**Glossary**

**Amenorrhea**- Absence of menstruation.

**Andrology**- Science of diseases of males, including infertility, spermatogenesis and sexual dysfunction.

**Artificial Insemination (AI)**- Artificial Insemination is the procedure of transferring semen into the reproductive system of a woman. This technique comprises of artificial insemination with husband's (AIH) or with donor sperm (AID).

**Assisted Hatching**- Assisted hatching allows easier release of the embryo from its shell (zona pellucida) helping implantation and increasing the pregnancyrate.

**Collaborative Reproduction**- reproduction involving more than two biogenetic parents

**Embryo**- a multi-celled fertilized egg, up to 8 weeks of development

**Egg or Oocyte Donor**- a woman who allows her eggs to be used to create a child whom she does not intend to parent (or to be used in scientific research), whether or not in exchange for compensation

**Ectopic Pregnancies**- An ectopic pregnancy is one in which the foetus develops outside the uterus- in the fallopian tubes, the cervical canal, or the pelvic or abdominal cavity.

**Embryo Cryopreservation**- Procedure in which embryos are preserved by freezing

**Embryo Transfer/Implantation/Transplant etc**- The transfer of an embryo from an in vitro culture into the uterus.

**Endometrium**- The mucous membrane lining the uterus, which becomes progressively thicker and more granular and has an increased blood supply in the latter part of the menstrual cycle.

**Endometriosis**- Presence of endometrial tissue in abnormal locations

**Estrogen**- Hormone produced in the ovaries. It controls the development of the female sex characteristics and the reproductive system.

**Fetus**- a prenatal developing human from the 8th week of gestation until birth

**Foetal Reduction**- Foetal reduction is an invasive/interventional process by which a higher order multiple pregnancy is reduced to a single or twin pregnancy in order to improve the perinatal outcome.

**Gametes**- Is a mature sex cell: the ovum of the female or the spermatozoon of the male.
Gamete Donation- Gamete donation is a process by which a person voluntarily offers his or her gametes for the process of procreation.

GIFT (Gamete Intra-Fallopian Transfer)- Gamete Intra-Fallopian Transfer is the placement of ova and sperm in the fallopian tube(s) to effect fertilisation.

Gestational Surrogate- a woman who agrees to be impregnated with another woman’s fertilized egg and give birth to a child who will be raised by others, whether or not in exchange for compensation.

Gestational Mother- a woman who carries and gives birth to a child to whom she is not genetically related but whom she intends to parent.

Gestational Carrier- a woman who carries and gives birth to a child to whom she is not genetically related; this can be either a gestational surrogate or a gestational mother.

Gonadotrophin- Is any of the several hormones synthesised and released on the pituitary gland that acts on testes or ovaries to promote production of sex hormones and sperm or ova.

Human Chorionic Gonadotrophin (HCG)- is a hormone similar to the pituitary gonadotrophin. It is given by injection to treat delayed puberty, undescended testes, premenstrual tension and sterility due to lack of ovulation.

Hysterosalpingogram- Is the X-ray of the uterus and the tubes.

Intrauterine Insemination (IUI)- Placement of washed sperm into the uterus.

In Vitro Fertilization (IVF)- the creation of an embryo by combining sperm and egg in a laboratory dish.

IVF-ET (In Vitro Fertilisation - Embryo Transfer)- In Vitro Fertilisation-Embryo Transfer is the fertilisation of an ovum outside the body and the transfer of the fertilised ovum to the uterus of a woman.

Intended Parents (also Contracting or Commissioning Parents)- people who use assisted reproduction to create a child whom they intend to parent, whether or not they have a genetic or biological relationship to that child.

In Vitro Oocyte Insemination- In IVF, the addition of sperm to a culture dish containing an egg.

Laparoscopy- Is the surgical procedure to view the pelvis.

Menopause- Is the time in a woman's life when the cyclic function of the ovaries and menstrual period cease.
Glossary

Micromanipulation- Process whereby a single sperm is injected under the egg’s shell or directly into the egg to facilitate fertilisation.

Miscarriage- A miscarriage is the loss of a foetus from natural causes before the twentieth week of pregnancy.

Multiple Pregnancies/ Multifetal pregnancy- The condition of having more than one foetus in the uterus.

Oocyte or Ovum- a human egg

Oocyte Retrieval- Process of removal of the egg by the technique of aspiration from the ovaries

Ovarian Hyper Stimulation Syndrome- OHSS is an illness caused by the drugs and hormones given to stimulate the ovaries. Excessive stimulation may cause ovarian cysts and moisture in the chest cavity or the stomach and may result in serious, even fatal, consequences. In mild cases, ovarian enlargement, abdominal distension and weight gain may occur. In severe cases women may also suffer renal impairment, liver dysfunction, thromboembolism. OHSS can result in death.

Ovarian Twisting- Condition where the stimulated ovary can twist itself cutting Off its own blood supply.

Ovulation induction- Use of female hormone therapy to stimulate oocyte development and release.

PESA (Percutaneous Epididymal Sperm Aspiration) and TESA/TESE (Testicular Sperm Aspiration/ Extraction)- Percutaneous Epididymal Sperm Aspiration Testicular Sperm Aspiration are simplified, minimally invasive outpatient procedures that allow the physician to recover the sperm for fertilisation in patients with obstructive azoospermia (lack of sperm in semen).

Polycystic ovarian syndrome- Development of multiple cysts in the ovaries due to arrested follicular growth.

Pre-implantation Genetic Diagnosis (PGD)- Pre-implantation Genetic Diagnosis is a technique in which an embryo formed through in vitro Fertilisation is tested for specific genetic disorders or other characteristics prior to implantation.

Pre term Birth- Birth of a baby before 37 weeks (259 days) of gestation (calculated from the first day of the mother's last menstrual period).

Progesterone- is a hormone produced in the ovaries. It prepares the lining of the uterus for implantation of a fertilised egg and readies the mammary glands to secrete milk.
Still Birth- A still birth is the loss of a foetus from natural causes after 20th week of pregnancy.

Surrogacy- Surrogacy is an arrangement in which a woman agrees to carry a pregnancy that is genetically unrelated to her and her husband, with the intention to carry it to term and hand over the child to the genetic parents for whom she is acting as a surrogate.

Surrogacy with Egg Donation- Surrogacy with egg donation is a process in which a woman allows insemination by the sperm/semen of the male partner of a couple with a view to carry the pregnancy to term and hand over the child to the couple.

Traditional Surrogate- A woman who agrees to be impregnated through artificial insemination and give birth to a child who will be raised by others, whether or not in exchange for compensation.

Triple Marker Test- A blood test used in the prenatal diagnosis of Down's Syndrome, which can be performed at about the 16th week of pregnancy.

ZIFT (Zygote Intra Fallopian tube Transfer)- ZIFT is the placement of the zygote into the fallopian tube(s).

Zygote- a one-celled fertilized egg