

Assisted Reproductive Technology, Draft Guidelines on. to Australian Health and Ethics Committee

1996.6. Assisted Reproductive Technology

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Health Ethics

The Australian Health Ethics Committee, a principal section of the National Health and Medical Council issued **draft guidelines on assisted reproductive technology** for comment from interested bodies.

Main points in our submission were:

- * Accreditation of practitioners and accountability of practice are imperative.
 - * Assessment of prospective parents should be based on their socio-affective skills as this is the most important parenting quality.
 - * Altruistic surrogacy should be assisted rather than drive this practice "backyard" where neither counselling nor proper antenatal tests are provided.
 - * Most detailed, thorough information to be provided to applicants with checks on their final perceptions and expectations of outcomes.
 - * Counselling should be carried out by highly accredited professionals.
 - * Couples should be able to donate their no longer wanted frozen embryos for research.
 - * Generating embryos for research purposes should be permitted.
 - * Reliable sex selection should be available for medical but not social reasons.
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