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Growing Families



## Practicalities & Risks

# Overview

- Eggs & Embryos
- Country based differences
- Choosing Surrogacy providers

# Why is Maximising The Quality of Your Embryos Vital?

IVF is expensive

Surrogacy requires much preparation

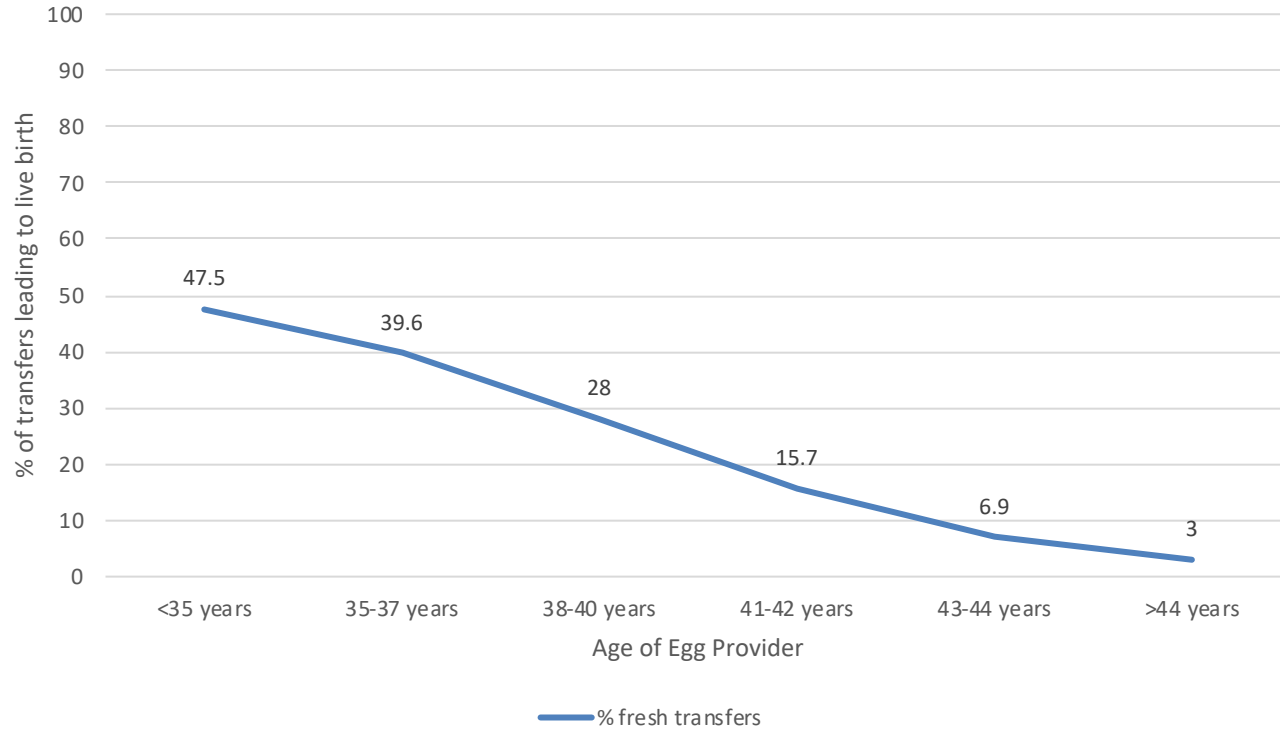
So you want to give your surrogate the best chances of success

