

Egg donation is a life-changing gift

Altrui: *Italian for Altruism ~ Meaning: 'For others'*



Some women have no chance of starting a family without the help of an egg donor. So thank you for getting in touch, as donating eggs is a fantastic chance to make a real difference. Altrui will tell you everything you need to know about being a donor, so you can make a fully informed decision about whether this is something you would like to do.

You'll find that you gain a sense of fulfilment and achievement like no other from donation, and will be able to feel justifiably proud of yourself for helping someone this way. It marks you out as one special person whose help is greatly appreciated. Altrui supports egg donors every step of the way; we are totally committed to making egg donation easy, safe and rewarding. We will give you the very best information as we guide you through your egg donation journey. We work only with clinics who have the expertise and highest success rates.

[The following pages and those on our website](#) will probably answer most of your questions, so have good look around, and then please just give us a ring – 01969 667875. We would love to talk to you about becoming a donor! Chatting this through with our small and friendly team doesn't commit you to anything, and you can speak with us in complete confidence without any pressure to continue.

Who can be an Egg Donor? If you'd like to donate eggs, you need to:

- ☺ be fit and healthy
- ☺ be aged between 18 and 35,
- ☺ have no family history of inherited illnesses,
- ☺ have a normal weight for your height,
- ☺ not currently be trying to become pregnant yourself

If you'd like to find out why, [take a look at our website](#)

Why donate with Altrui? We recognise that, as an altruistic egg donor, you are exceptional, kind and generous, and so you deserve the best.

Altruistic Egg Donors are supported. We are unique in the way [we look after our donors' interests](#) and are here for you throughout the egg donation programme. We're at the end of the phone, on text and email 24/7 so you're never on your own. We have previous donors willing to act as 'donor buddies' and we only work with the best fertility clinics.

Altrui matches you carefully with someone who needs help, and who we think you'd really like if you knew them. We take your wishes into consideration, making your donor journey very personal. [Matching](#) will influence which clinic you will go to for treatment, and helps make the cycle as quick and easy as possible.



Egg donation is anonymous with Altrui. At the point of donation, you and your recipient won't know each other. This allows you to be an egg donor without feeling any undue pressure. We will explain what this might mean in the future and [you will learn more from a fertility counsellor](#) as part of the journey as an egg donor.

You will give someone the very best chance. Because the eggs you donate are given to one woman, it gives her a 70 – 80% chance of becoming pregnant. With your consent, any remaining embryos can be frozen. This gives a second chance for a pregnancy if the first cycle fails, or for genetically related children in the future. This means you might be able to [help someone build their family](#).

You are reimbursed for your expenses immediately. You never have to worry about being out of pocket or wait to be refunded for expenses. It is illegal to be paid to donate eggs in the UK. However, you are entitled to £750, to cover your expenses and [we will explain how this works](#).



We have a fantastic support network... We have great [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) communities, and we encourage all our donors to follow us. We love them to review their experiences honestly and share their insights, tips and encouragement. Blogs make fantastic reading too and give you a good idea of someone's personal experience as an egg donor.

Who needs an egg donor? If you become a donor, and matched with someone, we will usually tell you the reason [why your help is needed](#). Many women hope and assume that they will have a family sometime, but then find that they can't conceive without help. The reasons are likely to be because:

- 🕒 they may have been born without, or have underdeveloped, ovaries.
- 🕒 treatment for cancer such as surgery, chemotherapy, or radiotherapy, has damaged eggs and their ovaries.
- 🕒 premature menopause affects one in a hundred women under 40, sometimes in their teens or early twenties.
- 🕒 repeated failed IVF cycles means egg donation is their only hope.
- 🕒 women with serious genetic conditions need an egg donor to avoid passing serious health problems onto a child.
- 🕒 some women have unexplained infertility.

What information will be given about you, and to whom? Your identity will [not be disclosed to any person](#) other than the clinical staff looking after you and the [HFEA \(Licensing Authority\)](#). Altrui is data protected and we have high security, so all your details will be confidential and never be passed on without your consent. Your matched recipient will eventually be given non-identifying information about you; they'll see your physical characteristics, Personal Profile and a baby photo. We will talk you through this before anything is shared. Identifying information is never available to the recipient, so they never know who you are.



Can any future child find out who I am? Yes, eventually. A child conceived through your donation has the legal right to contact the HFEA [to find out about you](#) when they reach 18. They may not want to know anything about you but, if they do, they must go through official channels. As a donor you will have no legal rights, responsibilities or claims for, or upon, any child - and they will have none on you. Only a donor conceived person can ask for information, you will not be able to find out who they are.

Will egg donation affect my plans to have a baby or my future fertility? No. If there is any chance that being a donor will cause a problem for you, you would not be allowed to continue. Your fertility is assessed by the clinic in the early stages of the screening process. The doctor will carefully talk you through the medical side of being an egg donor to make sure that it's quite [safe for you to continue](#).

Is egg collection painful? The [egg collection is a minor procedure](#), done when you are asleep under deep sedation. You will be unaware, and it is painless. Some donors have said that, at worst, it felt a bit like period pains for a few hours afterwards. You'll be able to go back to your normal routine the next day. There are donors who donate more than once so it is, in fact, quite easy. You will always be in the safest and most experienced of hands, which is shown by the ease with which other donors have gone through treatment – and come back again! If you wish to find out a bit more, let us know and we can put you in touch with an Altrui 'donor buddy'.



What happens if I start the process and then change my mind? You have the [right to withdraw](#) your help at any time without any fear of recrimination and, of course, we all understand if this is due to some unforeseen circumstance. Before you go forward to be matched with someone, all we ask is that you recognise the serious commitment that is needed to be an egg donor, and the emotional and financial impact that withdrawing further along in the process will have on your recipient.

We will explain everything that is involved with being a donor and give you as much time as you need to consider and decide if this is for you.

As one of our donors has written:

"There are no words to describe the true sense of achievement and happiness that I felt after my donation. To be able to give a couple the most amazing gift of a child and play a part in such a special process was worth every minute of my time."

Follow us up [on Facebook](#) to get a real flavour of Altrui. Giving us a 'like' and sharing some of our posts are great ways to help get the 'Altrui' word out there!

We hope you can help and we'd love to hear from you!

You will find details to register your interest [on our website](#), or feel free to give us a call on **01969 667 875** or drop us a line at info@altrui.co.uk.