

Dr Sharon Mortimer : Brief Biography

Sharon Mortimer PhD is co-owner of Oozoa Biomedical and, while she acts in an honorary advisory role to the company, her full-time professional affiliation is as Director of Laboratory Operations for the Genesis Fertility Center (Vancouver, BC, Canada). At this time, Dr Sharon Mortimer does not provide freelance consulting services and is not an employee of Oozoa Biomedical.

Dr Mortimer graduated with a BSc(Hons) in Biological Sciences from the University of Newcastle, and a PhD from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Sydney, Australia, and completed two years of post-doctoral research in the Department of Animal Science at the University of Sydney. She has been a clinical embryologist since 1985, working at the Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne, Australia (1985–1987) and the Foothills IVF Programme in Calgary, Canada (1987–1991). She then became a consultant in IVF as Director/Secretary of *Mortimer Scientific Consulting Pty Ltd* (1991–2000), involved in the development or improvement of assisted conception programmes, and was Managing Director of *GenARTEch Pty Ltd*, a successful laboratory supply company serving Australia and New Zealand from 1996 until 2001.

Her research interests are sperm movement, cryopreservation, the physiology of sperm-egg interaction and fertilization, as well as the development of tests of sperm function *in vitro*. She has authored or co-authored over 30 peer-reviewed publications and book chapters and over 40 conference presentations, and has been an invited speaker at scientific conferences in North America, Europe, South Africa and Australia. She is an active member of 8 professional societies, is a referee for 7 medical and scientific journals, a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of *Animal Reproduction Science* and an Honorary Associate of the Department of Animal Science at the University of Sydney. She served as Australian representative for Alpha, the international embryologists' professional society (1997–2000) and was Assistant Editor of the Alpha newsletter (1997–1999).

In April 2000, she became the Director of Laboratory Operations at the Genesis Fertility Centre, with overall responsibility for all aspects of laboratory services, including diagnostic andrology, assisted conception procedures and cryobanking, as well as the development and supervision of clinical and service-based laboratory research. In addition, she is closely involved in the scientific education of the staff of Genesis as well as providing reproductive biology information support and feedback to the medical staff of Genesis and to referring doctors. Her goal is to ensure that the best scientific diagnostic and therapeutic methods are available to patients and provide them with unparalleled quality of management to help them achieve pregnancies as quickly and cost-effectively as possible while minimizing the risk of multiple pregnancies.

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