Egg & Sperm quality play a crucial role

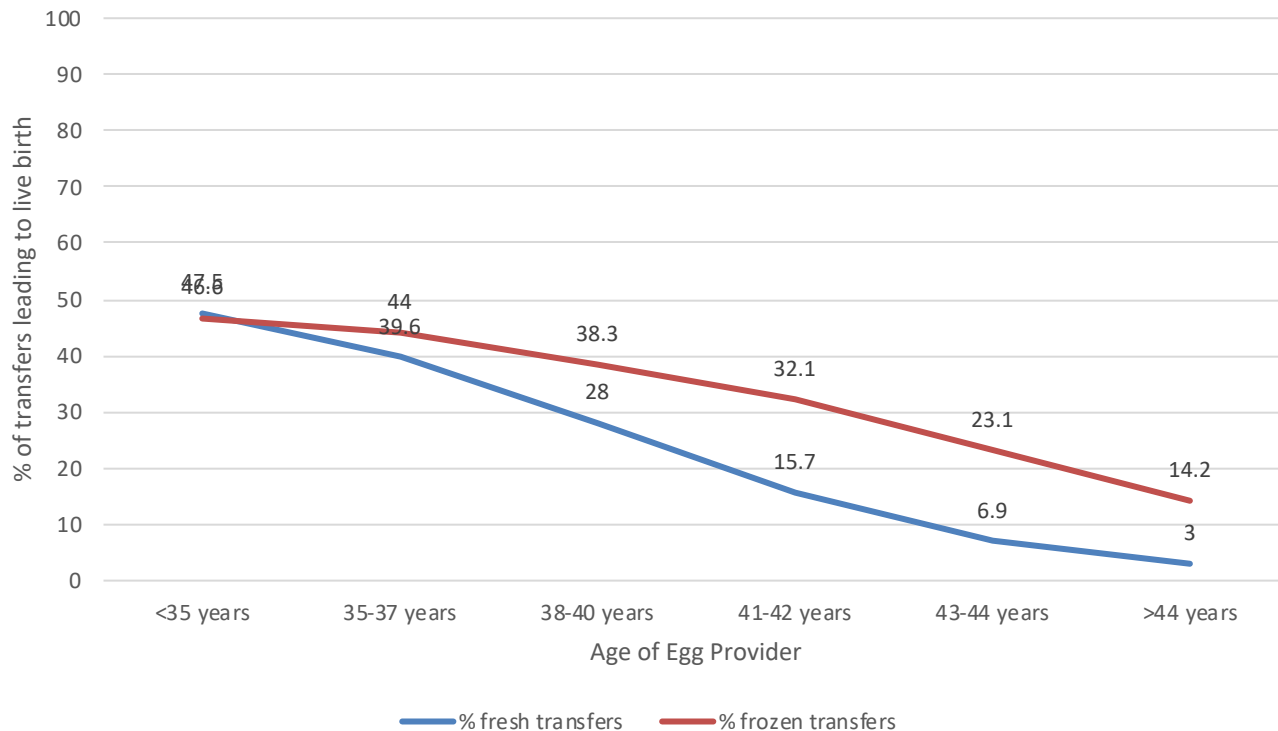
Age of Egg Provider a key determinant of success

