

INSTRUCTIONS TO PHYSICIANS FOR PATIENTS WHO WISH TO OBTAIN SPERM FROM THE ABBOTT NORTHWESTERN HOSPITAL ANDROLOGY LAB

The Abbott Northwestern Hospital Andrology Lab has modified its procedures for providing sperm to physicians for use in artificial insemination. We have prepared three documents that you should give each patient before sending her to obtain sperm from the Andrology Lab. Here is an explanation of each document and what we require:

1. **Request and Consent to Obtain Sperm for Artificial Insemination.** As part of the Andrology Lab's due diligence to ensure that the sperm it releases is used safely and appropriately, this form provides the assurance we need that the patient is under your care, knows how Minnesota law applies to artificial insemination of a married woman, has been informed of the risks of and consented to artificial insemination, and will use the sperm only for artificial insemination. We require that the patient bring a copy of the signed document to the Andrology Lab when picking up the sperm that you have ordered. (You may fax the signed form to us, if you wish, or you may make a photocopy for your file and send the original with the patient.) Note that the form must be signed by you, the patient, and the patient's husband if she's married.

Also note that the "Request and Consent to Obtain Sperm" is *not* designed to be the patient's consent for you to perform artificial insemination; it only asks that you verify that the patient has been informed of the risks and has consented. If you require your patient to consent to your performing the procedure itself in writing, you may develop your own form for documenting that consent.

2. **What You Should Know about the Andrology Lab.** This document informs the patient of facts and risks she needs to know about the sperm she is receiving from the Andrology Lab (as contrasted with the facts and risks of undergoing artificial insemination itself). It informs her of the risks, especially the extent to which the sperm has (or has not) been tested and the limitations of those tests. Because you are the patient's physician, we think you are in a better position to review the information and answer the patient's questions than we are. However, we would be happy to answer any questions you may have prior to providing the sperm.

Note that the Request form refers to the "What You Should Know" document and asks you and the patient to verify that you have gone over it with the patient.

3. **Release of Liability & Indemnification.** Finally, we ask that you provide your patient with a copy of the Release of Liability and Indemnification Agreement. This is a legal document the Andrology Lab will require the patient to sign. We do not expect you to review it or advise the patient about this document, but we do want you to give it to her and tell her that we will require it to be signed (by her, and her spouse if she's married) before we will provide sperm to her. This will give her time to review it and seek legal advice if she wishes before obtaining the sperm.