

Transport IVF

Bridge Clinic Partnership



BridgeClinic
Fertility Centre

www.thebridgeclinic.com

A healthcare service partner you can trust

Finding the right partner for expanding specialist healthcare services to your patients is not an easy task. You need a trusted partner with a proven track record and access to expert staff and innovative technologies.

Bridge Clinic is that partner. We are one of the most experienced IVF centres in Nigeria, with one of the most advanced facilities in West Africa. Since 1999, Bridge Clinic's Fertility Centre has brought international standards of medical care to patients, with strict quality control and innovative solutions to local problems. We provide fertility services to a number of partners across the country, from full laboratory management to cutting edge transport IVF.

We recruit the best personnel and invest heavily in training and equipment to ensure our staff and facilities meet the highest international standards. Our Lagos laboratory has an internationally accredited (ISO 9001:2008) quality management system, the only one of its kind in the country, helping us make sure that we can provide the highest quality of service to your patients.

Bridge Clinic Fertility Centre is one of the most experienced IVF facilities in Nigeria and West Africa, providing services at internationally accredited level.

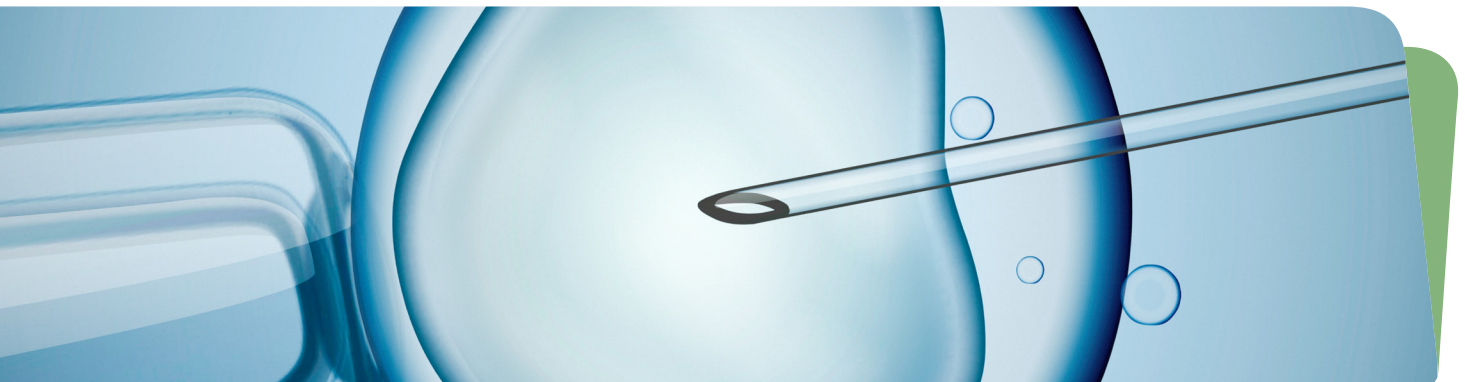
World-class healthcare in Nigeria

To make sure that the results we publish are accurate, Bridge Clinic Fertility Centre voluntarily submits all our data to be audited annually at an international standard by Alexander Forbes, recognised as one of the best independent auditing firms in the world. They ensure that the results published are accurate and can be trusted by our patients and our partners,

Bridge Clinic Fertility Centre also has a long-established partnership with the foremost IVF clinic in Europe: IVF Centres Prof. Zech. This internationally renowned clinic helps us to provide international standards of care right here in Nigeria.

Our results speak for themselves:

Bridge Clinic Fertility Centre treatments have resulted in one baby being delivered every three days.





We want all Nigerians to
have access to healthcare
unrivalled in quality.

Our vision

Bridge Clinic believes in a Nigeria where patients don't need to travel overseas to receive international standards of care. We are committed to help develop and build a world-class, reliable and advanced healthcare system within our country that is accessible and affordable for ordinary Nigerians.

While Bridge Clinic Fertility Centre is already known as the West African leader in infertility and IVF services, we want to bring our accredited and audited high quality standards to every sphere of medical care across Nigeria. We want to be able to offer a complete and advanced healthcare platform with support across primary, secondary and tertiary services and other supporting institutions.

We seek partners who can help us strive for and, one day, achieve the goal of an unrivalled Nigerian healthcare system for all Nigerians.

Our values

At Bridge Clinic, everything that we do is guided by a clear set of values that keeps us working in the best interests of our patients and partners and makes sure that we always work at the highest possible standard. We base our behaviour on the moral principles of the medical oath we adhere to.

Ethical healthcare for our patients that is dignified, in their best interests and that allows them to make informed decisions.

Honest, transparent communication with patients, partners and colleagues alike.

Excellence in everything we do, always looking for opportunities for improvement.

Innovation in our services, based on an up-to-date knowledge of the latest in medical technology, procedures and healthcare solutions.

Beyond Infertility

In-vitro fertilisation services are almost always linked to treating infertility and related problems in patients, but IVF can be used to help with a range of other health problems and medical specialisations. Part of Bridge Clinic's expanded vision of healthcare is raising awareness about the other benefits of IVF services for medical professionals and patients.

In Nigeria, cervical cancer is one of the most commonly occurring cancers. In addition to cervical cancer, Nigeria has the highest overall cancer death rate in Africa and these forms of cancer need to be treated rapidly and effectively. Unfortunately, the standard chemotherapy or radiation treatments for these diseases can lead to significant future problems with fertility for patients.

However, Bridge Clinic Fertility Centre also offers cryopreservation services, allowing patients to freeze eggs and sperm for a later date. This allows them to avoid the infertility risk of their cancer treatment and to seek treatment without the fear of losing out on future children.

Bridge Clinic partners with oncologists to offer cryopreservation and IVF services to their patients.



Transport IVF services are not limited to infertility treatments; oncologists and cancer patients can also benefit.

Transport IVF services allow parents to screen potential children for:

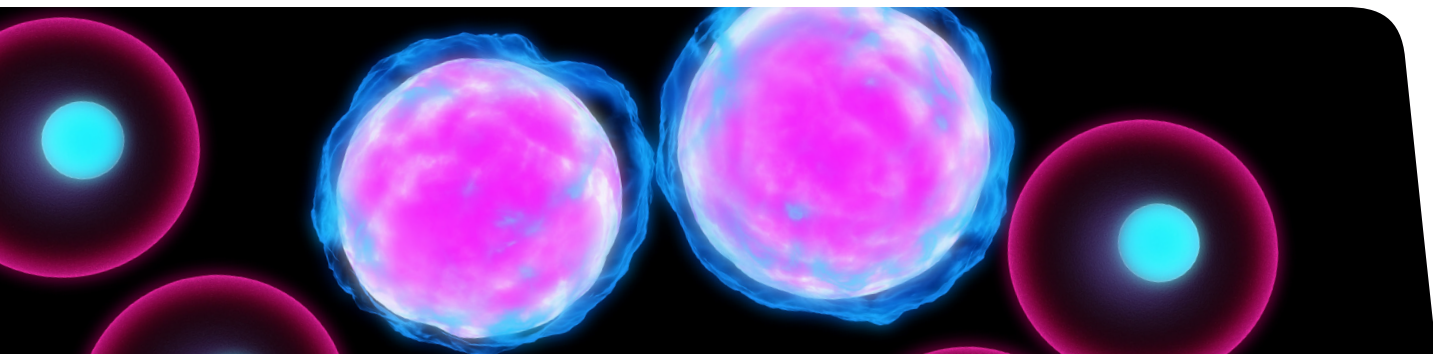
- ✓ Sickle-cell anaemia
- ✓ Cancer risks
- ✓ Chromosomal abnormalities/Aneuploidy
- ✓ 13 other genetic disorders

Bridge Clinic's IVF laboratories are also able to conduct preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD) and preimplantation genetic screening (PGS) on embryos. These services allow patients to proactively screen embryos for specific diseases or predisposition towards others.

