

Mayo Clinic Minute

Cryopreservation: Giving kids with cancer a brighter future

Video	Audio
ZARAQ KHAN, M.B.B.S. REPRODUCTIVE ENDOCRINOLOGY AND INFERTILITY MAYO CLINIC	It's news no parent ever wants to hear: Your child has cancer. "When there are so many things going on at that time, fertility is something that's overlooked."
	It may seem odd to worry about fertility when we're talking about childhood cancer, but Mayo Clinic's Dr. Zaraq Khan says it's a sign of how far we've come.
	"We are at that point right now in medicine where we have excellent survival rates for cancer."
	"Unfortunately, they take a big toll on the fertility potential. And if we can provide them both with excellent treatment for their cancer and also be a beacon of hope for their fertility in the future."
	It's called gamete cryopreservation. They take testicular or ovarian tissue and freeze them...
	"...until they're in remission. And then we will transfer it back to the patient so that they can regain their fertility potential."
	Dr. Khan says it's another way of treating more than just the cancer.
	"Giving hope and giving some glimmer of happiness into the future really is something that they hold onto and it goes a long way through the process."

For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm
Ian Roth.