



# RMA OF MICHIGAN NEWS BLAST

## RMA of Michigan Partners with Donor Egg Bank, USA



In February, RMA of Michigan partnered with Donor Egg Bank USA (DEB USA), the nation's only frozen donor egg program developed through a collaboration of over 100 reproductive specialists throughout the United States. This allows patients the option of choosing a frozen egg donor cycle instead of a fresh egg donor cycle. The donor's eggs are frozen for immediate use so patients can cycle sooner without months of delay that can happen with a fresh donor cycle. Patients who are interested in choosing a frozen donor egg cycle will have access to a database of donors and can preview the donor profiles prior to choosing a donor. The patient then purchases a "lot" of six eggs, which are shipped directly to RMA of Michigan for the transfer.

Success rates with frozen cycles have increased significantly over the past few years and now frozen cycles are nearly as successful as fresh cycles. Donor Egg Bank USA has proven success rates. More than 50% of embryo transfers performed using eggs from Donor Egg Bank USA have resulted in a pregnancy and 47% resulted in a live born baby. We are excited to announce that our first frozen donor egg cycle (DEB USA) has resulted in a pregnancy! We look forward to having many more successes with Donor Egg Bank USA.

Below are some of the benefits of doing a frozen donor egg cycle. You can also visit [www.donoreggbankusa.com](http://www.donoreggbankusa.com) for more information.

**Larger Surplus of Donors** - The patient has access to donors throughout the country, not just Michigan. Having a larger pool of donors to choose from may benefit patients who have specific physical characteristics they are looking for in a donor.

**Cost** - The cost of a frozen donor egg cycle is less expensive than a fresh donor egg cycle. Some of the costs associated with a fresh donor egg cycle, i.e. stimulating medication are eliminated.

**Reliability** - Frozen donor eggs give the certainty that a cycle will not be canceled because of a donor who fails pre-screening, has a low ovarian response or has an unexpected life event.

If you are interested in learning more about the frozen donor egg option please contact our office at (248) 619-3100 to schedule a consultation.



## Upcoming Events

**National Infertility  
Awareness Week**  
April 21 - 27

**Free Seminar  
"Infertility 101"**  
RMA of Michigan  
Thursday, April 25  
6:00-7:30 PM

**Resolve's 12th Annual  
Spring Event**  
Beaumont, Royal Oak  
Friday, April 26  
7:00-9:00 PM

**RMA of Michigan's  
Third Annual Baby  
Reunion**  
Clawson Park  
Saturday, August 17

## Vitrification Improves Success Rates of Frozen Transfers

In the past, pregnancy rates have been higher with fresh embryos rather than frozen but now it appears that may not always be the case. During a typical fresh IVF cycle RMA of Michigan physicians superovulate the patient with medication to produce multiple eggs. These medications help a woman grow follicles but may also impact the uterine lining so it is not in optimal shape for implantation. Studies have shown that implantation rates are higher in natural cycles rather than superovulated cycles when the embryos are of the same quality. Patients may have better success with transferring frozen embryos, so that the uterine lining is in a more normal condition making it more receptive for implantation.

Previously, the technique used for freezing embryos was the slow freezing protocol. During this process many embryos would be damaged while freezing and thawing. Blastomeres were damaged by ice crystals forming within the cells and the cryoprotectant chemicals could not consistently prevent this damage. Today, using vitrification, a specialized freezing technique, which freezes the egg so quickly, ice crystals don't have time to form, survival rates are better than 98%. Vitrification has allowed RMA of Michigan to reduce the number of embryos being transferred given the improved condition of the embryos.

### National Infertility Awareness Week

**niaw**  
NATIONAL INFERTILITY  
AWARENESS WEEK

The week of April 21 is National Infertility Awareness Week. The week is about raising awareness and increasing understanding about infertility with the general public. Started in 1989 by Resolve, the National Infertility Association, goals of National Infertility Awareness Week include:

- Understand that infertility is a disease that affects 1 in 8 couples of reproductive age;
- Acknowledges that there are many ways to build a family;
- Understand the disease of infertility impacts the physical, emotional, and financial health of those that are facing it
- And those trying to conceive know when to seek the advice of a specialist.

If you would like to show your support you can visit [www.resolve.org](http://www.resolve.org) to learn about the different ways to get involved.

### 2011 SART Data Released



The 2011 IVF success rates are now available to view on the Society for Assisted Reproductive Technologies (SART) website at [www.sart.org](http://www.sart.org). All clinics must report their success rates to SART or the CDC. It is important to look at the number of overall cycles and the multiple birth rates as well as the success rates of each age category.

### RMA of Michigan Now Offers Military Discounts



RMA of Michigan is happy to announce that we are now offering military discounts for anyone currently serving in a branch of the military or veterans. When calling to schedule an appointment, please mention that you or your partner are in the military and bring an ID card with you to your appointment. If you have any questions, please contact us at (248) 619-3100.