

Lab-grown human eggs: Startup aims to transform stem cells into eggs, helping infertile people have babies at any age

"I'm Matt Krisiloff. Nice to meet you," says one of the founders of [Conception](#), a biotech startup that is trying to do something audacious: revolutionize the way humans reproduce.

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Conception is trying to accelerate, and eventually commercialize, a field of biomedical research known as [in vitro gametogenesis \(IVG\)](#). "Basically, we're trying to turn a type of stem cell called an [induced pluripotent stem cell](#) into a human egg," Krisiloff says. "[This] really opens the door, if you can create eggs, to be able to help people have children that otherwise don't have options right now."

The experimental technology could help women who have lost their eggs to cancer treatment, women who have never been able to produce healthy eggs and women whose eggs are no longer viable because of their age.

IVG would enable these women to have their own genetically related babies at any age. That's because induced pluripotent stem cells can be made from just a single cell from anyone's skin or blood. So these lab-grown eggs would have that person's DNA.

But the possibilities are even broader.

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IVG could also create sperm for lesbian couples, allowing them to have babies with genes from both women. Transgender couples could also use IVG to have biologically related babies.

[**This is an excerpt. Read the full article here**](#)