

ProCrea

Passion for life



A life is not the result of mathematical equations but the result of love. And where nature does not arrive, science intervenes, ProCrea intervenes with passion, passion for science, passion for life.

ProCrea is among the major fertility center in Switzerland, a high quality facility where every year more than two thousand couples come from all over Europe, Asia, and North America.

ProCrea Swiss Fertility Center

International center for reproductive medicine since 1998

Born from the desire to help couples trying to have a baby, ProCrea combines the most advanced technologies with a particular attention for all couples and their stories, in a context where science and passion are at the service of fertility and, therefore, of life.

The World Health Organisation estimates that 15 - 20% of couples cannot have children naturally. The causes can be multiple and do not always depend on easily identifiable situations and conditions. ProCrea offers patients high professional standards and a continued personal relationship with the team of more than 40 professionals consisting of doctors, biologists, geneticists, and medical assistant. ProCrea has made genetics the heart of its operation: in fact, to make it possible for couples to achieve their desire to have a family, even in complex cases, the genetic approach allows for a complete clinical picture.

Genetics can be a fundamental tool to help figure out the causes that prevent pregnancy and to indicate the possible solutions to undertake.

In fact, in some cases, undertaking assisted procreation is unnecessary, whereas in other cases it can reveal diseases that, once resolved, can even allow the couple to become pregnant naturally.



Infertility

Multiple factors to research and deal with

90% of the causes of infertility can equally be due to female, male, and mixed factors, whilst the cause remains unknown in the remaining 10% of cases.



Female factors:

- hormonal
- tubal
- cervical-vaginal
- genetic
- immunological factor

Male factors:

- hormonal
- testicular secretion
- testicular excretions
- erectile
- ejaculatory
- immunological



Listening and assistance

Targeted consulting for a personalised path

Direct consulting with specialists creates an immediate relationship where medical care and personal expectation lead to pathways of trust.

First meeting

ProCrea offers a targeted accompanied pathway for couples. During the preliminary meeting the couple is informed, clearly and in detail, about all of the aspects regarding medically assisted procreation. The direct relationship with the doctor is the basis for finding the most appropriate pathway.



Egg cryopreservation

The rhythms of modern society, professional affirmation and achievement of economic stability all lead women to postpone the maternity project. In Europe the average age of the first conception has approached 30 years. After age 35 however, fertility begins to rapidly decline. The cryopreservation of oocytes offers women the possibility of having an oocytes reserve available to plan pregnancy at the time they consider suitable, as well as to maintain fertility even when anticancer therapies are necessary. Cryopreservation allows for preserving a certain number of oocytes, which can be used at a later time to start an assisted fertilisation procedure.

To increase the chances of survival of the ovules and the possibility of fertilising them after cryopreservation, the woman undergoes hormonal stimulation to produce a greater number of oocytes. The oocyte pickup that is carried out under sedation is completely painless.

Treatments

Medicine passion for life

Treatments

The program of treatments offered by ProCrea is state-of-the-art, compliant to the most recent scientific standards and includes a full range of modern reproductive medicine:

- In vitro fertilisation (IVF) with embryo transfer
- Intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI)
- Fertilisation following bioptic testicular sperm (TESE) and epididymal (MESA) extraction
- Zygotic cryopreservation
- Preservation of fertility: cryopreservation of sperm and eggs
- Semen analysis
- Homologous intrauterine insemination (partner)
- Heterologous intrauterine insemination (donor)
- Egg donation
- Diagnostic diagnosis of molecular genetics
- Genetic consulting
- Andrological consulting
- Psychological consulting



Cryopreservation and sperm bank

ProCreaAndro can cryopreserve sperm. Sperm are stored in liquid nitrogen at temperatures under -196°C : in these conditions sperm cells can survive and maintain their function.

Cryopreservation is indicated in patients with severe oligospermia, meaning a reduced sperm count and patients with azoospermia in the semen for which it is necessary to collect sperm directly from seminal pathways using the following microsurgical techniques: MESA, TESE and MicroTESE.

In cases of male sterility, hereditary and infectious diseases or repeated IVF / ICSI failure, ProCreaAndro has a sperm bank with units of cryopreserved seminal fluid from select donors. The sperm bank can be used to perform heterologous intrauterine insemination or heterologous in vitro fertilisation, with techniques identical to homologous ones.

ProCreaLab Molecular genetics laboratory

Diagnosis at the patient's service

ProCreaLab is the only molecular genetics laboratory in Switzerland located in a fertility center.

Operating since 2002 in the medically assisted reproduction centre ProCrea in Lugano, the ProCreaLab laboratory specialized in molecular genetics analyses for reproduction. High quality analyses and a high technological standards aim to improve therapies, pinpoint the causes of infertility and define the risk of transmitting some genetic diseases to offspring.

ProCreaLab dedicates many resources to researching and developing new analyses and new diagnostic methods, staying abreast with the most recent scientific discoveries. The strength is its specialisation in a specific medical sector: infertility. Thanks to offering more and more analytical options and collaborations with large laboratories in Switzerland and abroad, ProCreaLab can cover a vaster diagnostic field. The laboratory is at the disposal of doctors and patients for diagnostic and genetic consulting of hereditary diseases.

