

As a donor conceived person, I feel very strongly that all donor conceived people should have access to information about their donor. In particular, I believe it important that medical information be available to offspring that have resulted from donor conception.

I am 30 years old, conceived via donor sperm at a private clinic. I have no access to any information about my biological father – not even a vague description of what he looks like or his blood type. I do not know if other children were born as a result of his donation. It is a complete blank

Having become a parent myself in 2007, it has become more important to me to want some information about my heritage. Considering the number of diseases and health problems that are hereditary, it would be greatly beneficial to myself and my family to at least be able to have access to the medical family history of my biological father. As a mother, I would very much like to know if my children ought to be tested for certain diseases, or if they have a higher risk of certain health problems. I have no interest in knowing my biological father personally or creating a relationship with him, but I do wish I could have some basic, non-identifying information about him.

I believe donor conception is a wonderful thing – there would be a number of us not here if it weren't available. Those of us who were conceived this way are fortunate to know how very much we were wanted by our parents, that they would go to such lengths to have us. However the fact remains that we ought to have rights to information about our biological parentage.

There are many issues to be considered with donor conception but a wonderful start would be to enact legislation to allow **all** Australian donor conceived people the right to have access to all available information about their donors.