Infertility is a woman's problem. Treatment isn't covered by your overall health insurance. Scientific advancements toward infertility treatment don't work. For many couples, being unable to conceive a child is a major source of emotional stress—and remind them that help is available.

- Infertility can cause more emotional damage than many other medical conditions.
- Fertility specialists recommend that couples begin thinking about their “fertility health” long before they attempt to conceive.
- Many women don’t realize that fertility declines with age, especially in women. A healthy 30-year-old woman has about a 20 percent chance of getting pregnant each month, while a 40-year-old’s chances drop to about five percent a month.

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Myth: Age is not an important factor in infertility.

Facts: Fertility levels decrease with age, especially in women. A healthy 30-year-old woman has about a 20 percent chance of getting pregnant each month, while a 40-year-old’s chances drop to about five percent a month.

Myth: Your fertility health is not affected by your overall health.

Fact: Several risk factors may affect your fertility health, including smoking, obesity, multiple sex partners, sexually transmitted diseases, surgical procedures, polyps, fibroids, exposure to chemicals, excessively high or low temperatures, and side effects from cancer treatment— all can cause infertility. By avoiding behaviors you know will cause, and voicing your concerns with your physician, you may be able to have more control over the chances of infertility by identifying potential issues early. Couples can work together to take stock of their fertility health even before they begin trying to conceive.

Myth: Treatment doesn’t work.

Fact: Scientific advancements over the past three decades have helped millions of men and women overcome problems with fertility. Treatments ranging from drugs to advanced procedures are achieving unprecedented success. New, effective treatments are individually tailored to the needs of the patient and have diminished many of the consequences of earlier treatments.

Myth: Treatment isn’t covered by insurance.

Fact: A growing number of insurers offer benefits for infertility treatments, and 15 states have enacted some form of infertility insurance legislation. More are likely to follow.

Contact your insurance company in writing and request written determination of your coverage before starting any treatment or procedure.

If you are concerned about your fertility health, talk to a fertility specialist to learn about your options.

To find out more about infertil- ity treatments, visit www.serono.com or call Serono toll-free at 1-866-LETS-TRY.

(NAPSA)—Recent medical advances can help most infertile couples succeed in having a baby, said Dr. Kelly. Infertility occurs equally in men and women. Male factors and female factors each account for about a third of infertility problems. The remaining third are either a combination of male and female factors or are unexplained. Both partners should be tested to discover where the problem lies.

Myth: Infertility is a woman’s problem.

Fact: Infertility occurs equally in men and women. Male factors and female factors each account for about a third of infertility problems. The remaining third are either a combination of male and female factors or are unexplained. Both partners should be tested to discover where the problem lies.

Fertility specialists recommend that couples begin thinking about their “fertility health” long before they attempt to conceive.

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