

**PRESS RELEASE**

**WORLD'S FIRST IVF BABY TURNS 40**

**IMFER applies the latest innovation and research to improve diagnosis with a free fertility test**

40 years have passed since Louise Brown was born, the first IVF baby in the world. Few births have caused so much expectation, controversy and reasons to dream. After two decades trying to solve some fertility problems, doctors Patrick Steptoe and Robert Edwards developed a method for extracting an egg from the ovary and fertilize it with sperm in the laboratory to form an embryo and implant it into the uterus for its development. This was the optimal solution for Louise's parents since her mother had a problem in her fallopian tube which prevented her from achieving natural pregnancy. This couple dared to undergo the then-experimental treatment, which provided little chance of success though much hope. Then the miracle happened: on 25 July, 1978 Louise, the first world's test-tube baby, was born, with many more to follow.

40 years later fertility techniques have greatly improved and reached high rates of success, accuracy and reliability. The Instituto Murciano de Fertilidad, IMFER, was the first centre in the Region to have a baby conceived by IVF more than 20 years ago. Being a pioneer centre in Murcia and one of the first who did this achievement in Spain, our clinic gives great importance to keeping up to date with current research and technological innovation. IMFER advises those couples who have not achieved pregnancy after 12 months of trying - 6 months for women older than 35, to visit a fertility centre to have their case studied and the necessary steps taken. At IMFER this first visit is free and includes a consultation with a specialist gynecologist; an ecography to find about the ovarian reserve and the state of the uterus and the ovaries; an AMH test to measure the level of anti-mullerian hormone in the woman's blood in order to assess her ovarian reserve; a seminogram to determine sperm features. On the second visit, the most suitable treatment for each case is selected and offered based on the results of the tests. In this way, patients at IMFER can learn about their fertility and the best treatment options for them.



IMFER highlights the importance of research and continuous training. For this reason, members of its team have attended the 34th Annual Meeting of ESHRE (European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology), the most important congress in the world of assisted reproduction, held in Barcelona from 1 to 4 July. The latest research, trends and treatments in the field of fertility are discussed in this congress which IMFER always attends in order to keep adding the latest developments in treatments and diagnosis. This is how training and innovation help dreams come true.