

Patient information for COVID-19 infection and consent to treatment

For the safety of patients and staff in the new context generated by the Covid-19 pandemic, in the Gynera Clinic additional precautions have been implemented, in line with the recommendations of scientific societies and international professionals.

We are all exposed to health risks and we would greatly appreciate your cooperation in complying recommended protection measures.

1) Risks of COVID-19 infection during pregnancy and assisted reproduction

There is no conclusive evidence of adverse effects of Covid-19 infection in pregnancy, especially in early period.

There are cases of women infected with Covid-19 who have given birth to healthy children, as well as cases of complications in pregnant women infected with Covid-19 during pregnancy (premature rupture of membranes, premature birth), but information is limited.

Reproductive cells are unlikely to be directly affected, according to current knowledge, but information on the presence of the virus in semen, follicular fluid or cryopreserved samples is limited.

Despite the lack of conclusive evidence, we recommend all patients undergoing fertility treatment consider the risk of treatment and the potential implications:

- Pregnant women have altered immunity and may be more susceptible to infections
- Women infected with COVID-19 may have more difficulties during pregnancy
- Antiviral therapies and medications needed to treat COVID 19 infection may not be recommended during pregnancy
- People undergoing fertility treatment may need to stop treatment at any time if positive for Covid-19
- If at some point the authorities decide to resume travel restrictions, the treatment cycle can be canceled at any time
- There is a possibility to find out later about other complications associated with assisted reproduction, risks that we do not know about now

The main risk situations are: contact with infected people, travel to high-risk areas, working in hospitals or care centers, family members at risk.

The main alarm symptoms that can be caused by Covid-19 are: fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breathing, loss of smell or taste. These symptoms may not be present or different symptoms may exist.

The main general protective measures to prevent Covid-19 infection are:

- Avoid crowds and travels that are not absolutely necessary
- Keep at least 2 meters away from other people
- Wear a face mask and do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth with your hands
- Wash your hands with soap and water after contact with objects / common areas
- When sneezing or coughing, cover your mouth and nose with the elbow crease or napkin
- If you have fever or cough, isolate yourself and let your doctor know

2) What will happen if you decide to continue treatment during the COVID-19 pandemic?

If you want to start treatment, you can consider freezing oocytes or embryos and having the embryo transfer at a later stage, after the risk period has gone.

However, if you decide to continue reproductive treatment, you will need to follow these steps:

Declaring symptoms and risk status

Patients and staff will not come to the clinic if they have symptoms, if they have come in contact with people diagnosed with Covid-19, have returned from a risk area, or have a chronic disease that makes them vulnerable.

Telephone or online triage will take place periodically. Please provide all required information correctly. Hiding information about symptoms or situations at risk, by not taking appropriate measures, can lead to severe consequences for one's own treatment, the activity of the clinic, one's own health and that of others.

Additional hygiene

Please sanitize your hands at the entrance of the clinic and wear a protective mask

Social distancing

Please respect the distance from other people in the clinic, in private or professional life.

Reduce time spent in the clinic. Please send the results of the investigations and the completed forms before the consultation; the doctor would check them in advance. Contact us by phone, email or online if you have additional questions. Schedule online consultations whenever possible.

Do not come to the clinic accompanied by other people / partner, if they are not directly involved in that procedure.

Compliance with national and professional regulations

Authorities or the clinic may decide on additional restrictions if there are risk situations in the general population or local settings. Although these situations are unlikely, they can lead to delaying treatment.

3) Patient / patients statement

I declare that, although the risks associated with Covid-19 in pregnancy appear to be low, I understand that scientific information is still insufficient. I take responsibility in case new information, currently unknown, would associate Covid-19 to other possible complications in pregnancy.

I declare that I have read and understood the information provided. I am aware of the potential health risks related to the start of treatment and visits to the clinic, as well as the risk of treatment being discontinued.

I understand that there may be health issues or restrictions for which the clinic cannot be held responsible. I understand that the information related to Covid-19 is evolving rapidly and this information is valid at the moment of completion of the document.

I will follow the instructions above, the hygiene, protection and social distance measures mentioned.

I declare that I have informed and will continue to inform the doctor about all the important facts related to the medical history and my health. I understand that there may be negative consequences for providing false information on me, on the clinic staff and other patients, for which I will be responsible.

I request / We ask the medical team of the clinic to perform during the Covid-19 pandemic all interventions associated with planned assisted reproduction treatment.

Patient Signature

Partner Signature

Date

Date