

### Reproductive Advice Unit for Cancer Patients

# Becoming a mother after cancer

Institut Marquès achieves a pregnancy rate of 82% in women who have successfully completed cancer treatment

Seven out of ten oncologic patients have become mothers in less than two years without increasing the risk of cancer being reproduced

The need to preserve fertility in oncology patients is increasing, as the incidence of cancer in women of reproductive age has increased in recent years due to delayed motherhood. In addition, the survival rate of these diseases is also on the rise, with an index of 85% in women under 50.

Because all of this, <u>Institut Marquès</u> (IM) has a <u>Unit specialized in Reproductive Advice</u> which goal is to advise patients that have suffered of cancer about their chances of becoming a mother once the oncologic treatment is completed.

The Board is made up of experts from different specialties, who after analysing the specific case of the patient, decide the reproductive treatment to follow and the appropriate time to perform it.

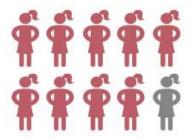
Dr. Alex García Faura gynaecologist and Director of the Unit, says that "many of these women will be able to have a child if they have already successfully completed chemotherapy, radiotherapy or surgery, but it is essential that their case be studied by a multidisciplinary team like ours. Only in this way can we claim that being a mother after cancer is safe".

### Mothers in less than two years and without risks

This multidisciplinary evaluation helps these patients become mothers without increasing the risk of recurrence of the disease. For the time being, the Board of Institut Marquès has carried out a two year follow-up of oncology patients who achieved pregnancy. All of them are still healthy.



## Some data

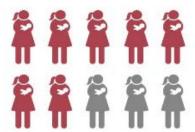


### 9 OUT OF IO WOMEN

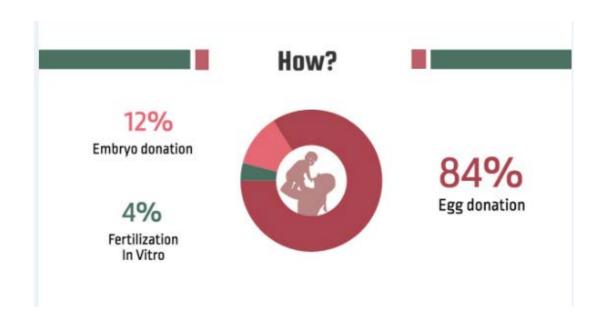
Evaluated by our unit are able to initiate a reproductive process



became mother
before the 2nd year
thanks to our treatments



89% of the patients evaluated by the specialized Unit of Institut Marquès were considered fit to start a reproductive process. 82% of them have achieved a pregnancy through different treatments and 7 out of 10 have become mothers in less than two years since their consultation.





The treatments carried out were: In Vitro Fertilization (3, 9%); embryo donation (11, 7%) and egg donation (84%). Only 10% of the women that started a reproductive treatment had had their eggs frozen before the oncology treatment.

The average age of these patients is 40 years old and the most common cancer type is breast cancer (35%), followed by hematologic ones, such as leukaemia or lymphoma (29%) and ovary (14%). By the time they seek advice to become mothers, an average of 8 years have elapsed since they were diagnosed with cancer.

Patients who have not been able to start a reproductive process (10% of the women evaluated) are due to an unfinished cancer treatment, age (over 50 years) or a morbid obesity problem.

In case of refusal of reproductive treatment, the patient is informed of the diagnostic tests or cancer treatments to be followed before being able to re-apply for trying to become pregnant again.

#### About Institut Marquès

Institut Marquès is a Barcelona based centre of international standing in Gynaecology, Obstetrics and Assisted Reproduction with branches in Barcelona, London, Ireland (Dublin and Clane), Italy (Rome and Milan) and Kuwait.

The centre, with a wealth of experience in particularly difficult cases, helps people in more than 50 countries achieve their dream of parenthood. Institut Marquès offers the highest pregnancy success rates, with 89% per cycle in IVF with egg donation.

Leader in innovation, it conducts an important line of research on the benefits of music in the early stages of life, foetal stimulation and the male role in assisted reproduction treatments.

Institut Marquès is also involved in the research of the relationship between chemical toxins and fertility, taking part in many initiatives that support the defense of the environment. In 2018 it started its Corporate Social Responsibility project, "The Forest of Embryos". For every child born with the help of assisted reproduction treatments, a tree is planted. Institut Marquès also supports the manifesto "Citizens for Science in Pesticide Regulation", a coalition of civil society, institutions, scientists and legal experts that demands a reform on the use of pesticides in the European Union.

www.institutmarques.ie