

Press release

Do you want your child to be like you?

One of the main concerns of people who resort to egg or sperm donors to become parents is that their child looks like them physically but also in their personality

Institut Marquès is the first Assisted Reproduction clinic that assigns to each patient the most similar anonymous donor thanks to the new “personality matching”

Barcelona, 07th September 2020. – More than eight million children have been born in the world thanks to Assisted Reproduction. The delay in maternity has made egg and sperm donation in Spain and Europe a necessity. Around a third of the Assisted Reproduction treatments carried out in Spain require a gamete donor, according to statistics of the Spanish Fertility Society (SEF).

One of the main concerns of those who have to resort to egg or sperm donation to have children is to achieve the highest degree of resemblance and affinity with the donor.

Spanish law dictates that the donation of gametes must be anonymous and altruistic. It is the clinic that is responsible for the allocation of donors for each treatment. At Institut Marquès, international centre for Assisted Reproduction, with headquarters in Barcelona, this process is customised to the maximum and it is the doctor himself who selects the donor. Always respecting confidentiality, he personally chooses the most appropriate one for the patients taking into account the physical characteristics of both and, from now on, also the hereditary features of their temperament thanks to the new "personality matching".

Much more than hair and eyes color

The "personality matching" of Institut Marquès is the first program created by an Assisted Reproduction clinic to allocate donors in treatments with gamete donation according to the hereditary traits of their personality. Thanks to this protocol, in addition to the physical features, for the first time, psychological aspects in donor selection are rigorously accounted for.

According to **Dr Marisa López-Teijón**, Director of Institut Marquès, *“the resemblance between parents and children depends on both physique and personality. Temperament is inherited and character is modulated according to the environment and education the child receives. Together, temperament and character will build what we call personality. A person's physical appearance also has a very important hereditary component, although genetics are capricious and countless combinations can be given: height, hair and eye colour, facial features... but, without a doubt, attitude and personality greatly influence the appearance of each person.”*

That their child resembles them is one of the biggest concerns of prospective parents when they start their treatment with gamete donation. Dr López-Teijón says that doctors are well aware of this concern: *“Assigning a donor is an act of great importance and we live it with a feeling of responsibility and honour for the trust that patients have placed in us”*. Now, thanks to the “personality matching”, this task will be even more precise.

A unique method

The “personality matching” consists of a test that analyses those hereditary characteristics that, in the clinical field, are known as “temperament”.

At Institut Marquès all sperm and egg donors take this psychological test. The results will be compared with those of the mother-to-be in Donor Egg In vitro Fertilisation (IVF) treatments or with those of the father-to-be in case of Artificial Insemination or IVF with sperm donor.

This questionnaire, prepared by Institut Marquès, is based on the studies of Buss and Plomin and the Myers-Briggs test (MBTI). The results define attitude (introversion or extroversion), how to analyse or perceive the information of each person (sensory or intuitive), the way of making decisions (logical or emotional) and the interaction with the outside world (perception or judgment).

The conclusions are drawn through 20 questions to define strengths and 20 to define weaknesses. In this way each individual is classified into one of four large temperament groups: sensitive-creative, calm-practical, energetic-impatient and proactive-impulsive.

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, one of the most awarded at an international level and 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 91% per cycle in IVF with egg donation. Institut Marques offers two options for those patients that need a Donor In Vitro Fertilisation (IVF), depending on whether they want to use anonymous or identifiable donors for their treatment .For the IVF treatment with identifiable donors, they can do it at Institut Marquès Irish clinic in Clane. For an anonymous egg or sperm donation treatment, IM offer a tailor-made solution: “Just for Transfer” where the patient only travel to Barcelona (Spain) for the embryo transfer.

Download press release, pictures and videos here: <https://bit.ly/3bqT6y7>

Links of interest:

<https://institutomarques.com/en/assisted-reproduction/treatments/sperm-and-egg-donors-2/personality-matching/>

For further press information and interviews:

*Institut Marquès Barcelona - Mireia Folguera: mireia.folguera@institutomarques.com
Tel.: 0034-649 901 494*