



Intralipid Treatment Patient Information and Consent

What Is Intralipid?

Intralipid 20% is a fat emulsion that is administered routinely by the intravenous route, as a source of fat and energy, typically to patients who are unable to eat for prolonged periods of time. The main constituents are **soya oil** and **egg yolk**. **If you are allergic to any of these ingredients, then you should not use Intralipid.**

Who May Benefit From Intralipid?

It is possible that an immune problem is involved in fertility in women who have a history of autoimmune diseases or suffer from recurrent miscarriages or repeated failed IVF attempts, in spite of having good quality embryos, when no other cause has been found.

The available immune tests might indicate overactive Natural Killer (NK) cells in the blood and/or endometrium (womb lining). It has been known for some years that intralipid causes mild suppression of NK cell activity. Recently reproductive immunologists have started using intralipid in IVF to treat women who suffer from recurrent miscarriage, or repeated IVF implantation failure.

Currently the evidence available about the efficacy of intralipid in IVF is not conclusive and more evidence is being accumulated.

Risks Of Treatment

Although the HFEA has posted on their web site that sepsis (blood poisoning) is a risk attached to Intralipid infusion. Actually the risk is related to infection control procedures during the administration like any other IV infusion.

Allergic reaction is possible, particularly if you have an allergy to **soy oil** or **egg yolk**. Intralipid is licensed in the UK as a nutritional supplement **and it is not licensed for reproductive immune therapy in fertility treatment**. Intralipid is therefore prescribed on a named patient basis (off-label).

What Happens At The Clinic?

Intralipid is administered at the clinic by intravenous drip infusion, over a period of approximately 1 hour. You will have immune supportive therapy alongside your IVF protocol or your cycle if you are trying naturally.

The first infusion is administered a few days before ovulation / egg collection, the second after a positive pregnancy test, the third after a viable pregnancy has been confirmed by ultrasound scan at 6-7 weeks of gestation. You will then have a further assessment of your immune system 2 weeks later and will be given further immune support accordingly.

We do not encourage or recommend indiscriminate use of any of the immune supportive medications. We would suggest that some patients may benefit from NK cell and other immune testing if they have a suggestive history. Only if they have immune system imbalance would we then consider treatment.

HFEA view: <https://www.hfea.gov.uk/treatments/explore-all-treatments/treatment-add-ons/>

I read and understand the controversy of the immune testing and immune therapy evidence and I request to have Intralipid.

Patient name:

Patient signature:

Date:

Clinic staff name:

Clinic staff signature:

Date: