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Women & Infertility: Chicago Fertility Expert Addresses The Inconceivable

New York, NY January 21, 2003 - KMR Communications, Inc. is proud to represent Dr. Randy Morris, Chicago-based Reproductive Endocrinologist. Dr. Morris has been in private practice for over 10 years helping women to conceive healthy babies. He has been on the forefront of many new procedures and technologies relating to fertility, and can speak extensively on the topic. The following are some great story ideas that Dr. Morris can discuss at length. Please feel free to contact KMR Communications, Inc. at info@kmrcommunications.com to set up an interview.

Embryo Donation Dr. Morris, one of the originator's of this procedure, happily delivered a baby girl just a few months ago thanks to the miracles of modern medicine. On August 21st, to Dr. Morris's delight, the Bush Administration announced that they plan to distribute nearly \$1 million for public awareness campaigns promoting donation of embryos, one of several options available to couples who create more than they need for in vitro fertilization. The embryos are a byproduct of in vitro fertilization, in which an egg is fertilized in the lab and then implanted into a woman's uterus a few days later. Typically, couples fertilize about a dozen eggs, in hopes that they will have enough healthy embryos to produce the children they want. Those that are not implanted are frozen for future use or discarded. But after a couple has all the children it wants, there are often embryos leftover. And tens of thousands of embryos are now frozen in fertility clinics, often because couples don't know what to do with them. Their options are limited. They can throw them away. They can leave them in the freezer. They can donate them for research — though research using newly destroyed embryos is not eligible for federal funding under a decision made by President Bush last year. They can also give them to another woman hoping to get pregnant.

PGD (Pre-Implantation Genetic Diagnosis) This landmark procedure tests embryos for abnormalities before they are placed in the womb. PGD is a technique that permits analysis of the genetics of an embryo prior to transferring embryos to a woman undergoing in vitro fertilization. As Dr. Morris explains, "its primary use is to permit the selection of chromosomally normal embryos along with testing for other common genetic abnormalities leading to diseases such as Down's Syndrome, Edward's Disease, Muscular Dystrophy and many others. PGD is very powerful and can be beneficial to any couple (husband and wife) willing to have IVF especially those in which the female is older or when either partner is at higher risk for causing the production of abnormal embryos.

Non-Fertility Drugs Used to Treat Infertility Dr. Morris has been giving infertile women a new choice of medical therapy, using non-fertility drugs to treat infertility which has proven time and again to be quite successful. "For years the first line of drug treatment for infertility has been clomiphene citrate (also known as Clomid or Serophene) Yet, these days I see that more and more women are unresponsive to or have adverse effects from these drugs. Several drugs on the market today that have been approved by

the FDA for other uses are proving to be highly successful in treating infertility.” Commonly called off-label indications, drugs including *Letrozole*, *Thiazolidinedione* and *Lupron*, have been approved for medical use in treating breast cancer, prostate cancer and diabetes, but are allowed to be used by a physician for anything he/she deems fit; in this case infertility.

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