

## Consent for Cryopreservation of Embryos

By signing this document we agree to the cryopreservation of any viable embryos not transferred to the uterus during an IVF cycle. We understand that this allows us to minimize the risks of multiple pregnancy by transferring fewer embryos and cryopreserving others that may be used to attempt pregnancy in a future cycle. We understand that there are risks to freezing embryos that include but are not limited to:

- 1) Damage to the embryos during the freezing and/or thawing process. Approximately 40% of embryos do not survive the freezing/thawing process.
- 2) A rare risk of equipment failure leading to the destruction of the embryos.
- 3) The risks normally associated with pregnancy and childbirth, as well as the possibility of the birth of an abnormally developed child as could be expected in any pregnancy.

We understand that there is no guarantee that a pregnancy will occur even if the embryos survive the freezing/thawing process or that a child will result if a pregnancy occurs.

We understand that we are responsible for all fees associated with cryopreservation of embryos including the initial cryopreservation fee and an annual storage fee that must be paid in order to continue storage of our embryos. This annual storage fee is billed January 1st of each year regardless of when the embryos were frozen. The storage fee will be based on the number of embryos frozen. Duke University agrees to make an effort to contact us by registered mail prior to discarding any embryos. We understand that it is our responsibility to contact Dr. Douglas Raburn at Box 3144 Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC 27710 of any changes in our address as long as we continue to have embryos frozen at Duke.

We understand that any embryos thawed cannot be refrozen.

We understand that we both must agree to any disposition of our embryos including if and when they are transferred, donated or destroyed. If we do not pay the annual storage fee, Duke University reserves the right to thaw and discard the embryos after 2 years of unpaid storage fees. Duke University agrees that any embryos thawed will not be used to create a pregnancy or be used in any scientific research without our prior consent. Any outstanding bills for storage must be paid prior to any embryos being transferred.

We have been given the opportunity to ask questions about cryopreservation of embryos and understand that we may withdraw our consent for freezing embryos at any time by signing a separate form.

Wife: \_\_\_\_\_ Husband: \_\_\_\_\_

Person obtaining consent: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ revised 6.23.2004