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## **HEALTH ADVISORY 9: A WORD OF CAUTION ON EGG DONATIONS**

Attention has been drawn to an upward trend in the University community of health concern. It is the participation and/or recruitment of female students by individuals or agents or agencies as Egg Donors for Invitro Fertilization (IVF).

While Egg Donation has brought hope to many families it should not be made a permanent or alternative source of income or side hustle.

Egg donation has potential risks in the short term which include abdominal pain, breast tenderness, bloating and mood swings. These are side effects of the medications used to stimulate the ovaries that produce the eggs. Other side effects are Ovarian Hyper Stimulation Syndrome (OHSS), infection, bleeding, ovarian torsion and possible injury to the bladder, nearby blood vessels, bowel and also psychological distress.

Long term effects reported by Egg Donors include loss of fertility, aggressive breast cancer and fatal colon cancer.

Research on who egg donation is safe for, how many times it is safe and safe interval between donations are still unknown.

Experts advise not more than three egg donations in a year and that donors stay with a clinic that has guidelines for egg donation for their well being.

We strongly advise you to seek medical guidance before embarking on egg donation to avoid regrets soon or in the nearest future.

Thank you.

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