

Island Reproductive Services

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Instructions for Cycles Using Injections With or Without Intrauterine Insemination (IUI)

Before using injectable medications, you must schedule a nursing visit to learn how to use them and to sign a consent form. These medicines are safe but have side effects / risks, some of which are below.

1. Ovarian Hyperstimulation (OHSS): Your ovaries may respond too much, producing too many follicles or hormone values that are higher than desired. In its severe form, this occurs in about 1% of patients.
2. Multiple Gestations: Up to 20% of pregnancies may be affected, the vast majority being twins.
3. Ectopic pregnancies (outside of the uterus): The normal risk is 1-2 % of all pregnancies. They may be slightly higher with these treatments and are treated medically or surgically depending on the individual.
4. Ovarian Twisting (Torsion): Because the ovary becomes larger, it can twist and cut off its blood supply. If this occurs, which is really rare, surgery may be required.

Intrauterine Insemination (IUI) involves processing the sperm to consolidate the best sperm into a smaller volume and to place that sperm directly into the uterus. This bypasses cervical mucus that could block sperm from getting into the uterus during sexual intercourse.

BASELINE: To begin your cycle, call us at **718-761-6000** as soon as you get your menstrual bleeding. Please call this number regardless of whether you are seen in New York or in New Jersey. The first day of full bleeding (not spotting) is day 1 of your cycle. If bleeding starts after 6 PM, the next day is considered Day 1. On Day 1, 2 or 3, we want to have you get an **ultrasound** and **blood work** at our office in the early morning (BASELINE). Baseline visits are not done on weekends or holidays. We will give you instructions later that day regarding your start date, medication dose, and when to return.

You will get instructions every time you return as we monitor your hormone levels and your ovaries. In order to time your IUI after your follicles have grown sufficiently, normally we recommend taking a single injection when the follicles are ready and we perform the IUI about 36 hours later. Alternatively, you may time your IUI or intercourse based on checking ovulation kits at home. When the kit turns positive, you should call 718-761-6000 before 1 PM to let us know, and the IUI will usually be performed the next day. If this occurs on the weekend, call this number and speak with the doctor on call.

We will check your pregnancy test 2 weeks after your IUI (or intercourse). We may monitor your hormone levels and supplement you with hormones to ensure your body is optimally prepared for pregnancy.