

### IVF in today's world

Today's world is an ever-changing and fluid one where new challenges and stress points appear every day. This, along with other factors, naturally has an adverse impact on fertility and many couples have problems conceiving. However, In-Vitro Fertilisation (IVF) is a ray of hope for them. IVF is a widely known and used assisted reproductive technology that has helped millions achieve their dreams of parenthood. A word of caution though – innumerable misconceptions and myths about IVF abound. It is crucial that a clear distinction is made between these myths and facts so that informed decisions can be taken by those considering IVF. Let's take a look at some of the common myths and reveal the truth:

# Myth: IVF is only for women who can't conceive naturally

Though commonly believed, IVF is definitely not confined to such women. IVF can be used to treat a wide range of fertility issues. This includes male infertility, blocked fallopian tubes, endometriosis and unexplained infertility. It can also assist with genetic screening and embryo preservation. A versatile solution for many fertility issues, IVF is a highly adaptable treatment that can address numerous fertility concerns. Irrespective of male or female infertility, IVF can be the solution, with flexible techniques such as sperm donation or egg freezing.

## Myth: IVF always results in a baby

One of the most common misconceptions about IVF is that it guarantees pregnancy. This is definitely not the case with the success of IVF depending on various factors like the woman's age, the quality of the embryos, the fertility of both partners and the presence of underlying health conditions. There is always a good chance of failure



as IVF is influenced by several variables. While advances in technology have significantly improved outcomes, on average the success rate for IVF is around 40% for women under 35, declining as the woman's age increases.

#### Myth: IVF is extremely expensive

IVF can obviously be a costly proposition, but not always. Costs vary depending on the clinic, the country and the specific treatments involved. Insurance plans and financing options often make it easier for couples to manage the cost. Many clinics offer payment plans, insurance coverage and other financial assistance that help manage the costs and reduce the financial burden.

## A realistic approach

IVF is a complex and powerful reproductive tool which offers hope to many. While outcomes are not guaranteed and many challenges exist, it helps to dispel myths and focus on facts so that couples can have realistic expectations.

