



**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF FERTILITY SOCIETIES**

## **When treatment fails – patient needs, cycle analysis and future advice**



## 21 Miles – Swimming in the search of the meaning of motherhood. Jessica Hepburn

*It's hard to explain the pain of losing something you never had. Something that was never more than an expectation, a dream or at most a cluster of cells.....I call it the pain of never and these are its symptoms*

**Never** feeling like a real woman – because you can't do what every other woman seemingly finds so easy to do



# The pain of never.....

*Never* being able to feel happy for someone when they announce they're pregnant without feeling sad for yourself

*Never* being able to admit that you've been in the loo crying about it because you don't want people to pity you

# The pain of never

*Never* being able invited to a baby shower, christening or children's party without it hurting

*Never* feeling the first kick of life inside you

*Never* being able to see your child's first steps: or first words, or first day at school, or first anything

*Never* hearing anyone call you Mum

**That's the pain of never**

# Addicted to IVF

*I thought I'd done everything I could to become a mother. I've been to nearly a dozen clinics and had every test known to woman and doctor in a bid to work out what's wrong. Besides multiple rounds of IVF (11) I've tried numerous complementary therapies including acupuncture and Chinese herbs.*

*I've even been on an intense therapeutic process to release my inner child in the hope it would help me to conceive. Yet now following people urging me to not give up hope- that some way somehow, I can and must become a mother.*

# Counselling.....

Getting news that you're not pregnant can be devastating. If you're in that situation, it's important to take the time to come to terms with it and give your body a chance to recover. When you're ready, talk to your doctor about whether you should try again and what the chance of conceiving might be if you did. They may suggest a different treatment or discuss any other options for maximising your chances of conceiving.

.....if you are not sure that you want to go through treatment again, you may find it helpful to talk your feelings through with a counsellor. Some couples have different opinions on whether to continue with treatment; talking to an impartial professional may help you to think through the issues together and come to an agreement about how to move forward.

Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA)

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# The patients' perspective on fertility care: a systematic review

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# Patient centred infertility care aberdeen fertilitycentre

Table II – Participants' ranking for importance of the dimensions of patient-centred fertility care

Ranking	Dimension of patient centred fertility care	Total score allocated per dimension by 103 patients of 14 FGs, <i>n</i> (%)
1	Information provision	284.5 (19.3%)
2	Attitude of and relationship with staff	246.0 (16.7%)
3	Competence of clinic and staff	180.5 (12.3%)
4	Communication	160.0 (10.9%)
5	Patient involvement and privacy	159.5 (10.8%)
6	Coordination and integration of care	125.5 (8.5%)
7	Accessibility of care	105.5 (7.2%)
8	Continuity and transition of care	103.0 (7.0%)
9	Emotional support	90.5 (6.1%)
10	Physical comfort	18.0 (1.3%)
Total score allocated		1473 (100%)



# Person (Patient) centred care

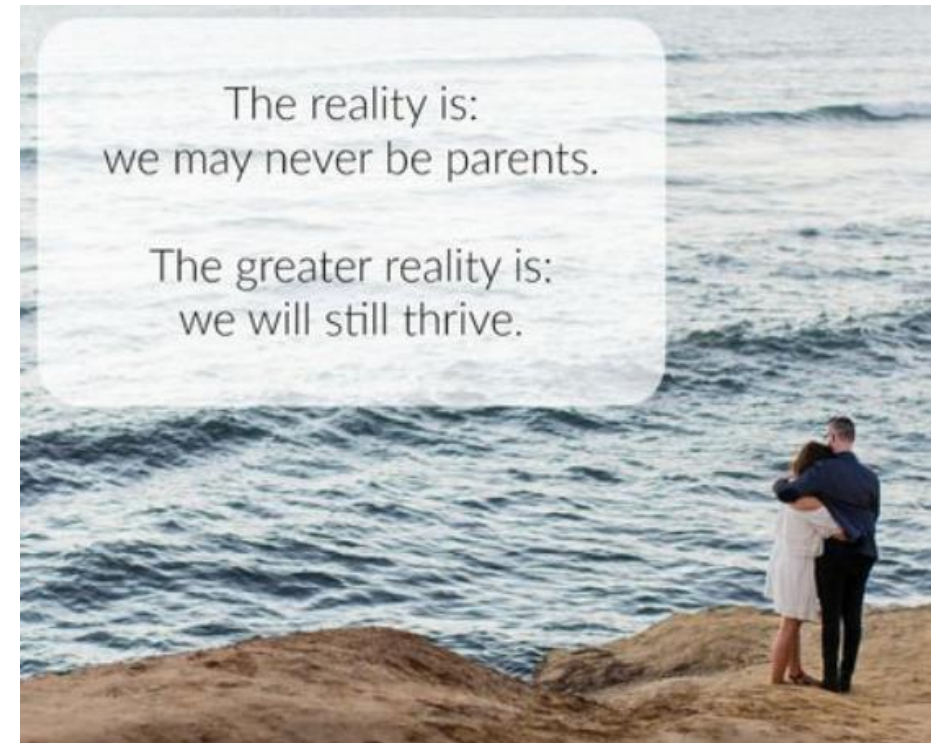
Put simply, being person-centred is about focusing care on the needs of the person rather than the needs of the service. Most people who need health care these days aren't happy just to sit back and let health care staff do what they think is best. They have their own views on what's best for them and their own priorities in life. So as health care workers, we have to be flexible to meet their needs – we have to make our system suit them, rather than the other way round.

Royal College of Nursing

<https://rcni.com/hosted-content/rcn/first-steps/what-person-centred-care-means>

# Roller coaster of emotions

*When my cycle failed I was heartbroken. It really felt like I'd suffered a bereavement – I'd lost the child I had positively pictured in my mind through each stage of the process.*



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