

Japan seeks public body management of donor sperm and eggs

1 Artificial insemination by donor (AID) has been conducted in Japan for at least 70 years. In 1949, the first baby was born as a result of AID at Keio University Hospital, using a donor sperm instead of a partner's sperm. Unlike countries like the U.S. or Denmark, Japan doesn't have commercial ①sperm banks. In Japan, AID has mostly been carried out in 12 medical facilities registered to perform AID. An estimated about 20,000 people have been born through this procedure.

② In recent years, Japanese people are getting married later than before, and more and more couples are choosing fertility treatment that makes use of sperm or eggs that do not belong to themselves. Some same-sex couples and single mothers are trying to find sperm donors, too. But the number of medical institutions that conduct AID has declined. According to Asahi Newspaper's survey in 2020, only seven of the 12 medical institutions have continued to ②do so. Keio University Hospital, which had been one of the major hospitals in Japan offering AID, stopped accepting new recipients in 2018 due to a fall in the number of anonymous sperm donors.

③ ②More and more people are trying to look for donors in social media such as Twitter, as more men are offering their sperm for free. The Twitter accounts highlighted the physical features of the donors as well as their educational background. Many medical experts say sperm donations over the Internet have risks of infectious disease and hereditary problems. But the use of the Internet to find sperm donations has continued to increase.

public body 公的団体 management 管理・経営 sperm 精子 egg 卵子 AID (artificial insemination by donor)
非配偶者間人工授精 commercial 商業的な medical facility 医療機関 procedure 手順 fertility treatment
不妊治療 recipient 受け取る人 (donor の反意語) anonymous 匿名の social media ソーシャルメディア (SNS は和製
英語) infectious disease 感染症 hereditary 遺伝の ★ ()

Q1 1949年、慶應義塾大学病院で、どのようなプロセスを経て赤ちゃんが生まれましたか。日本語で説明しましょう。

Q2 What are ①sperm banks? Explain in English.

Q3 How many people have been born through AID in Japan?

Q4 What kind of people want AID? Please give more than three examples.

Q5 Why has Keio University Hospital stopped offering AID?

Q6 ② More and more people are trying to look for donors in social media such as Twitter.
Why do experts say it is dangerous?



[クローズアップ現代+] ネットで精子提供 “残された方法はこれだけ”切実な事情 | NHK
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=83Jixs2GKpY&t=1s>
日本語／4分半

④ ③The Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology (JSOG) says the government should establish a certain level of rules. They say it is a big problem that sperm and eggs have been traded on social media without going through medical institutions. They also say there are concerns that some parents are choosing donors by their appearances or academic backgrounds, which could lead to the idea of eugenics.

⑤ The JSOG will also request the government to set up a public organization to manage ④information on sperm and egg donors. The management of such information is currently entrusted to the private facilities, but there is no guarantee that the information will be stored for long periods of time.

⑥ One of the aims for allocating a public body to manage the information is that the children who are born through AID are guaranteed the right to know their origin. Many children want to know the identities of their biological fathers or mothers.

⑦ The JSOG is planning to request that information such as the names, contact information and health conditions of donors be recorded and kept for 100 years. It will also ask that online trade of sperm and eggs be banned, and that ⑤a certain level of restrictions be laid down for sperm and egg banks that allow for donors' academic backgrounds to be looked up.

⑧ Elsewhere in the world, there is a growing trend toward recognizing children's right to know their origins. But in Japan, there have been reports of medical facilities getting rid of information on donors to keep their identities confidential. Probably, in Japanese society, having a child who lacked a direct genetic relationship to the parents is taboo.

obstetrics 産科 gynecology 婦人科 academic background 学歴 eugenics 優勢思想 be entrusted to～:～に委託される guarantee 保証 store 保存する allocate 割り当てる origin 出自
identity 身元 biological parents 生みの親・生物学的な意味での親(育ての親の反意語) restriction 制限
lay down 定める confidential 極秘の genetic 遺伝的な ★()

Q7 JOSG(日本産科婦人科学会)が下線③のような主張をする根拠を2つ、日本語で説明しましょう。

Q8 Who manages ④information on sperm and egg donors now? What is the biggest problem about it?

Q9 下線④の情報は、具体的にどのような内容ですか。7段落の内容を中心にまとめましょう。

Q10 According to JOSG, what is one of the aims for allocating a public body to manage the information?

Q11 JOSG が下線⑤のように主張する理由は何ですか。

Q12 AID で生まれた子供の「出自を知る権利」について、日本とそれ以外の国々(主に欧米諸国)では、どのような違いがありますか。



How I felt growing up as a donor child – Emma Grønbaek/ドナーの子供として成長したと感じた方法–EmmaGrønbaek...ドナーによる人工授精で生まれた女性のスピーチ (English/1:30)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yJ0Ye-VYnqg>

9 Cryos International, the world's largest sperm bank with around 1,000 registered donors, launched consultation services in Japan in February 2019. More than 150 women in 30 prefectures in Japan, including single women, sexual minorities and women whose husbands are infertile, have made use of Cryos International.



10 Cryos International was founded in Denmark in 1987. The bank delivers frozen donor sperm and eggs to more than 100 countries.

launch 開始する・立ち上げる consultation 相談 infertile 生殖力のない・不妊の

Q13 What is Cryos International?

Q14 How many Japanese women have used the service of Cryos International?

Q15 Do you think Japan should also have a commercial sperm bank?

	第三者の卵子で授かった子供…母親の思いは？（2020 年 12 月 4 日放送「news every.」より） （日テレニュース／日本語／4 分半） https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3YGBGtvFyFc
	クリオスのビジョン-世界最大の精子バンク…Cryos International の創業者 Ole Schou 氏が、 会社の創立精神を語ります（英語／日本語字幕／1 分半） https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bM-kCPlyvKQ

★次の文を3回以上読んで、暗唱しましょう。

1. In 1949, the first baby was born as a result of AID at Keio University Hospital, using a donor sperm instead of a partner's sperm.

2. Many medical experts say sperm donations over the Internet have risks of infectious disease and hereditary problems.

3. The JSOG is planning to request that information such as the names, contact information and health conditions of donors be recorded and kept for 100 years.

4. More than 150 women in 30 prefectures in Japan, including single women, sexual minorities and women whose husbands are infertile, have made use of Cryos International.

(和訳)

1. 1949年、慶應義塾大学病院で、非配偶者間人工授精により、配偶者でなくドナーの精子を用いて、初めての赤ちゃんが生まれた。

2. 多くの医療専門家が、インターネット上での精子の寄付には、伝染病や遺伝的な問題などが生じるリスクがあると言っている。

3. JOSG(日本産科婦人科学会)は、ドナーの名前、連絡先、健康状態などの情報は、記録されて100年間保存されるべきだと要請するつもりである。

★request S (should) 動詞の原形:Sは～すべきだと要請する ※この場合 should はしばしば省略される

4. 日本の30県以上の、未婚女性や性的マイノリティ、生殖能力のない夫を持つ150人以上の女性たちが、クリオス・インターナショナルを利用してきた。