

CONTINUING IVF AND OVULATION INDUCTION DURING A HURRICANE OR OTHER EMERGENCY

In the event of a natural disaster, *hurricane, tornado*, or other emergency, *power outage, fire, terrorist attack*, you may be unable to continue your IVF or ovulation induction cycle at your customary site. In rare events you may have to evacuate to another area of the country, or your customary site of care may be closed for an extended period of time. The Fertility Institute of New Orleans (FINO) has prepared the following information so that it may be possible for you to continue your treatment cycle. This information can also be useful if a problem arises while you are on vacation or otherwise away from home.

CONTACTING US

You should first try to contact the Fertility Institute at one of its regular office phone numbers: Metairie 504-454-2179, Mandeville 985-892-7621, Baton Rouge 225-763-4804, or the weekend and emergency number: 504-883-6563. Chances are that one of these offices will remain open. If you are using a cell phone all outgoing lines may be busy but it may still be possible to reach us by 'Text Message'. You may also be able to contact a FINO physician or staff by email at www.fertilityinstitute.com. If it is necessary for FINO to move to new offices or there is a change in contact numbers, the changes will be posted on the the Society of Advance Reproductive (SART) web site www.SART.org, and the New Orleans web site www.NOLA.com.

FINDING ANOTHER IVF CLINIC

You may find another IVF clinic that is a member of SART by using the internet www.SART.org, and selecting 'Find a Clinic'. You will see a map of the United States. Place the cursor on any state and left click. You will see a list of all IVF clinics in the state arranged by city. Select a clinic to see their phone number. You may also contact the SART office by phone 205-978-5000 Ext 109, or FAX 205-978-5015.

PREPARING FOR AN EMERGENCY

In an evacuation emergency and when traveling under ordinary circumstances always carry your medications, supplies and cycle plan with you as well as all your FINO phone numbers and the SART contact information. When possible ask about an IVF clinic in the area where you plan to be before you leave.

IF THERE IS A MEDICAL EMERGENCY

In a medical emergency attempt to contact the FINO physician first for instructions, but if unable to reach him or her go to the nearest Hospital emergency room. When possible choose a hospital that provides obstetrical care since they will have gynecologists and often Reproductive Endocrinology Infertility specialists on their staff.

OVULATION INDUCTION DRUGS

If you find that you need additional ovulation induction drugs when away from home, and you don't know where to obtain these, the drug manufactures' may be able to help you find a nearby pharmacy that carries their products. Look on the package insert for the patient information phone number or web site, or try the following: Serono, www.fertilitylifelines.com, 866-538-7879. Organon, www.fertilityjourney.com, 800-631-1253; These sites may also help you find an IVF clinic, but some clinics listed do not comply with CDC or SART guidelines.