# Live Birth Rates Decline Hugely with Egg Provider




Age



# If Embryos Can be Frozen, Improves Success



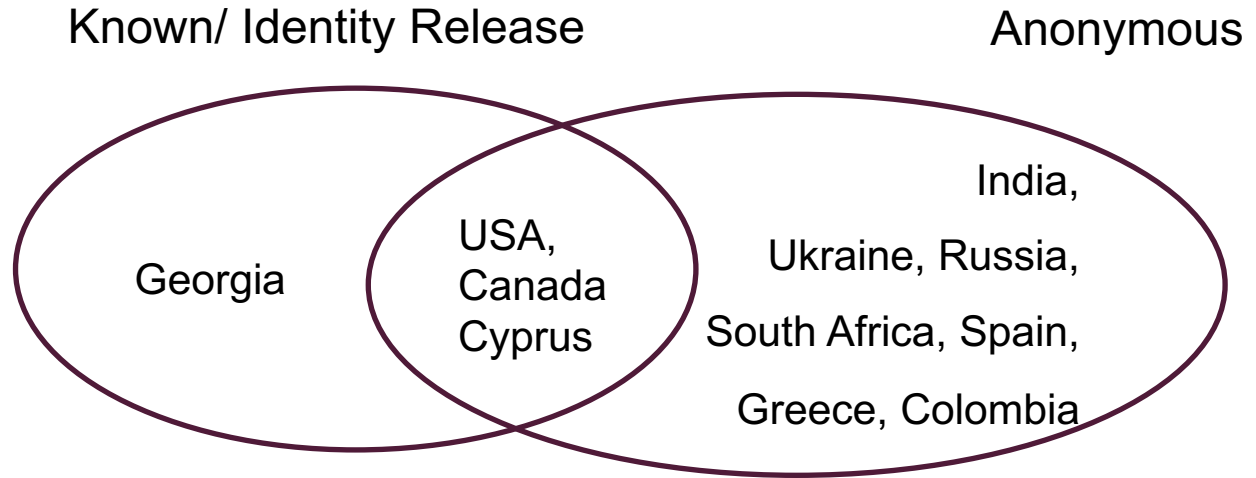
## Do you need an egg donor?

- Male singles and couples 
- Intended mothers of older age 
- Intended mothers with no/low eggs retrieved 

## Potential Egg Donor Sources

- Friend/family member
- from international IVF clinic (pre-screened, less choice)
- from surrogacy agency
- from donor agency (many choices, higher cost)

# Countries Providing Donors to Foreigners



- Some cultures don't allow known
- Other cultures insist on known



# Donor Agency Fees & Compensation

Country	Compensation	Agency Fees	IVF fees	Travel expenses
USA	€6400+	(€10000)	€25,400	€3.600
Canada	€4.100	€2.000	€15.000	
Greece	€5500		€8500	
Ukraine	€2000		€8500	
Georgia	€1350		€7000	

# What to beware in choosing an IVF Clinic



## IVF Success rates

Need to look at live birth rates (not pregnancy rates)

For US clinics can research audited data [www.sart.org](http://www.sart.org)

For other countries Success data is un-audited

 Filter    Reporting Year: 2017    Diagnosis: All Diagnoses    Cycle Type: All

PRELIMINARY    **Clinic Summary**    **Patient's Own Eggs**    Donor Eggs    NEW PATIENT

Cumulative Outcome Per Egg Retrieval Cycle    Primary Outcome Per Egg Retrieval Cycle    Subsequent Outcome (Frozen Cycles)    **Live Birth Per New Patient**

	Age of woman				
	< 35	35 - 37	38 - 40	41 - 42	> 42
Number of patients	109	34	26	4	8
<b>Singleton births per cycle start</b>	<b>39.4 %</b>	<b>38.2 %</b>	<b>34.6 %</b>	<b>0/4</b>	<b>2/8</b>
Live Births	61.5 %	50.0 %	42.3 %	0/4	2/8
(Confidence Range)	(52.3 - 70.6)	(33.2 - 66.8)	(23.3 - 61.3)	-	-
Singleton (percentage of live births)	64.2 %	13/17	9/11	0/0	2/2
Twins (percentage of live births)	34.3 %	4/17	2/11	0/0	0/2
Triplets or more (percentage of live births)	1.5 %	0/17	0/11	0/0	0/2
Term	65.7 %	13/17	9/11	0/0	2/2
Pre-term	32.8 %	3/17	2/11	0/0	0/2

# Risks



## Multiple Embryo transfer

US & Canadian surrogates typically refuse to undertake a double embryo transfer given the great difficulties in carrying multiples

IVF clinics outside the US & Canada **will** routinely transfer 2+ embryos

a far greater chance of pregnancy complications, miscarriage, very pre-term birth and long-term health issues, additional costs & stress

