

**Provisional Programme
Brocher Foundation**

October 21-23, 2024

***Making Eggs and Sperm in the Lab:
21st Century Bioethics and the Rise of New Reproductive Futures***

Arrival

Monday, October 21, 2024

4:00pm: Welcome from organizers

Time (TBD): Dinner served at the Villa Brocher for all accommodated participants

Night accommodation for participants

Brocher Foundation

Workshop, Day One

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

9:00am-10:30am: Panel 1. State of the ART: Artificial Gametes, Biology and Bioethics

In this session participants working directly on IVG whether from a scientific or a social scientific, legal, or bioethical perspective will make short presentations in which they share their research findings and experiences. Collaborative research from UCLA and Cambridge around IVG will be presented, with an emphasis on framing the outstanding questions for the workshop.

10:30-11:00 - Coffee break

Brocher Foundation

Rte d'Hermance 471, 1248 Hermance, Switzerland

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11:00am-12:30pm: Panel 2. Continuities and Ruptures in the Realm of ARTs: How do Social and Ethical Discussions of Existing Assisted Reproductive Technologies Inform or Fall Short of the Challenges Posed by IVG?

IVG comes into medicine and society in the context of decades of experience with IVF and reproductive technologies from pre-implantation diagnosis to mitochondrial transfer. In this session, participants with long experience of working on the scientific, social, and ethical questions of extant assisted reproductive technologies will speak to the continuities and ruptures presented by the prospect of IVG in clinical use. What novel challenges are posed by IVG, and what existing practices, such as egg donation, might be transformed by it?

12:30pm-1:30pm - Buffet lunch

1:30pm-3:00pm: Panel 3. Continuities and Ruptures in the Realm of Research Ethics and Practices: Speaking to IVG From the Study of Embryos, CRISPR, and Organoids

While IVG is a future prospect in terms of a clinical timeline, it is a current practice in terms of laboratory research. In this session, questions of the research objects, regulations, and practices of cultivation and disposal will be addressed by participants with expertise in studying or working with questions of research ethics and regulation in the overlapping arenas of embryos, human genetic modification, organoids, or human gametes. As with Panel 2, participants will speak to what we can bring to IVG from the existing landscape of experimental work with human materials, and what novel questions and challenges arise as the technology changes and develops?

3:00-3:30 - Coffee break

3:30-5:30 - Panel 4. Roundtable

Structured discussion of workshop themes and questions.

Dinner served at the Villa Brocher for all attendees

Night accommodation for participants

Workshop, day 2

Wednesday October 23, 2024

9:00am-10:30am: Panel 5. Rethinking Reproduction in and Beyond the Human: IVF in Disease Modeling, Agriculture, and Conservation

The impact of IVF on society's reproductive futures are not limited to the potential clinical applications in reproduction and family formation, and indeed the more proximate and significant impacts may come in the arenas of using IVG-generated cells and tissues in reproductive health sciences, agricultural applications, and animal conservation. In this panel participants with expertise in these arenas will expand the social and ethical purview of the workshop beyond the question of assisted reproduction to these other domains.

10:30-11:00 - Coffee break

11:00am-12:30pm: Panel 6. Connecting the Dots: Reproductive Science, Social Justice Frameworks, and the Commodification of Emergent Biotechnologies

The commodification of gametes and the commercialization of reproductive health services will be a defining issue for IVG, just as it has been for other assisted reproductive technologies. This panel will address the continuities and novel challenges in reproductive justice posed by these developments, as the technology potentially changes the constituency served by ARTs, but also faces the possibility of further entrenching socioeconomic divides in who has access to them.

12:30pm-1:30pm - Buffet lunch

1:30pm-4:00pm: Conclusion. IVG and its Stakeholders: Communicating Workshop Outcomes

This wrap up session will synthesize insights across the two workshop days, and lay the foundation for the wider communication of workshop outcomes to a broader scholarly audience and interested public.

3:00pm - Coffee served during the last session

Adjourn

Participants leave

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