

Filgrastim (Neupogen, or Recombinant GM-CSF)

Filgrastim is a cytokine (a locally acting hormone) which is normally present in the endometrium, and increases in amount when an embryo is present

Filgrastim plays an important role in the process of embryo implantation and continuation of pregnancy. It has been used during in vitro fertilisation (IVF) treatment for subfertile women with a persistently thin endometrium and those with previous multiple IVF failures.

GM-CSF is used as an addition to IVF culture media (fluid), as a subcutaneous injection, or as an infusion into the endometrial cavity with the purpose of improving pregnancy rates.

Indications for use:

For women who have challenges growing an endometrium of more than 7 mm despite other treatments, and in those who have repeated implantation failure, where other treatments have been unsuccessful.

As with other "Add On" or adjuvant treatments, there is reasonable evidence suggesting that it may be of use for some patients, but not in others. There is no evidence that Filgrastim is dangerous

Ballarat IVF Protocol:

Filgrastim is administered into the uterine cavity on day 6 & day 8 (or as prescribed) of the FET cycle, or given as a subcutaneous injection 4 hours before the embryo transfer.