One of the diseases that can be screened for is sickle-cell anaemia. This disease is incredibly prevalent in Nigeria with over 150 000 babies born with it every year. It is estimated that only 5% of Nigerian children with sickle-cell anaemia will live past ten years old.

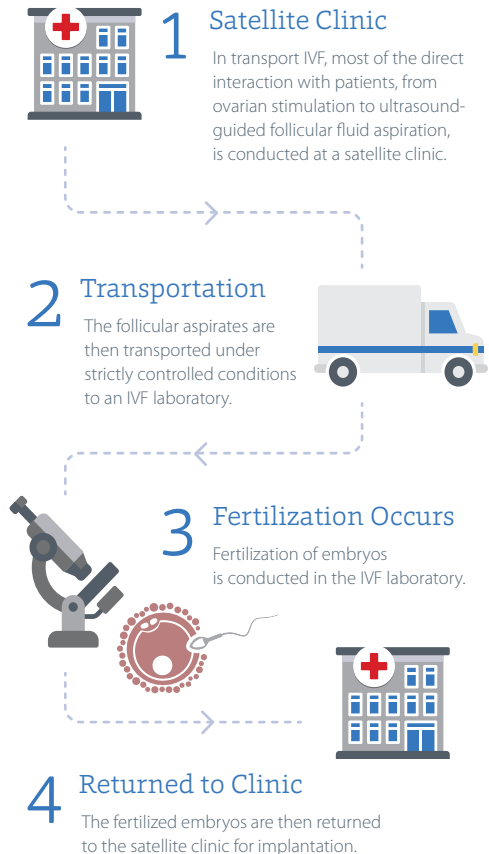
Using these tools proactively to assist patients can help ensure healthy children but can also assist with combating the disease throughout Nigeria. Embryos can also be screened for cancer risks, Down's Syndrome and Haemophilia.

The sex of embryos can also be identified with PGD and PGS, allowing potential parents to screen for sex-related genetic disorders.



What is transport IVF?

Transport IVF has been around as a proven concept for the better part of two decades now and has been implemented in countries across the world.



Transport IVF allows satellite clinics to offer advanced fertility services without having to invest in a state-of-the-art laboratory.

Transport IVF saves time and money without any loss in patient care or treatment effectiveness.

This process means that satellite clinics without the necessary laboratory equipment to handle IVF are able to offer these advanced fertility services to their patients without making significant investments in staff and advanced equipment. Clinics are able to retain their patients and patients are able to avoid the cost and emotional distress of having to travel to a doctor that they don't know for the procedure.

Research on the effectiveness of transport IVF has shown that there are no discernible differences in fertilization, cleavage and implantation rates between oocytes collected in the central laboratory and those brought in via transport IVF. The same studies have also shown that there are no significant differences in pregnancy rate from transport IVF.

It has also shown that conducting IVF at a laboratory that has already been able to obtain consistently good pregnancy rates is preferable to starting a new IVF laboratory. Using transport IVF allows satellite clinics to rely on established and successful laboratories as well as offering an increased range of assisted reproductive techniques to patients.

Finally, transport IVF is significantly more cost effective for clinics. It reduces the cost of the average IVF cycle by 30% as there is minimal investment in new equipment and personnel by clinics and logistics are handled entirely by the laboratory. It also means that existing equipment and staff are put to their utmost use.

Our Success To Date

1 Baby Every 3 Days

Case Study: Institute of Fertility Medicine

In 2011, Bridge Clinic Fertility Centre partnered with Lagos State University Teaching Hospital (LASUTH) to create the Institute of Fertility Medicine (IFM). IFM became one of our Transport IVF Partner Centres, where oocytes were collected at LASUTH and transferred for fertilization and culture.

After nearly six years of working with IFM, we are happy to declare the project a success. Of the over 307 transport IVF cycles that have taken place at IFM since 2012, patients have had over 70 live births.

Over the 2016/2017 period, we were able to record a 75% fertilization rate, with 54% blastocyst formation. Completed embryo transfers totalled 95, resulting in a success rate of 33 clinical pregnancies or 34.7%, which is higher than the global norm. Our early pregnancy loss rate was only 13%, lower than the norm of 17 to 22%.

