Fairfax Cryobank has been in operation since 1986 and has one of the largest inventories of cryopreserved semen in the world. We’ve provided sperm freezing and storage services for thousands of individuals at our facilities in Fairfax, VA (outside Washington, D.C), Austin, TX, Philadelphia, PA, and Roseville, MN.

Fairfax Cryobank has extensive expertise in cryopreservation, and we provide exceptional service and care to our clients. It’s easy for you to set up an appointment to store your sperm by calling 1-800-338-8407.

- Registered and compliant with Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations
- Accredited by the American Association of Tissue Banks (AATB)
- State inspected and licensed (New York, Maryland and California)
- Over 30 years’ experience storing samples and shipping to all 50 states and many foreign countries

Shipping of Specimens

Release forms allow for shipping of specimens at any time to the client’s physician for use by his intimate partner. There is a nominal charge for release and shipping using specially designed transport canisters to preserve the specimen’s frozen state for the receiving physician. We recommend contacting Fairfax Cryobank with two week’s notice to ensure all processes are in place for the shipping and protection of your vials in the time frame needed.

So far no limit has been established for how long human semen can be frozen, stored, and used to achieve a pregnancy.
Cryopreservation: What is it?

Cryopreservation is the process of freezing tissues or cells and maintaining them at extremely low temperatures for future use. The technique has undergone important advances since the first births using frozen sperm occurred in the early 1950s. Samples are mixed with media that minimizes damage during freezing and thawing, placed in special vials and carefully frozen in liquid nitrogen vapor. They are then stored in liquid nitrogen in securely monitored tanks at a temperature of -196 degrees C (-320 degrees F). Sperm cryopreservation has revolutionized the field of assisted reproduction. Choosing to bank sperm to protect fertility can alleviate the concerns and sometimes improve the overall attitude of men facing medical procedures. Time and again, cryopreservation has proven to be a successful method for fulfilling men’s aspirations with regard to having children.

Infectious Disease Screening

Clients who bank sperm for future use are required to have testing for infectious and sexually-transmitted diseases such as HIV and hepatitis. Clients may elect to have these tests performed by Fairfax Cryobank or have blood drawn and tested by another laboratory or physician. Proof of results needs to be provided to Fairfax Cryobank within 30 days of producing samples. Required tests include:*  

- HIV 1 & 2 (AIDS) Antibody
- Hepatitis B Surface Antigen
- Hepatitis C Viral Antibody

In strict compliance with industry standards, separate quarantine storage is maintained for specimens that have tested positive for infectious diseases. This special storage incurs additional fees.

Prior to having sperm cryopreserved, clients are required to undergo certain tests. *Pre- and Post-Freeze Analysis* is performed to evaluate the specimen motility after freezing and thawing. We want to place into cryostorage only those specimens that demonstrate viable sperm cells.

Sperm Storage: Common Situations

- Prior to cancer treatment
  The advancements in reproductive technology have greatly enhanced the chances for men undergoing chemotherapy, radiation therapy, a medication regimen or surgery which may result in sterility.

- Active military duty or frequent travel
  This storage option preserves the male partner’s sperm for periods of absence to ensure the availability of semen at the critical time of a procedure, such as IVF (in vitro fertilization) or other assisted reproduction procedures.

- Prior to vasectomy
  While vasectomy reversal success rates are good, they do not always result in sperm capable of fertilization. Cryopreservation prior to a vasectomy provides fertility insurance and eliminates any need for further surgery.

- Testicular, prostate, or other urological surgery
  Impotence and/or sterility can be an unfortunate side effect of these types of surgeries. Testicular cancer is the most common cancer in men between 15-40 years old. Banking specimens prior to treatment increases the chance for a successful future pregnancy.

We understand the urgency of beginning cancer therapy; therefore, we reserve appointments specifically for oncology clients. We suggest providing at least two specimens, 48-72 hours apart, to assure an adequate amount of samples for future inseminations. Fairfax Cryobank can arrange for storage of semen specimens in the critical window you have for banking.

Pre- and Post-Freeze Analysis

As standard procedure, a pre-freeze semen analysis is performed to evaluate each specimen’s quality. This analysis will determine the count and motility (movement) of the sperm. A post-thaw semen analysis is performed to evaluate the specimen motility after freezing and thawing. We want to place into cryostorage only those specimens that demonstrate viable sperm cells.

Safety and Security through Constant Monitoring

Fairfax Cryobank guarantees effective storage and maintenance of client samples until the client decides to use them for assisted conception procedures or terminates the storage agreement. Storage tanks are inspected daily to replenish liquid nitrogen. While the entire system operates independently of electricity, the premises and tanks are constantly monitored by an electronic system to assure proper storage conditions as well as overall building security. Staff is on call 24 hours a day.

Current fees with attractive discounts for long term, pre-paid storage can be found on the Fairfax website at www.fairfaxcryobank.com.

On Site, At Our Lab

To obtain a semen specimen of maximum quality and quantity for freezing, it is recommended that clients abstain from any ejaculation or emission for at least 3 days—no more than five days prior to an appointment on site at our laboratory. Semen depositors make an appointment during regular business hours, Monday through Friday. Our courteous, professional staff will walk you or a loved one through the necessary forms and provide facilities for your sample collection via self-masturbation.

In an emergency situation regarding your cancer diagnosis and treatment, please contact Fairfax Cryobank to see how we can help. Visit our website at www.fairfaxcryobank.com or call us at (800) 338-8407. Customer care is our first consideration.

Priority Male™ Overnight Collection Kit

In association with Cryogenic Laboratories, Inc. (CLI) in Minnesota, Fairfax Cryobank offers men the means to collect and bank samples prior to medical treatment, even if they are unable to travel to a bank or collection facility. Each Priority Male™ kit comes complete with the necessary forms, detailed instructions, and transport media ... a fast, convenient, and worry-free process. Priority Male™ kits are obtained for a nominal fee by calling Fairfax Cryobank at (800) 338-8407. More information is available at www.fairfaxcryobank.com/spermbankingkit.shtml.