Diagnosis and analyses

ProCreaLab does not only deal with infertility but also many other subgroups of medical genetics:

- ▶ Female infertility
- ▶ Male infertility
- ▶ Multiple miscarriages
- ▶ Haematology
- ▶ Monogenic disease diagnosis
- ▶ Pharmacogenetics
- ▶ Determining paternity
- ▶ Prenatal analyses
- ▶ Karyotyping
- ▶ GF – PCR
- ▶ Preimplantation genetic screening (PGS)
- ▶ Preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD)
- ▶ Non-invasive analysis of the Rhesus factor (RHD)
- ▶ Non-invasive prenatal analysis to determine trisomy 21, 13 and 18

Quality

ProCreaLab is accredited according to ISO/IEC 17025 and 15189 standards and therefore it applies the highest quality standards in regard to medical genetic analyses.

Analysis reports follow the guidelines of the Swiss Society of Medical Genetics: every report comes with an interpretation of the result, a calculation of the risk for the patient and family (if necessary) and advice relating to the need for genetic consulting or additional analyses for the patient or family.

The reliability of the analytical work is ensured through participation in External Quality Control checks on all analyses performed. Many of the tests used are developed and validated in the laboratory.



Genetic screening for couples actually reduces the chances of transmitting recessive genetic diseases to your children from 1 in 200 to approximately 1 in 30,000



ProCreaAndro

Andrology analysis and diagnostics

Prevention, diagnosis and treatment of male infertility

For couple's infertility, male causes, past situations and inflammations are among the most important obstacles.

ProCreaAndro, specialists for men

ProCreaAndro unifies medical, biological and technical specialisations for the treatment of diseases regarding men and the impact reproductive capacity. Operating inside the medically assisted reproduction centre ProCrea in Lugano (Switzerland), ProCreaAndro is dedicated to andrology, a branch of medicine regarding mens health, in particular the health of the urogenital and reproductive systems of men, dealing specifically with diseases that can arise during the man's lifetime and which can interfere with his fertility. ProCreaAndro collaborates with specialists and has a dedicated laboratory to pinpoint the causes of infertility.

In men, the reasons for temporary or permanent infertility relate to hormonal disorders, general diseases, trauma or obstruction of the reproductive structures, sexual dysfunction and, more and more often, inflammatory processes.

Instrumental investigations and treatments

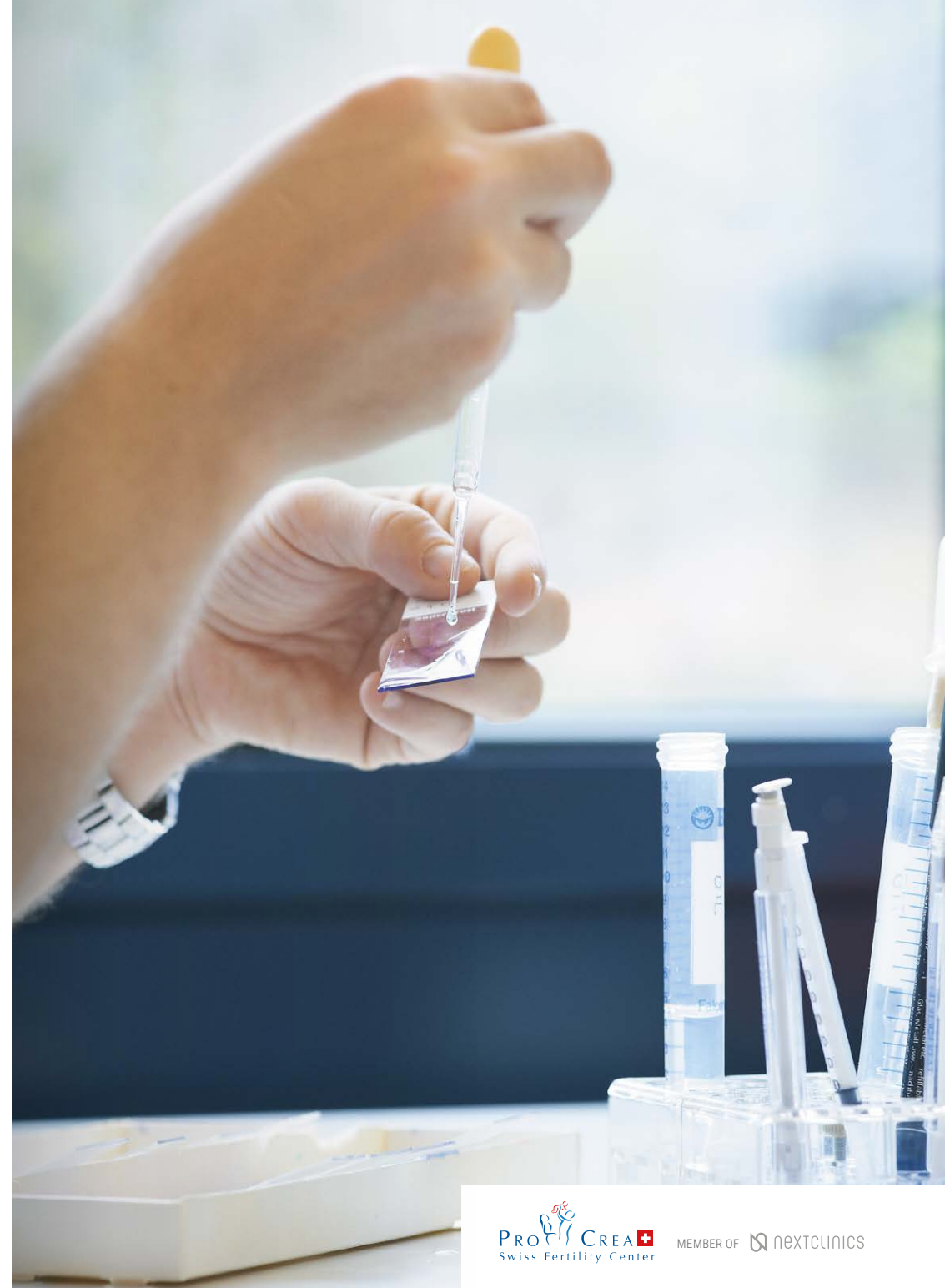
ProCreaAndro has a laboratory specialised in diagnosing infertility and treatment of sperm.