We believe this case study vindicates not only the usefulness of transport IVF to patients, but also its effectiveness.

Institute of Fertility Medicine Case Study

307

Completed
Transport IVF
Cycles Since 2012

70+

Live Births
Since 2012

75%

Fertilization
Rate During
2016-2017

33

Clinical
Pregnancies
During 2016-2017

Get started with transport IVF

Bridge Clinic Fertility Centre is interested in partnering with hospitals, laboratories and clinics to partner with for the purpose of providing transport IVF. As part of this, we want to expand our ISO-rated quality management system to medical facilities throughout the country and create an avenue for training our partners' medical personnel to handle the procedures necessary for transport IVF.

In return for partnering with us, medical facilities will receive access to our transport IVF network, whether they will be operating as a central laboratory or a satellite clinic. Their facilities will also be able to be rated with an internationally recognised quality management system and their staff will receive extensive training and upskilling in handling IVF procedures. All of these benefits can be used to significantly boost their brands.

Each partnership will be specifically tailored to the needs of the partner and will include clear and specific terms covering everything from profit sharing modalities to division of responsibilities.

- ✓ Contact us to establish the partnership
- ✓ Receive access to our transport IVF network
- ✓ Receive an internationally recognised management system
- ✓ Benefit from a tailored partnership
- ✓ Boost brand through training and upskilling

To explore setting up a transport IVF partnership, please get in touch with Bridge Clinic Fertility Centre via our contact details on the back page of this brochure.

Requirements for transport IVF

As transport IVF is a highly specialised service, requiring strict quality control standards and highly qualified staff, there are some requirements that Bridge Clinic Fertility Centre needs to ensure are in place before exploring a partnership with a medical facility.

- ✓ For hospitals and clinics, a gynaecological unit needs to be in existence, with an experienced gynaecologist on staff in order to oversee many of the transport IVF functions. In order to make the partnership viable for all our partners and to keep costs to a minimum, the facility must have a patient flow of at least ten patients per month.
- ✓ For laboratories, Bridge Clinic Fertility Centre has an exhaustive list of laboratory equipment and materials that need to be in place as a prerequisite to being able to handle the sensitive procedures inherent to transport IVF.
- ✓ Finally, we also look for partners with strong, positive brands that align well with our own and our partners.

IVF laboratory management

When partnering with laboratories in hospitals, clinics or academic institutions, Bridge Clinic Fertility Centre offers a laboratory management service. This service allows existing laboratories to be taken over by us and upgraded to international standards of quality and to be able to handle the procedures required for transport IVF.

- ✓ Bridge Clinic Fertility Centre assesses the equipment, material and personnel already present in the laboratory and identifies possible areas for upgrading. New equipment and material is then installed, and experienced personnel are hired or existing personnel are trained up to fill any needed roles.
- ✓ Bridge Clinic Fertility Centre then implements its internationally-accredited quality management system (ISO 9001:2008) in the laboratory. This ensures that the laboratory is operating at the same standards as the best facilities around the world, and is able to provide the highest quality of service to its partners.
- ✓ Finally, the facility is rebranded as an accredited Bridge Clinic Fertility Centre laboratory and becomes part of our transport IVF network.

White label options

Some of our potential partners want access to Bridge Clinic's transport IVF network and services but want to retain their branding or keep it separate from our own. We understand that this is often a prerequisite for potential partners and so we offer all our services as white label options as well.

Hospitals and clinics can still become a partner in our transport IVF network, allowing them to offer transport IVF services to their patients while keeping costs to a minimum. Laboratories can still upgrade their facilities and personnel and get access to our ISO accreditation.

With a white label option, the only change is that the branding of the partnership is left entirely in the control of our partners. Bridge Clinic Fertility Centre's transport IVF and laboratory management services are provided as normal.

All Bridge Clinic transport IVF partnerships are also available as white label options.

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“Life is at the core of everything we value.”

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