miles *one-way* to attend required appointments for the egg donation cycle (paid @ \$0.50 cents/mile, which includes gas coverage).
  - Airfare or train fare for both Donor and a travel companion (travel companion only covered for retrieval; travel companion not covered for screening, unless his/her attendance is required for partner screening)
  - Hotel Room (to be shared by Donor and travel companion)
  - Rental Car (plus applicable insurance)
  - Taxis/shuttles

- Non-Accountable/Flat Rate Per Diem Meal Expenses (paid @ \$50 per overnight stay)
- **Important Note:** Donors are responsible for their own transportation arrangements and expenses (including gas and mileage expenses) for any appointments located within 5 miles *one-way* of her home address.

## Out-of-State Donor Arrangements

Our Agency coordinates both in-state and out-of-state egg donation arrangements. An out-of-state arrangement refers to an arrangement in which the Donor resides in a state other than the state in which the Prospective Parents' fertility clinic is located, and which requires the Donor to travel for the egg donation cycle. We require that all our Donors be available and willing to travel anywhere within the United States for an out-of-state Donor arrangement, as it is very difficult to match Donors who are unable or unwilling to travel for a donation.

Some clinics require that the Donor travel to their site for one day to complete all the medical and psychological screening, which usually requires the Donor to stay overnight in a hotel at that location. Most clinics require that the Donor travel to their site as she approaches her retrieval time, such that the last week or so of monitoring is carried out by the Prospective Parents' clinic. In addition to coordinating all the arrangements with the local screening/monitoring clinic, Our Agency will coordinate all travel arrangements necessary for an out-of-state arrangement.

## Side Effects/Risks

There are several side effects and risks that may be associated with being a Donor. These side effects and risks are as follows:

Side effects that Donors may or may not experience from the medications include: headaches, mood swings, bloating, nausea, and/or temporary stinging where the injection was administered. Donors can expect to feel particularly bloated during the immediate period before and after the retrieval, since the hormone medications they take will cause their ovaries to swell and produce many eggs. Donors may also experience temporary weight gain (e.g., several lbs.) until their next menstrual cycle, as a result of this bloating.

If the Donor over-stimulates, she may run the risk of Ovarian Hyperstimulation Syndrome, which is quite rare (occurs in less than 5% of Donors). Severe cases of this syndrome may result in damage to the Donor's ovaries. In less severe cases, Donors may experience severe bloating and strong cramping. If you show symptoms consistent with hyperstimulation, your physician may reduce your medication dosage or terminate the egg donation cycle to avoid medical complications.

Regarding the retrieval procedure, Donors are exposed to the same risks as they would be if they were undergoing any other routine invasive procedure utilizing anesthesia. Donors will be instructed to rest the day of the retrieval, but most Donors return to their normal daily activities, except for physically strenuous activities or exercise, the day following the retrieval.

**Potential Long-Term Risks:** Empirical studies have not demonstrated any definitive link between egg donation and infertility, cancer, or any other significant long-term health problems. Since egg donation is a relatively new procedure, however, we hope to learn more about the long-term effects of egg donation in the future when additional research becomes available.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Prior to beginning an egg donation cycle, we arrange that Donors thoroughly discuss all potential risks and side effects with the fertility physician they are assigned to work with.

## **In Summary:**

For your convenience, we have recruited a pool of donors who live near major metropolitan areas and all around the USA and Canada. The total costs (in US dollars) associated with ovum donation are broken down as follows:

The **agency fee** is \$6,000 for a normal donor and \$12,000 for a preferred donor. Less than 5% of our donors are preferred donors and include donors who are physicians, beauty queens, models, Ivy League Graduates and other very hard to find desired donors. is paid at the time of donor selection and includes a consultation with a Indian Egg Donors Associate, donor recruitment, and donor and recipient matching services. This fee also includes an initial review and evaluation of the donor's profile. **This Fee is non-refundable.**

The **donor stipend** is paid to Indian Egg Donors prior to the donor starting any injectable medications, which is typically about 10 days prior to the cycle. This is the fee that we will pay to the donor for her time, effort, and risk involved with the service provided. Occasionally, selected donors will request a higher stipend. Every effort will be made to inform you of the donor's stipend in advance so you can make an informed choice prior to confirming her for a cycle. Additionally, a donor is not allowed to change her stipend once she has been confirmed for a cycle. Depending on geographical location, the donor stipend typically ranges from \$8,000 – \$10,000. All of the donor stipends should be noted on the profile for your reference.

The **incidental or travel expense reserve** is collected at the time of donor selection to cover miscellaneous and/or travel expenses incurred by the donor such as bridge tolls, parking, taxis, food, hotels, airfare, etc. If you select a donor who lives locally to your clinic, \$500 is collected to cover any costs that arise. If you select a donor who will be traveling for her

cycle, \$2,000 (this fee may vary depending on required travel and location) is collected to cover the costs of transportation, accommodations, food, and other miscellaneous expenses pertaining to the donation cycle. At the completion of the cycle, all of the donor's expenses are audited and a refund of any unused funds is issued. Occasionally, the donor's expenses may exceed the amount collected. Under those circumstances, your credit card that you have on file will be charged and an invoice issued, along with an itemized accounting of all expenses incurred.

The **donor insurance** fee is collected with the balance of the fees. It covers the insurance premium and handling fee to obtain a policy for your donor. Indian Egg Donors will arrange for implementation of this policy. This policy does not have a deductible and will serve as a primary insurance policy for your donor in the event of any claim. This policy pays for any costs related to complications from the egg donation cycle and remains in place for a period of 90 days after the egg retrieval.

Please note we cannot guarantee a donor's availability for any given length of time. Therefore, donor selection cannot be confirmed until payment is made to Indian Egg Donors. Payment can be made by cash, MasterCard, Visa, wire, or check made payable to DGA. **The agency fee is non-refundable.**

**The Agency Fee, Donor Stipend, Expense Reserve, and Donor Insurance are due upon selection of a donor.**

We look forward to helping you have the baby you want!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Best wishes,

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