

Extended Abstract

## Semen collection: Preferences and Opinions of the Male Partner

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Semen collection is an essential component to the evaluation and treatment of infertility. Little information is known regarding the male patients' perspectives of the process. The objective of this study was to investigate possible stresses, potential adverse effects and ways to improve the process of semen collection. A prospective descriptive anonymous survey was collected from men collecting a semen sample at an academic fertility center. A total of 102 surveys were completed by participants. The indications for the semen collection were analysis (49.5%) and fertility treatment (50.5%). Most men preferred to collect their samples at the clinic (56.9%), in the morning (85.7%), without lubrication (80.2%) and without their partner present (64.0%). The majority of those surveyed (63.7%) did not believe their sex drive/libido changed during the work-up/treatment of infertility. Approximately 1 in 4 men were embarrassed (26.7%) and almost 1 in 3 men (32.2%) reported increased stress when providing a semen sample. In conclusion, a large percentage of men feel increased stress and embarrassment when providing a semen sample. By understanding the preferences of male patients and making the appropriate clinical changes, the semen collection experience may be improved which may ultimately lead to superior semen parameters and treatment outcomes.

Keywords: *Semen analysis, Male infertility.*

### Biography:

Emily Hurley, MD, is trained in obstetrics and gynecology, and completed a three-year fellowship in reproductive endocrinology and infertility at UC Health.

Passionate about women's health, Dr. Hurley knew from a young age she wanted to pursue a career in the medicine. During her fourth year of medical school at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Dr. Hurley worked with reproductive endocrinology and infertility specialists at UC Health and found her calling.

Dr. Hurley's advocacy for educating and counseling women on their reproductive health and fertility options goes beyond her clinical work with her patients. In 2018, she published, "Postponing Childbearing and Fertility Preservation in Young Professional Women." In the study, young women's awareness of ovarian reserve testing and oocyte cryopreservation (egg freezing) were evaluated. The results found that when women were aware their fertility was declining, they were more interested in oocyte cryopreservation. The study further reinforced women should be both counseled and educated on possible options to preserve their fertility at a young age.

Dr. Hurley chose to join the experts at UC Health, embracing their high standards of patient care, while training the next generation of physicians. From her experience, UC Health is comprised of some of the most knowledgeable and trustworthy staff, dedicated to the care of patients and families.