

# IVF sons don't inherit dad's fertility issues

**SARAH BOOTH**

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MOST men conceived via IVF do not inherit their father's fertility issues, Australian research has revealed, disproving a common theory and providing hope to thousands of men.

Until now, it was presumed that men were likely to pass their fertility problems onto their sons.

But the world's largest study

of the health of men conceived via the most common form of IVF has found there is no link.

The study, jointly led by Melbourne's Hudson Institute of Medical Research and the Murdoch Children's Research Institute, found men conceived with intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) had similar sperm output to other men.

Author and PhD student Dr Sarah Catford said there had

been limited knowledge on this issue until now. Their study was published in the *Journal of Fertility and Sterility*.

"This study provides reassurance to parents of young men who were conceived with ICSI, prospective parents, and the young men themselves – that men conceived with ICSI are likely to have comparable reproductive health to their

peers conceived naturally," she said.

"The good news is that poor semen quality or infertility is not necessarily inherited or transferred from father to son, unlike hair or eye colour.

"The data also provides reassurance to clinicians about the safety of ICSI and paves the way for ongoing research on the health of adults conceived with ICSI."