



Intrauterine Insemination (IUI) Explained

For couples just entering the world of infertility treatments, the variety of acronyms may seem a little overwhelming. In this article, we'll talk about intrauterine insemination, typically abbreviated as IUI.

What is It? IUI is a procedure whereby a catheter containing washed sperm is inserted through the cervix. The sperm is then pushed into the uterus in the hopes of fertilization with an ovum.

When Does IUI Take Place? IUI is typically scheduled within 6 hours (before or after) of a woman's ovulation. (hCG injections may be used to ensure ovulation.) Timing is critical because sperm can only last 24-72 hours and are typically considered less viable after 24 hours.

Does IUI Hurt? Most women report feeling very little discomfort during IUI.

Can the Sperm "Fall Out"? The sperm that has been injected into the uterus will remain there. Women do not need to go on any kind of "bed rest" post IUI.

What is the Success Rate of IUI? Success rates are quite variable. Some studies quote numbers of as little as 4-8%; others claim the success rate is closer to 20%.

What Can We Expect to Spend on IUI? The costs of IUI will depend on your unique situation. Therefore, you should connect with your fertility specialist for more information.

For more information, please call us at 610-981-6000 or visit www.RSIinfertility.com.