



1 OVARIAN HYPERSTIMULATION SYNDROME

The ovarian response to the stimulation drugs varies from person to person. Occasionally the ovaries respond too quickly producing many follicles and high hormone levels.

Ovarian hyperstimulation is detrimental to your own health and in severe cases can be a life threatening condition. Symptoms include: nausea, vomiting, bloatedness, abdominal swelling, extreme thirst and you may even feel breathless. Admission to hospital can be arranged for observation and to provide any necessary medication to alleviate your symptoms. Should you have any or a combination of the symptoms described, please contact the Centre.

Careful monitoring of the treatment with ultrasound scans and blood hormone tests may prevent this complication, however, should you be at risk of developing this condition, the staff will discuss the options available to you.

1.1 If you are undergoing Ovulation Induction / Superovulation

- We will discuss whether we can continue or abandon the cycle prior to intra-uterine insemination. If the cycle is abandoned all drug therapy will be stopped and we advise that barrier methods of contraception are used until your next period.

1.2 If you are undergoing IVF treatment :

- We will discuss whether we can continue or abandon the cycle prior to egg recovery. If the cycle is abandoned we would ask you to continue with the down regulation drugs for one further week. We would then arrange for an appointment or telephone follow up with a Doctor to discuss the recent events.
- We may be able to continue with the cycle and reduce, or stop the Follicle Stimulating Hormone drug and arrange egg recovery. After the egg recovery you may have an embryo transfer.
- We may proceed with the egg recovery and freeze all embryos created at this time. No embryo transfer will take place and we will ask that you continue with the down regulation drug for one further week. This is started on the day of your egg recovery and continues for one week. You can proceed with a frozen replacement cycle of these embryos in no less than three months time.