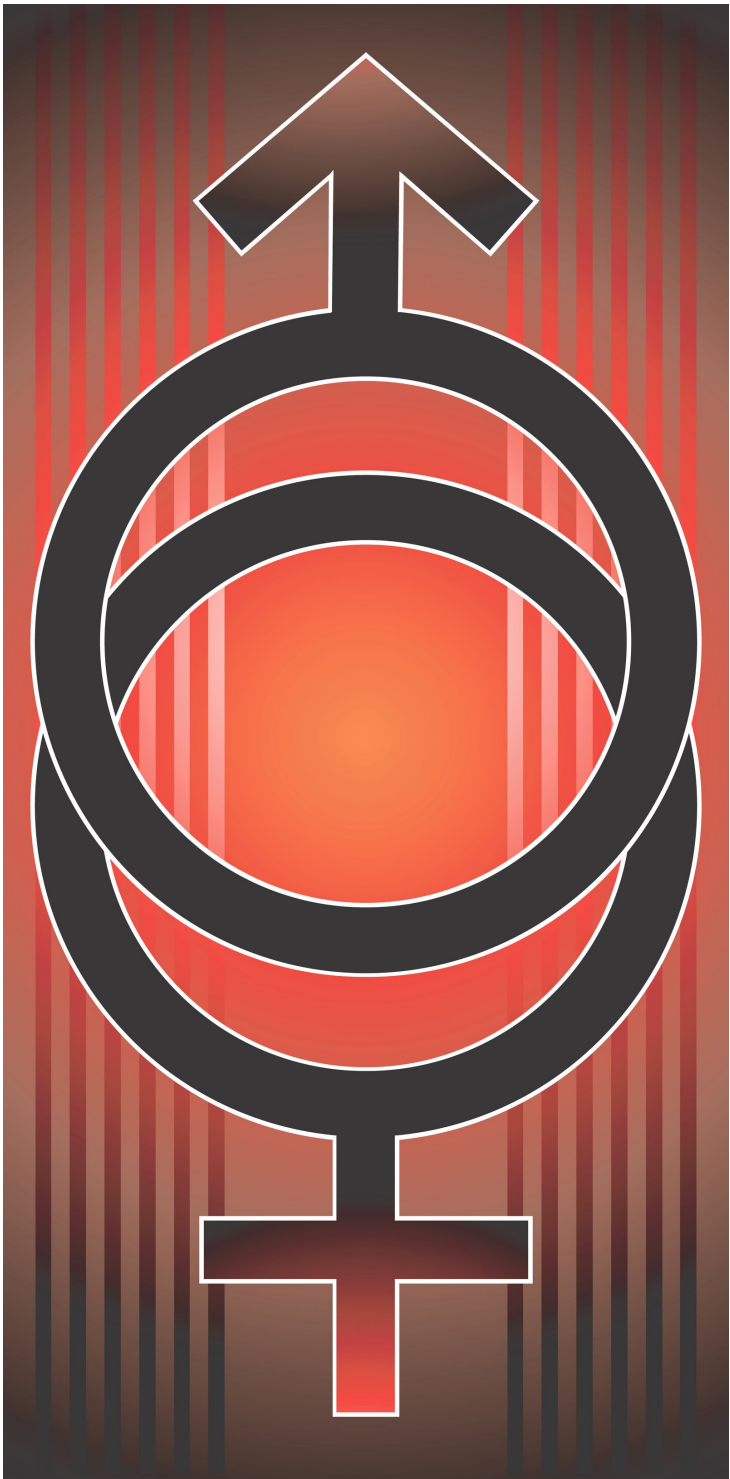


Vejthani Hospital recommends gender selection procedure to choose a child's gender

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Singapore: Vejthani Hospital, Bangkok, recommends a gender selection procedure for couples who desire to choose a child's gender, at Vejthani ART Center. Gender selection is the attempt to control the sex of the offspring to achieve a desired gender. It can be accomplished in several ways, both pre- and post-implantation of an embryo, as well as at birth. Every egg contains one X chromosome while sperm contains either an X chromosome or a Y chromosome. When an X-bearing sperm fertilizes an egg, a girl is conceived, and when a Y-bearing sperm fertilizes an egg, a boy is conceived. Typically, one has about a 50 percent of conceiving a male child and a 50 percent chance of conceiving a female child.

The typical reasons for choosing gender selection procedures are:

Genetic Disease: Some parents are afraid of passing certain genetic diseases on to their children. Genetic disorders

associated with male children, such as hemophilia and muscular dystrophy. That is why some parents choose to have a female child.

Family Balancing: Normally, parents who have already had a child often would like to have another child of the opposite sex, in order to balance their family.

Death of a Child: Unfortunately, some parents lose their children at a very young age. Gender selection provides them a chance of having another child of the same gender.

Vejthani Hospital offers the most effective procedure in gender selection, the pre-implantation genetic diagnosis or PGD; this is the most successful method when it comes to gender selection. This procedure involves the creation of embryos that are then analyzed for cell structure and DNA. They allow the embryos to form and divide in a laboratory. The testing is performed by removing a single cell from a three-day-old embryo and having the cell genetically screened for a specific disease.

Once the gender of the embryo already determined, the embryo of the desired sex is implanted into the mother's uterus through in vitro fertilization. Pre-implantation genetic diseases have been tested and proven on its 100 percent accuracy and ability to select not just a gender but a healthy embryo.