You need to be firm with your IVF clinic if you don't want this risk

# Risks

## Unsuccessful embryo transfers

Can increase by

Using egg donor <30 years

Using proven donor

PGD testing embryos where eggs are from 35+ yr old

Thorough testing of IPs prior to embryo creation

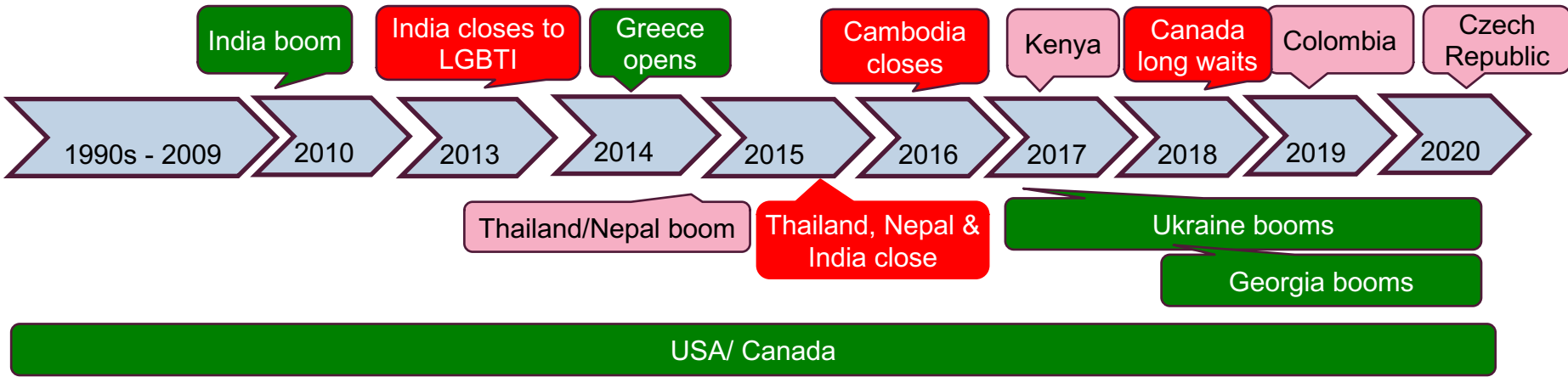
## Miscarriage

A risk in ANY pregnancy

Ensure you have a support network

# WHAT TO CONSIDER IN CHOICE OF COUNTRY

# Recent History of Surrogacy

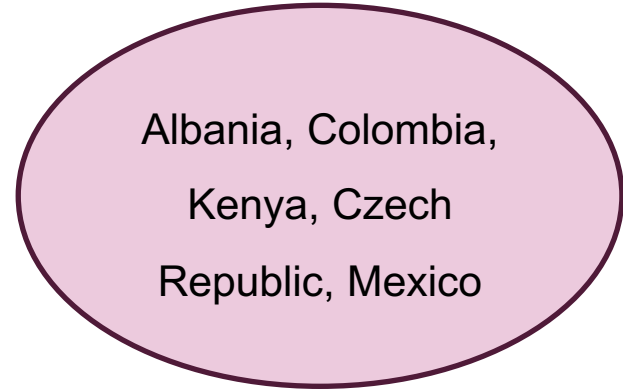


# Surrogacy Availability for foreigners

Managed  
(legal framework)



Managed  
(no legal framework or illegal)



