

ESHRE 2018 ANNUAL MEETING (BARCELONA)**The embryos travel to reunite with their parents**

- Institut Marquès offers their European patients a pioneer programme that allows them to opt to IVF with donor eggs without having to travel to Spain
- Success rates of this programme, according to a study performed with patients that have undergone this medical treatment in Italy, will be presented by the centre at the European Society of Human Reproduction Annual Meeting
- Dr Marisa López-Teijón, Director of Institut Marquès, has been appointed academic member by the “*Ilustre Academia de Ciencias de la Salud Ramón y Cajal*” and awarded with the “Cordón y pin académico” for her outstanding professional career

Barcelona, 2nd of July 2018

Nowadays, assisted reproduction treatments with donor eggs are not allowed in most of European countries, either because of a lack of donors or because of legal issues. However, egg donation in Spain is allowed and regulated, being one of the countries that has more donations. Of all treatments performed in Europe, over 45% are being carried out in our Spain*. Because of that, those women who cannot achieve the goal of being mothers with their own oocytes have to travel to Spain in order to get pregnant. In those cases, they are called “cross-border” assisted reproduction treatments.

[Institut Marquès](#) has been one of the first centres that has made possible for these patients to avoid travelling, allowing them to “remotely” carry out In Vitro Fertilisation with donor eggs. Thanks to this programme the embryos are the ones doing all the travelling to reunite with their future parents in those countries of the European Union where legislation allows it to, as it is the case of Ireland and Italy. However, it is not possible to carry out this procedure in countries such as the United Kingdom, where anonymous donations are not allowed or Germany, where egg donation is forbidden.

Institut Marquès, leading international centre for Gynaecology and Assisted Reproduction, will present the results of this programme, named “Distance Oocyte Donation (DOD)” at the 34th ESHRE 2018 Annual Meeting (European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology).

*ESHRE 2013 Data

The achieved pregnancy rate is of 64,6% by embryo transfer, the live born baby rate is of 52%, miscarriage rate is of only 12,6% and multiple pregnancy rate goes down to 0,9%. ***“These are amazing results, outcome of many years of experience. They are due both to the good rates we get with IVF, as well as to the use of the latest technologies that allow us to safely vitrify the embryos and send them to the patient’s country of origin so that she does not need to travel”*** explains the Director of Institut Marquès, Dr Marisa López- Teijón.

The data Institut Marquès presented at the ESHRE Annual Meeting corresponds to 215 IVF cycles, carried out during 2 years at the Livet centre in Italy.

How does it work?

Institut Marquès makes it possible that the embryos get to reunite with their parents thanks to its clinics in Spain, Ireland and Italy and to many collaborating centres such as Livet in Turin. It is a world pioneer initiative.

The procedure is the following: the semen sample of the spouse is frozen at the country of origin and sent to the laboratory of Institut Marquès in Barcelona, where the IVF is carried out with the donor’s fresh eggs. Once fertilised, the embryos get vitrified on their 5th day of development (blastocyst) and sent back so that the embryo transfer can be carried out by the patient’s own doctor in her country of origin. The results are by far better than if vitrified oocytes from an egg bank were used.

“The fact of having to travel to other countries in order to fulfil the dream of becoming parents can be an inconvenience for some patients for many reasons: financial, work-related, cultural, language barriers or the anxiety that this could cause. We have managed to design a perfect solution for these cases: it is the embryo that travels. This method offers a safe, efficient and comfortable option to carry out the treatment in the patient’s country of origin”, points out Dr López-Teijón.

In vitro Fertilisation with donor eggs is the assisted reproduction technique with the highest success rates for those patients whose eggs have not enough quality to get a good evolutive pregnancy. The embryos obtained with this treatment have a high implantation potential, since they come from oocytes of a young woman, free of fertility problems, and the uterus of the recipient gets an optimal preparation to receive them.

Apart from the advantages that it means to the patient, this programme allows her doctor to keep control during all the assisted reproduction process in her country. The doctor is in charge of sending all tests to Institut Marquès and of preparing the patient for the embryo transfer. Furthermore, this system offers great flexibility in order to plan the transfer whenever is considered to be more appropriate. The treatment can be completed in just 6 weeks.

Acknowledgement of the “Ilustre Academia de Ciencias de la Salud Ramón y Cajal”

On the occasion of the ESHRE Annual meeting, last Saturday, June 30th, the Director of Institut Marquès, Dr Marisa López- Teijón was appointed academic member by the “Ilustre Academia de las Ciencias de la Salud Ramón y Cajal”. During the ceremony, held at the Faculty of Medicine of the Complutense University in Madrid she was awarded the “Cordón y el Pin Académico”, an award that acknowledges her accomplishments during her professional career in the field of Assisted Reproduction.

[The President of the “Ilustre Academia de las Ciencias de la Salud Ramón y Cajal” introduced Dr López-Teijón highlighting her role in the field of scientific research and innovation.](#)

About Institut Marquès

Institut Marquès is a leading international centre in Gynaecology, Obstetrics and Assisted Reproduction present in Barcelona, London, Ireland (Dublin and Clane), Italy (Rome and Milan) and Kuwait.

The centre has a wide experience in particularly critical cases and is helping people of over 50 different countries to achieve their dream of becoming parents. Institut Marquès offers the highest pregnancy success rates.

Leader in innovation, we develop an important research line about the benefits of music at early stages of life and fetal stimulation. Additionally, since 2002 Institut Marquès has been carrying out studies that link environmental toxics with sterility and with the outcome of assisted reproduction treatments.

Links of interest

[Egg donation](#)

[Sperm and egg donors](#)

[In Vitro Fertilisation](#)

Fertility experiences blog:

[Known donors](#)

[Egg and sperm donors](#)

[Reasons to become an egg donor](#)