December 10, 2025

Seattle Sperm Bank

MEDICAL UPDATE LETTER FOR DONOR #12181 (ANTON) - 2025-12-10

A child conceived using sperm donor # 12181 (Anton) has been reported to have an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) diagnosis.

To Whom it May Concern,

We are writing to provide a medical update regarding Donor #12181 (Anton).

Seattle Sperm Bank was notified that a child conceived using sperm donor # 12181 (Anton) has an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) diagnosis, level 1-2. Genetic testing has not been pursued for the child. The egg source of the child suspects that there may be a family history of undiagnosed ASD on their side, but this is not confirmed.

We contacted the donor to inform him of this medical update. We reviewed the donor's personal and family history. The donor denies a personal or family history of ASD or other neurodevelopmental conditions.

Autism Spectrum Disorder:

ASD is a developmental condition characterized by differences in social interaction, verbal and nonverbal communication, and restricted/repetitive behaviors. The severity and presentation vary widely. ASD is typically diagnosed in early childhood, often around 2-3 years of age, and is categorized into three levels of support needs, as defined by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5) – ranging from Level 1 (requiring some support) to Level 3 (requiring very substantial support).

The U.S. incidence of ASD is 1 in 31 children, making it a relatively common condition. Children assigned male at birth are approximately four times more likely to be diagnosed compared to those assigned female at birth.

- In approximately 30% of ASD cases, a genetic component/cause is identified
    - These are often sporadic (de novo) and not inherited from either the egg or the sperm source.
    - In some cases, an inherited cause/component is found, even if there is no family history.
- In the remaining 70% of cases, no specific genetic cause is found (idiopathic ASD), likely reflecting a combination of multiple genetic and non-genetic factors (also known as multifactorial inheritance).

The chance for ASDs in children conceived from this donor may be elevated above the general population incidence. Studies suggest that half-siblings of an individual with ASD have a 5-7% chance of also being diagnosed. This recurrence risk may be higher for those assigned male at birth.

Other Information:

Donor 12181 (Anton) provided additional new family medical information which has been incorporated into his donor profile. These updates can be found in the Medical Update Log, which is the final page of his donor profile that can be located on the Seattle Sperm Bank website. The Medical Update Log is also attached here for your convenience. The additional reported diagnoses are not expected to significantly increase the chance of any health conditions for children conceived using his donations.

Next Steps for your family:

If you have concerns about your child's development and/or ASD, we recommend that you consult your child's pediatrician who can make further referrals to any necessary specialists.

Vials from donor #12181 (Anton) remain eligible for distribution for use from Seattle Sperm Bank at this time.

If Seattle Sperm Bank receives new information that would impact the chance for other medical conditions in children of this donor, we will inform you by sending a follow-up letter. Please notify Seattle Sperm Bank of births and/or pregnancies beyond the first trimester SSB's birth reporting webpage and notify the genetics team if your child has been diagnosed with any medical finding.

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,

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

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

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

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

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