FertiNexa

FREE GUIDE · IVF ABROAD

12 questions to ask before choosing an IVF clinic abroad

A calm, plain-language checklist to help you compare fertility clinics fairly — so you understand results, costs and timelines before you commit to anything.

How to use this guide

Send these questions to every clinic you are considering, ideally by email so you have the answers in writing. A good clinic will be happy to answer all of them clearly. If a clinic avoids a question, that is useful information too.

- Ask the same questions to each clinic so you can compare like with like.
- Keep your own medical records and previous cycle summaries ready to share.
- Only a licensed doctor can advise which treatment is right for you.

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The clinic & team

1 Is the clinic licensed, and who will actually carry out my treatment?

Ask for the clinic's licence details, the name and experience of the doctor who will lead your care, and who runs the embryology laboratory.

Why it matters: you should know exactly who is responsible for your care, not just the clinic's brand name.

2 Who will be my point of contact, and how will we communicate?

Check that you will have one named coordinator, which languages they speak, how quickly they usually reply and whether you can speak to the doctor directly.

Why it matters: clear communication matters even more when you are being treated in another country.

Results & success rates

3 What are your results for patients of my age, with my type of treatment?

Ask whether figures are live births or positive pregnancy tests, whether they are per embryo transfer or per started cycle, which year they cover and how many patients they are based on.

Why it matters: a single headline percentage can look very different once you know how it was measured. No clinic can guarantee a pregnancy.

4 How many embryos do you usually transfer, and why?

Ask about the clinic's policy on single embryo transfer and how they discuss the risks of twin pregnancies.

Why it matters: transferring more than one embryo increases the chance of twins, which carries higher risks for mother and babies.

Costs & quotes

5 What exactly does your quote include?

Ask for a written, itemised quote: consultations, scans and monitoring, egg collection, anaesthesia, ICSI, embryo culture, embryo transfer and the first period of embryo freezing.

Why it matters: two quotes with the same total can include very different things.

6 What will I pay on top of the quote?

Ask about medication, pre-treatment tests, optional extras, embryo storage after the first year, and the cost of a later frozen embryo transfer.

Why it matters: medication and extras can add a significant amount to the final cost.

7 What happens if my cycle is cancelled or there are no embryos to transfer?

Ask about deposits, refunds and credits, in writing, before you pay anything.

Why it matters: knowing the policy in advance avoids difficult surprises at an already stressful time.

Your treatment

8 Which tests can I do at home before travelling, and how recent must they be?

Ask for the full list of tests, the time limits for each result and whether they accept results from your own doctor or local laboratory.

Why it matters: doing tests at home can shorten your stay and reduce costs.

9 If I need donor eggs or sperm, how are donors screened and matched?

Ask about donor age limits, medical and genetic screening, how matching works (for example appearance and blood group), anonymity and how long matching usually takes.

Why it matters: donor screening standards vary, and you deserve a clear explanation.

10 Are you recommending any “add-ons”, and what is the evidence for them?

If a clinic suggests extras such as time-lapse imaging, embryo glue or assisted hatching, ask why they are recommended for you and how strong the evidence is.

Why it matters: the UK fertility regulator (HFEA) rates many add-ons as having limited evidence of improving birth rates.

Travel & aftercare

11 How long will I need to stay, and what are the key dates?

Ask for an expected timeline: when to arrive, when egg collection and embryo transfer are likely, and when you can safely fly home.

Why it matters: it helps you plan time off work, flights and accommodation.

12 What happens after I go home?

Ask when to take a pregnancy test, who to contact with questions, and whether you will receive a written treatment summary to share with your own doctor.

Why it matters: good follow-up care continues after you leave the clinic.

Before-you-travel checklist

- [ ] Written, itemised quote from your chosen clinic
- [ ] Refund and cancellation policy in writing
- [ ] Results of required tests, within their time limits
- [ ] Previous cycle summaries and medical reports
- [ ] Medication plan and where to get each medicine
- [ ] Expected treatment timeline and key dates
- [ ] Valid passport and travel insurance
- [ ] Flights booked with flexible dates if possible
- [ ] Accommodation close to the clinic
- [ ] Airport transfer arranged
- [ ] Your coordinator's contact details saved
- [ ] A plan for follow-up with your own doctor

Questions? We're here to help.

FertiNexa is a free, independent guidance service for people considering IVF in Northern Cyprus. We answer your questions in plain language, help you understand clinic quotes and connect you with licensed clinics — with no pressure and no obligation.

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