

# **9%** of the global population of reproductive age is estimated to be infertile.<sup>1</sup>

Infertility affects **one in six** · . couples in the U.S.<sup>2</sup>



In developing countries even **one in four** couples suffer from infertility.<sup>3\*</sup>

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\*After five years of attempting for pregnancy or a live birth

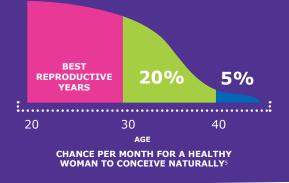
# INFERTILITY IS NOT JUST A WOMAN'S PROBLEM

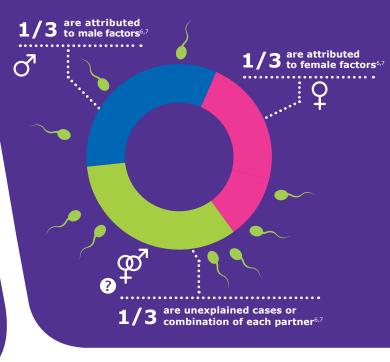
Infertility is a condition of the reproductive system. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines it as the failure to achieve pregnancy after 12 months or more of trying to conceive without using contraceptives.<sup>4</sup> For women over 35, a couple should see a doctor after trying to conceive for 6 months.<sup>5</sup>

### UNDERSTANDING THE BIOLOGICAL CLOCK

As women age, fertility naturally declines due to normal, age-related changes that occur in the ovaries. Generally, a woman's fertility begins to drop in her late 20s or early 30s and falls more rapidly after the age of 35.<sup>5</sup>

In addition, the quality of a man's sperm decreases with age and may make it more difficult for a woman to become pregnant.<sup>5</sup>





# SOME COUPLES REPORT FEELING:8

- Depressed
- Angry
- Guilty
- Inadequate



1 Boivin, J. et al. New Debate: International estimates of infertility prevalence and treatment-seeking: potential need and demand for infertility medical care. Human Reproduction. 2007. 22 (6):1506-1512 2 Thoma, M.E. et al. Prevalence of infertility in the United States as estimated by the current duration approach and a traditional constructed approach. Fertility and Sterility 2013 9 (5):1324-1331 3 WHO. (2013). Meeting to develop a global consensus on preconception care to reduce maternal and childhood mortality and morbidity: World Health Organization Headquarters, Geneva, 6–7 February 2012: meeting report. pp. 46-49 4 Zegers-Hochschild, F. et al., The International Committee for Monitoring Assisted Reproductive Technology (ICMART) and the World Health Organization (WHO) Revised Glossary on ART Terminology, 2009. Hum Reprod 2009 24 (11):2683-2687 5 American Society for Reproductive Medicine. 2012. Age and Fertility – A guide for patients. [Online] Available at: http://www. reproductivefacts.org/uploadedfiles/ASRM\_Content/Resources/Patient\_Resources/Patient\_Resources/Patient\_Resources/Patient\_Resources/Patient\_Resources/Patient\_Resources/Patient. 2015 (13):37 7 American Pregnancy Association. 2015. [Online] Available at: http://americanpregnancy.org/infertility/whatsinfertility. html. Last accessed: February 2016 8 Kerr, J. et al. The experiences of couples who have had infertility treatment in the United Kingdom: results of a survey performed in 1997. Human Reproduction. 1999 14 (4): 934-938 9 Chachamovich, J. R. et al. Investigating quality of life and health-related quality of life in infertility: a systematic review. Obstet Gynaecol 2010 31 (2): 101-10

Infertility can affect a couple's

relationship with each other,

and their relationships with

those closest to them.8,9

quality of life, individually, their



THE IMMENSE

**EMOTIONS AND** 

**QUALITY OF LIFE** 

**IMPACT ON**