

Submission form

Please provide your contact details below.

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|---|--------------------------------------|
| Name: | Jessica Maclean |
| If this submission is made on behalf of an organisation, please name the organisation: | n/a |
| Please provide a brief description of the organisation if applicable: | n/a |
| Address/email: | |
| Interest in this topic (eg, user of fertility services, health professional, member of the public): | Potential user of fertility services |

We will place all submissions on ACART's website, except where we are asked that submissions be withheld in full or part for reasons of confidentiality. We will remove contact information from all submissions.

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I **request** that my submission be withheld in full or part from publication on ACART's website (if you wish a part to be withheld, please clearly indicate which part).

Please note that all submissions may be requested by any member of the public under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). If there is any part of your submission that you consider should be properly withheld under the Act, please make this clear in your submission, noting the reasons.

If information from your submission is requested under the Act, the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) will release your submission to the person who requested it. The Ministry will remove your name and/or contact details from the submission if you check one or both of the following boxes. Where a submission is made on behalf of an organisation, the Ministry will not remove the name of the organisation.

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I **do not** give permission for my name to be released to persons under the Official Information Act 1982.

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I **do not** give permission for my contact details to be released to persons under the Official Information Act 1982.

We will acknowledge all submissions. A summary of submissions will be sent to those who request a copy. The summary will include the names of everyone who made a submission, except where individuals have asked for personal details to be withheld.

Do you wish to receive a copy of the summary of submissions?

☐

Yes

☒

No

Questions about the proposed amendments to the guidelines

Question 1

Do you agree with ACART's conclusions that:

- the surrogacy guidelines currently discriminate on the basis of sex and sexual orientation, and
- the discrimination is not justified in light of the principles of the Human Assisted Reproductive Technology Act 2004?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Please give reasons for your views.

I believe it is self-evident that the current guidelines are discriminatory, which by nature is not justified or justifiable.

Question 2

Do you agree with ACART's view that surrogacy should be used only where there is a need, and not for convenience?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Please give reasons for your views.

Although the use of the term "convenience" requires definition, I agree that surrogacy should be used only when necessary.

Question 3

Do you have any other comments on ACART's proposed amendments to the *Guidelines on Surrogacy Arrangements involving Providers of Fertility Services*?

These changes are long overdue.

Question 4

Do you agree with ACART's proposal that single men and male couples applying to ECART to enter a surrogacy arrangement should also be able to apply to use eggs donated by a family member?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Please give reasons for your views.

If eggs from a family member are used, the resulting child will have a greater opportunity to have some form of contact or relationship with his/her biological mother, which I believe to be in the best interests of the child. Furthermore it is illogical in the extreme that when considering donors, one's family is automatically excluded.

Question 5

Do you agree with ACART's proposal that single women and lesbian couples should be able to apply to ECART to use sperm donated by a family member without needing a medical justification?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Please give reasons for your views.

For the reason given above, and because my same-sex fiancée and I are directly affected; it is our desire to have the option of using each others' brothers sperm when we start our family.

Question 6

Do you agree with ACART's view that the use of eggs or sperm donated by a family member should be possible only where intending parents do not have their own eggs or sperm, or if they do, that there is a medical reason for them not to use their own eggs or sperm?

Yes ☐ No ☒

Please give reasons for your views.

If a couple is 'allowed' to receive donated eggs or sperm, what does it matter whether they come from family members or not?

Question 7

Do you have any other comments or suggestions about either the proposed amendments to the guidelines or the associated discussion?

On the whole, I support these proposed amendments ☺