



Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) Storage Funding Program

8 August 2024

Program Overview

This program supports patients who face extra costs to preserve their fertility because they have cancer or are at risk of passing on a genetic condition. It provides funding to help with the cost of freezing eggs, sperm or embryos (cryostorage). The Department of Health and Aged Care (the Department) and Services Australia are delivering this program.

1. Patient Eligibility Requirements

A patient is eligible for subsidised cryostorage under the program if they:

- Hold a valid Medicare card, and
- Seek cryostorage of:
 - up to two cryostorage services of different material types i.e., eggs, **or** sperm **and** embryos for fertility preservation due to a cancer diagnosis as evidenced by medical documentation, or
 - embryos for fertility preservation when there is a risk of passing on genetic conditions, and they have undergone pre-implantation genetic testing funded by the Medicare Benefit Schedule (MBS), as described in MBS items [13207](#), [73384](#), [73385](#), [73386](#) or [73387](#) (further information [here](#)), and
- Consent to their ART clinic sharing their relevant personal information with the Department of Health and Aged Care and Services Australia in order to facilitate their participation in the program, as in [Section 5](#) of these program guidelines.

Each eligible patient can access up to a maximum of ten years of subsidised cryostorage. The ten years do not need to be continuous.

Eligible cancer patients can access cryostorage funding for up to 2 items, and they can store eggs or sperm, and embryos for a up to ten years each.

One 'item' includes all storage samples of the same type of genetic material in one container. That is; storage of eggs from more than one cycle stored together would comprise one eligible service.

Program Entry and Registration Information for ART Clinics

This fact sheet provides an overview of how registration for the program works. More information about the program and eligibility is available from the program [website](#).

Each ART clinic may lodge claims for payment for services they provide under the program. Payments are made in arrears every 6 months on a pro-rata basis. Clinics cannot lodge claims for storage services that have already been partly or fully paid by the patient.

1. Program Entry

To receive the subsidy, ART organisations need to:

- a) complete organisation registration with Services Australia, and
- b) add details of the clinics within your organisational structure. This allows clinics to claim and be paid for services they provide under the program, and
- c) enter into a grant agreement with the Department.

2. Registration: PRODA and HPOS

To register in the program, ART organisations must register in both Services Australia's Provider Digital Access (PRODA) and Health Professional Online Services (HPOS).

Find out more about PRODA and HPOS, including how to register, here:

- [PRODA](#) – Health Professional Education Resources
- [HPOS](#) – Health Professional Education Resources

3. Registration (Cont'd): Organisation Register

Once registered in PRODA and HPOS, ART organisations will need to create a record in the Organisation Register.

Find out more about the Organisation Register, including how to register, here:

- [Organisation Register](#) – Health Professional Education Resources

ART organisations need to provide the organisation's overarching entity details.

Once this is done, each clinic (associated site) and each clinic's bank details must be added. This allows each clinic to claim and be paid directly for eligible services they have provided under the program.

4. The Grant Agreement

Completing the Registration steps above acts as the grant application for this program.

Once registered, the Department will assess the ART organisation's eligibility. If eligible, the Department will send the organisation a grant agreement. The grant agreement will cover all clinics run by that organisation. The agreement must be signed by an authorised representative of the ART organisation who is legally empowered to enter into contracts and commitments on behalf of the ART organisation and returned to the Department before lodging any claims.

Grant agreements will be in place until the end of FY2026-27. The Department will contact participants to renew agreements before the current agreement expires. At this point, program eligibility will be re-confirmed.

5. Patient Consent

Clinics must gain consent from eligible patients for their participation in the program. This must occur before lodging any claim on their behalf. Patients must agree to share their health information with Services Australia and the Department.

Patients can confirm their consent by reading and acknowledging [this](#) privacy collection notice.

The clinic must keep a record of patient consent to take part in the program for at least 7 years. The Department may check this as part of post-payment compliance activities.

6. Lodging claims for payment

ART clinics may lodge claims for eligible services provided under this program in January and July each year. The claim will cover the previous 6 months of services. Services Australia will provide a claim form for submission and payment processing.

Services Australia will:

- assess claims,
- notify clinics if claim information is not complete,
- make payment to each clinic for validated claims, and
- provide a payment statement to the clinic with details of payment made.

Services Australia will provide training materials and educational resources on the claim process. These will be available before the first claims can be lodged.

7. Organisation and clinic obligations

For more information on Organisation and clinic obligations relating to the program see:

- On the Department's ART Storage Funding Program [website](#),
- In the ART Storage Funding Program Guidelines, available on the program [website](#),
- In the ART Storage Funding Program Grant Opportunity Guidelines, available on the GrantConnect [website](#), and
- In your Organisation's grant agreement.

8. Contact

For questions on how to register or lodge claims contact:

ASSISTED.REPRODUCTIVE.TECHNOLOGY@servicesaustralia.gov.au.

For general questions on the program or grant agreements contact:

medical.indemnity@health.gov.au.