



CANBERRA FERTILITY CENTRE

# WHAT IS ACCESS?

ACCESS, Australia's National Infertility Network, is a consumer based, independent, non profit organisation committed to being a national voice in promoting the well-being and welfare of infertile people of all ages, through representation in the general community and in the medical, scientific and political arenas. The Patrons of ACCESS are Candace Reed, Australia's first born IVF baby and Mrs Glynis Nunn-Cearns OAM.

## ACCESS.

- Addresses the need for an organisation in Australia which provides a cohesive approach to the management of issues and services for infertile people at a national level;
- Provides members with a range of fact sheets covering many aspects of infertility and a quarterly newsletter;
- Holds a central group register of all of the infertility self help groups which have been established in regional areas around Australia and New Zealand and a list of accredited Infertility Clinics;
- ACCESS Infertility Counsellors Network throughout Australasia, comprising professional counsellors who work in the field of infertility;
- ACCESS Infertility OPTIONS support groups which focus on the diversity of experiences of those who suffer from infertility;
- National Infertility Awareness Week is a major initiative of ACCESS; and
- ACCESS ensures that consumers in Australia are kept informed about issues of interest in the international arena, by maintaining links with 20 sister associations in 14 other countries with an emphasis on building links in the Asia Pacific region. Outreach is occurring to 74 other associations in 29 countries. Our goal is to establish alliances with infertility patient associations around the world, to raise global awareness of our collective needs and to challenge the cultural taboos surrounding the experience of infertility.

Infertility is an extremely isolating experience. ACCESS seeks to alleviate the pain and isolation of the one in six people in Australia who suffer from the debilitating impact of infertility and childlessness by supporting them through their infertility journey and by making them aware of the medical and social options available to help them pursue their wish to have a child of their own.

### ACCESS CAN BE CONTACTED AT:

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