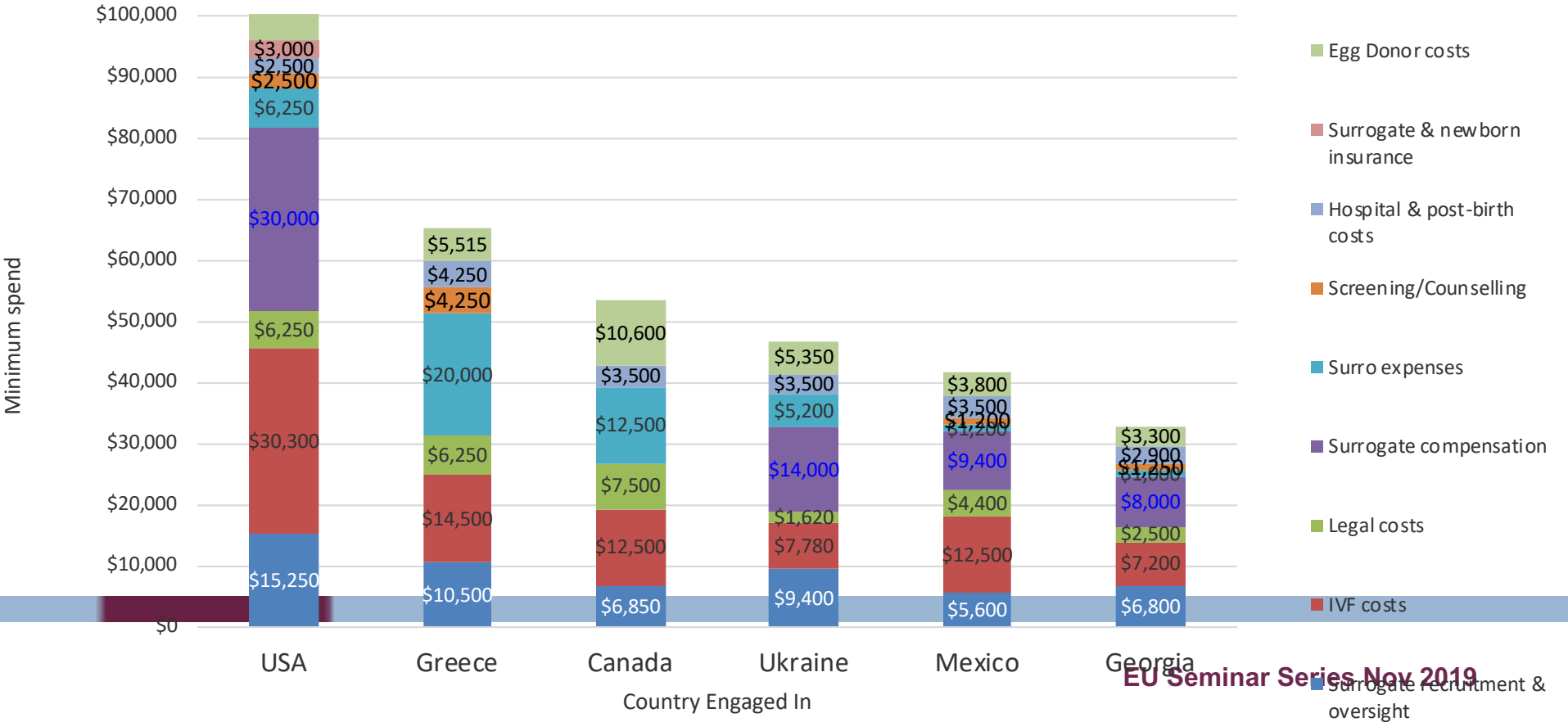


# Consider Eligibility

## Country

<b>USA</b>	gay couples, singles, and heterosexuals of any age Low regulation
<b>Ukraine</b>	Heterosexual married couples who meet specific medical criteria High regulation
<b>Canada</b>	gay couples, singles, and heterosexuals combined age of intended parents <110 low regulation
<b>Greece</b>	Heterosexual couples and single females. Intended mother <50 yrs
<b>Georgia</b>	Heterosexual couples. One parent <55 yrs
<b>Russia</b>	Heterosexual couples & single men

# Consider Costs



# Consider who is on Birth Certificate?



**Regulated destinations** (US, Canada, Georgia, Ukraine, Russia) provide just intended parent(s) on birth certificate

**Unregulated destinations** (Cyprus; Mexico; Kenya; Colombia) have Surrogate + Intended parent on birth certificate

## What type of surrogate relationship?

Prefer to be Close /supportive - US/Canada

Prefer more removed - Ukraine/Mexico/Czech Republic

# Consider What Insurance Available?



USA	– Surrogate Insurance €7.700 minimum - Newborn insurance € 12.250
Ukraine	–Newborn insurance (NICU)
Georgia	€ 4.500/baby policy covers NICU in event of prematurity
Czech Republic	?
Greece	- € 1000

