

INSEMINATION FRAUD: A LESSER KNOWN DRIFT

ABOUT ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION

A COMMON PRACTICE

Around **8,000** people in Canada undergo artificial insemination every year.

In fact, it is the **most common** medically assisted procreation practice.

AN INSUFFICIENTLY REGULATED PRACTICE

In several countries, including Canada and the USA, clinics and sperm banks are responsible for regulating their own artificial insemination practices.

This self-regulation has led to a number of abuses, including **insemination fraud**.

WHAT IS INSEMINATION FRAUD?

Insemination fraud occurs when a doctor **intentionally substitutes** the sperm sample chosen by the parents with another sample, without their knowledge or consent.

A woman, alone or with a partner, goes to the fertility clinic to conceive a child, and the doctor inseminates her with **another sperm sample**.

This sample may come from :

- Another donor;
- Another patient;
- The doctor performing the insemination.



HOW COMMON IS THIS PRACTICE?



More than fifty doctors have been implicated in such acts. So far, almost **500 cases of insemination fraud** have been unveiled.

With the media coverage of these cases, access to commercial DNA tests and online genealogy sites, the number of insemination frauds uncovered **is likely to increase**.

Insemination fraud remains an under-documented phenomenon. Fortunately, more and more people born of insemination fraud are speaking out to raise awareness of the impact of fraud on them and their families.