The following tests are performed:

- Semen analysis
- Complete antibiogram bacteriology
- MAR TEST (autoantibodies)
- Analysis of sperm DNA fragmentation

Specialists intervene in the assisted procreation process with the following types of procedures:

- Urology and andrology: specialised consulting and procedures M.E.S.A. (Microsurgical Epididymal Sperm Aspiration), Te.S.E. (Testicular sperm Extraction).
- Preparation of sperm for intrauterine insemination, also available to be done by an external gynaecologist
- Retrograde ejaculation: diagnosis and sperm search in urine and cryopreservation
- Paraplegia: collecting seminal liquid from paraplegic patients and cryopreservation.



Facilities

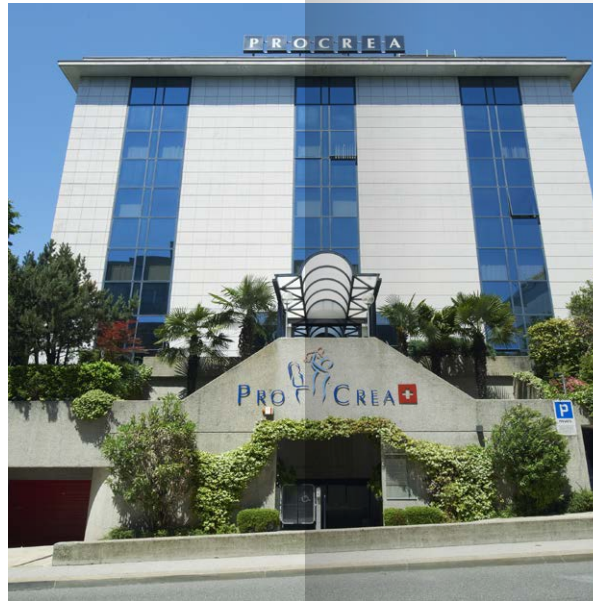
welcome policies

ProCrea is located in an ambience where the design of pure lines, the choice of materials and state-of-the-art technology confer both safety and comfort

Physical spaces and relations are deeply integrated to make every patient feel at ease. ProCrea has a qualified staff able to accompany the couple from the first meeting to pregnancy, ensuring 24-hour assistance 7 days a week. The staff can plan diagnostic and therapeutic steps quickly, rapidly setting appointments for the first visit, even on Saturdays.

ProCrea is located in Lugano. The main headquarters is in Lugano, on via Clemente Maraini 8. A modern 5-storey facility inaugurated in 2009 with an area of 1,800 sq. meters, where you can find a reception, waiting area, medical offices, embryology and andrology laboratories, two operating rooms, post-surgery rooms and the ProCreaLab, the genetics laboratory. The facility is equipped with a free interior car park. For couples wishing to stay, we can offer hotels with special room rates.

The clinic is situated in Lugano, Via Clemente Maraini nr. 8, only 500 m far from the main Railway Station of Lugano. City center easily reach by car or public transportation. Motorway A2 Exit Lugano Sud, follows sign for the railway station, only 1.5 Km, the center is on the left side. Lugano Airport is only 10 minutes far from the clinic. Daily connection with shuttle bus from/to Milan Malpensa Airport (1 hour driving).



Team

a Multilanguage staff helping all couples with passion, passion for life

A team of over 50 professionals including doctors, biologists, geneticists, nurses, and support staff ensure an efficient and safe facility



Medical team



IVF Andrology team



Procrea Genetics Lab team



Anaesthesiology team



Operating Room team



Medical Assistant team



Administration team

ProCrea is composed of a professional team of doctors, biologists and geneticists specialised in the reproductive physiopathology.

A team of assistants and nurses, reachable 7 days a week, collaborating with the doctors, takes care of the couples and makes it possible to calmly face the diagnostic and therapeutic path.



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