# Consider Surrogate Availability & Demand



Country	Demand for surrogates	Supply of surrogates	Wait times
US	High	High	4– 8 mths
Canada	High	Low	12 mths +
Colombia	Low	Low	3 mths
Greece	Low	Low	1 - 2 mths
Ukraine	High	High	1 - 2 mths
Georgia	High	High	1 - 2 mths

# USA



35 years experience

Best practice

Increased demand

Can be 6 mth wait for surrogate

Child awarded US citizenship

# CANADA



Huge influx last 4 years from foreigners

Altruistic & no advertising

poorer surrogate & donor screening

Now a shortage of suitable donors & surrogates

Long wait times to match (12 – 15 months)

Reports of high surrogate drop-out/ poor success rates

**DEMAND NOW FAR EXCEEDS SUPPLY**



# UKRAINE



- Hugely Increased demand
- Number of providers quadrupled
- No shortage of surrogates
- Good screening & medical care
- Prices are rising significantly

# GREECE



Altruistic

Low demand

Only a handful of good providers

Anonymous egg donors

IVF clinic plays the role of surrogacy agency

# WHAT TO CONSIDER IN CHOICE OF AGENCY

# Understand Payments



## Payment stages

- What % up-front?
- Are payments milestone-based?
- What milestones are used?
  - Surrogate match
  - First embryo transfer
  - Confirmed pregnancy
  - Week 12
  - Week 24
  - Birth

## Your funds

- If you are not happy with service, what refunds are available?
- Who holds your funds?
  - Agency or third-party escrow account

# Surrogate Recruitment



- Should provide a maximum time within which will recruit surrogate or refund monies
- What is their recruitment strategy?
- Who handles their surrogate recruitment and screening?
- If surrogate falls through, what is their 'replacement' policy?

# Surrogate Contact



- Should be able to meet surrogate up-front (at least online)
- (Rather than wait until Week 12)

 **Locate and Rate**
Search: 

SERVICE PROVIDER NAME ▲	STATE ▼	COUNTRY ▼	RATE ▼
A City Law Firm	London	United Kingdom	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
A Family Tree LLC	Oregon, Texas and Washington	USA	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
A Woman's Gift	New jersey	USA	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
Agency for Surrogacy Solutions	California	USA	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
All Families Surrogacy	Oregon	USA	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
AParent IVF	Illinois	USA	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
Baystate Health	Masachusetts	USA	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
Become Parents			<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
Beverly Hills Egg Donation	California	USA	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
Biotexcom	Kiev	Ukraine	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
Boers & Associates	Victoria	Australia	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
Boston IVF	Massachusetts	USA	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
Brigham & Womens Hospital	Massachusetts	USA	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
Brilliant Beginnings	Salisbury	United Kingdom	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
Building Families	California	USA	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
California Fertility Partners	California	USA	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
Canadian Fertility Consultants	Ontario	Canada	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
Canadian Surrogacy Community	Ontario	Canada	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
Canadian Surrogacy Options	Ontario	Canada	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
Care Surrogacy	Puerto Vallarta	Mexico	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>
CEFAM	Mexico City	Mexico	<a href="#">View ratings or Rate Now</a>

# Customised Support



Help you decide on a country/ provider

More hand-holding/concierge style service

Reliable, proven providers to meet your budget

Wide range of options

One hour or complete journey support

Email [sam@growingfamilies.org](mailto:sam@growingfamilies.org) or visit [www.growingfamilies.org/customised-support/](http://www.growingfamilies.org/customised-support/)