



Sperm Testing

Why Assess Sperm?

There are many causes of infertility and every couple is unique. Male partners should be tested routinely, as up to 40% of couples have male factor infertility. This testing usually involves a semen analysis and the results will give the doctor detailed information about the number of sperm, their ability to swim and if they are normally shaped.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has strict guidelines regarding sperm assessment. The andrology laboratory at The Kelowna Regional Fertility Centre is designed to exceed WHO standards.

What Sperm Tests Are Available At The Kelowna Regional Fertility Centre?

Semen Profile

This test tells us the number of sperm present in the semen, how many are alive, how many are able to swim, how well they swim and how well they are shaped. A semen profile is suitable for men undergoing preliminary infertility investigations and those with who would like a more detailed analysis than what is provided at a community laboratory.

What Will Be Done With the Results?

You will meet with The Kelowna Regional Fertility Centre medical staff to review your results. Based on the test results and the outcome of this meeting, a plan of care will be selected that offers you the best infertility treatment options for you and your partner. A semen profile will be helpful in determining which treatments will be suitable saving you both time and expense.

How Do I Schedule a Semen Profile?

Semen Profiles can be booked directly through The Kelowna Regional Fertility Centre. You must book an appointment, as only a certain number of semen profiles can be completed by laboratory staff each day. If you need to cancel an appointment, please provide at least 48 hours notice so that we may accommodate another patient.

What Do I Need To Do Prior To The Test?

The Kelowna Regional Fertility Centre recommends a 2-5 day period of sexual abstinence prior to producing a sample for analysis in order to obtain meaningful results. Periods shorter or longer than this may make it difficult for laboratory staff to interpret the results. The Kelowna Regional Fertility Centre has a private donation room and recommend that the sample be collected on-site. Please inform the laboratory staff if you plan on bringing the sample in from home and we can provide a container for you to collect the sperm.

When Will I Know The Results?

It takes several days for all aspects of the semen profile to be completed, including a detailed morphology assessment. Once a report has been generated your doctor will receive your results, usually within a week. Laboratory staff will not be able to interpret the results of the semen analysis, as they do not have all of your treatment information.

What Does a Semen Profile Cost?

Semen Profiles are not covered by British Columbia MSP. Please see The Kelowna Regional Fertility Centre's fee schedule for current pricing.