

# Fertility NEW ZEALAND

FertilityNZ exists to support New Zealanders experiencing fertility problems, whether having difficulties becoming or staying pregnant

## About us

Having the choice to create a family is a fundamental part of our humanness – encountering difficulties in having or completing a much-wanted family is unexpected and can be very challenging to deal with. The confusion, frustration and grief encountered with fertility problems are invisible and often not understood by family and friends or even by health professionals, which can leave people feeling very isolated. Intense feelings such as anger, sadness and grief are a natural part of dealing with fertility problems. However these feelings are often minimised and invalidated by others, so support from people who understand is especially helpful.

FertilityNZ was founded in 1990 and is a national organisation with regional branches around New Zealand and is a registered charity. Much of FertilityNZ's work is done by dedicated volunteers.

- One in five New Zealanders are affected by infertility
- Infertility is most simply defined as not being able to achieve conception after a year of unprotected intercourse, or not being able to carry pregnancies to a live birth
- Infertility is a medical condition and is recognised as a disease by the World Health Organisation
- Infertility is often thought to be a 'woman's problem' but approximately 30% of infertility is male factor, 30% is female factor, 30% is both and 10% is unexplained

#### What does FertilityNZ do?

FertilityNZ provides support and information for people affected by fertility problems through:

- Our website <a href="www.fertilitynz.org.nz">www.fertilitynz.org.nz</a>
- Regional support groups
- Our email contact and 0800 number providing ready access for all those seeking information and support
- Publishing Dandelion magazine packed with helpful information – sent out to members
- Providing informative Fact Sheet brochures available for members and through fertility clinics
- Email updates
- Holding seminars and workshops
- Hosting a regular conference

#### How much does it cost to join FertilityNZ?

Membership is currently free. General information is also provided free of charge. Membership forms can be found on our website home page. By joining FertilityNZ you support the valuable work FertilityNZ does for all New Zealanders experiencing fertility problems.





#### The purpose of FertilityNZ is to:

- Support and provide information and understanding for men and women faced with fertility issues and infertility
- Raise awareness about infertility and advocate for social and legislative change
- Provide a national voice for people affected by fertility issues and infertility
- Provide information on causes, treatments, implications and impact of infertility – up-to-date, objective and practical information means people affected can make informed choices about which paths to take
- Represent the voice of the people affected by infertility on medical, ethical and policy issues
- Provide opportunities to network and share experiences, which helps remove the feelings of isolation felt by many people affected by fertility issues and infertility
- Provide links between people affected by infertility and the doctors and specialists who provide treatment
- Provide information and education so people can make choices which protect and enhance their fertility

### Fertility NEW ZEALAND

PO Box 28262, Remuera, Auckland 1541

free phone: 0800 333 306

email: support@fertilitynz.org.nz website: www.fertilitynz.org.nz

## Our vision

FertilityNZ has a vision of a 'fertility friendly' and fertility-aware New Zealand where:

- Infertility is recognised, understood and supported
- All men and women faced with the medical condition of infertility have access to appropriate, timely and fully funded medical treatment
- Men and women have all the information necessary to enable them to make informed decisions regarding their fertility
- Young New Zealanders learn about fertility preservation
- Fertility and all alternative forms of whanau and family-building are respected and valued







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