

MEDICAL UPDATE LETTER FOR DONOR #10178 (WHITNEY) - 2025-07-28

A child of donor 10178 (Whitney) has been diagnosed with a complex heart defect

To Whom it May Concern,

We are writing to provide a medical update regarding Donor #10178 (Whitney).

Medical Update:

Seattle Sperm Bank was notified that a child conceived using Donor #10178 (Whitney) was born with a complex heart defect involving multiple structural differences in the heart and great blood vessels. Specifically:

- The left pulmonary artery (which carries blood to the left lung) was not connected to the heart in the usual way, but instead arose from the aorta, the body's main artery.
- The left pulmonary artery was also very narrow.
- The child had a right-sided aortic arch, which is an uncommon variant in which the aorta curves to the right instead of the left.
- Additional findings included a persistent patent ductus arteriosus (PDA)—a blood vessel that typically closes after birth— which was allowing blood to flow in an abnormal direction.

No other birth defects or medical concerns were reported for this child.

Surgery was performed shortly after birth to reattach the left pulmonary artery to its proper location and improve blood flow to both lungs.

The child underwent comprehensive genetic testing; results did not identify any variants that explain the heart defect.

The donor does not report any personal or family history of heart defects. No other children conceived using this donor have been reported to have heart defects.

Cause and Recurrence:

Congenital heart defects are among the most common types of birth differences, occurring in about 1 out of every 100 babies. Most congenital heart defects happen by chance and have a multifactorial cause, meaning that they result from a complex combination of genetic and non-genetic factors. The chance for other children of this donor to have similar conditions is approximately 1-2%, which is higher than the general population incidence.

What can I do next?

We encourage you to share this family history update with your child's pediatrician and/or healthcare providers involved in your fertility treatment and prenatal care.

July 28, 2025



If Seattle Sperm Bank receives additional medical information that would impact the risk for birth defects in children of this donor, we will notify you by sending a follow-up letter. Please notify Seattle Sperm Bank of births and pregnancies beyond the first trimester using SSB's birth reporting webpage and notify the genetics team if your child has received any medical diagnoses.

Do not hesitate to reach out if questions arise or if clarification would be helpful. You are welcome to schedule a phone consultation with one of Seattle Sperm Bank's certified genetic counselors if you would like to discuss this information over the phone.

In partnership,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Hornberger'.

Katherine Hornberger, MS, CGC
Certified Genetic Counselor
Seattle Sperm Bank
(206) 588-1484
Genetics@SeattleSpermBank.com

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emily Nazar'.

Emily Nazar, MS, CGC
Certified Genetic Counselor
Seattle Sperm Bank
(206) 588-1484
Genetics@SeattleSpermBank.com

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniela Young'.

Daniela Young, MS, CGC
Certified Genetic Counselor
Seattle Sperm Bank
(206) 588-1484
Genetics@SeattleSpermBank.com

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brynn Persky'.

Brynn Persky, MS, CGC
Certified Genetic Counselor
Seattle Sperm Bank
(206) 588-1484
Genetics@SeattleSpermBank.com

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Kuan'.

James Kuan, MD
Medical Director
Seattle Sperm Bank
(206) 588-1484
James@seattlespermbank.com