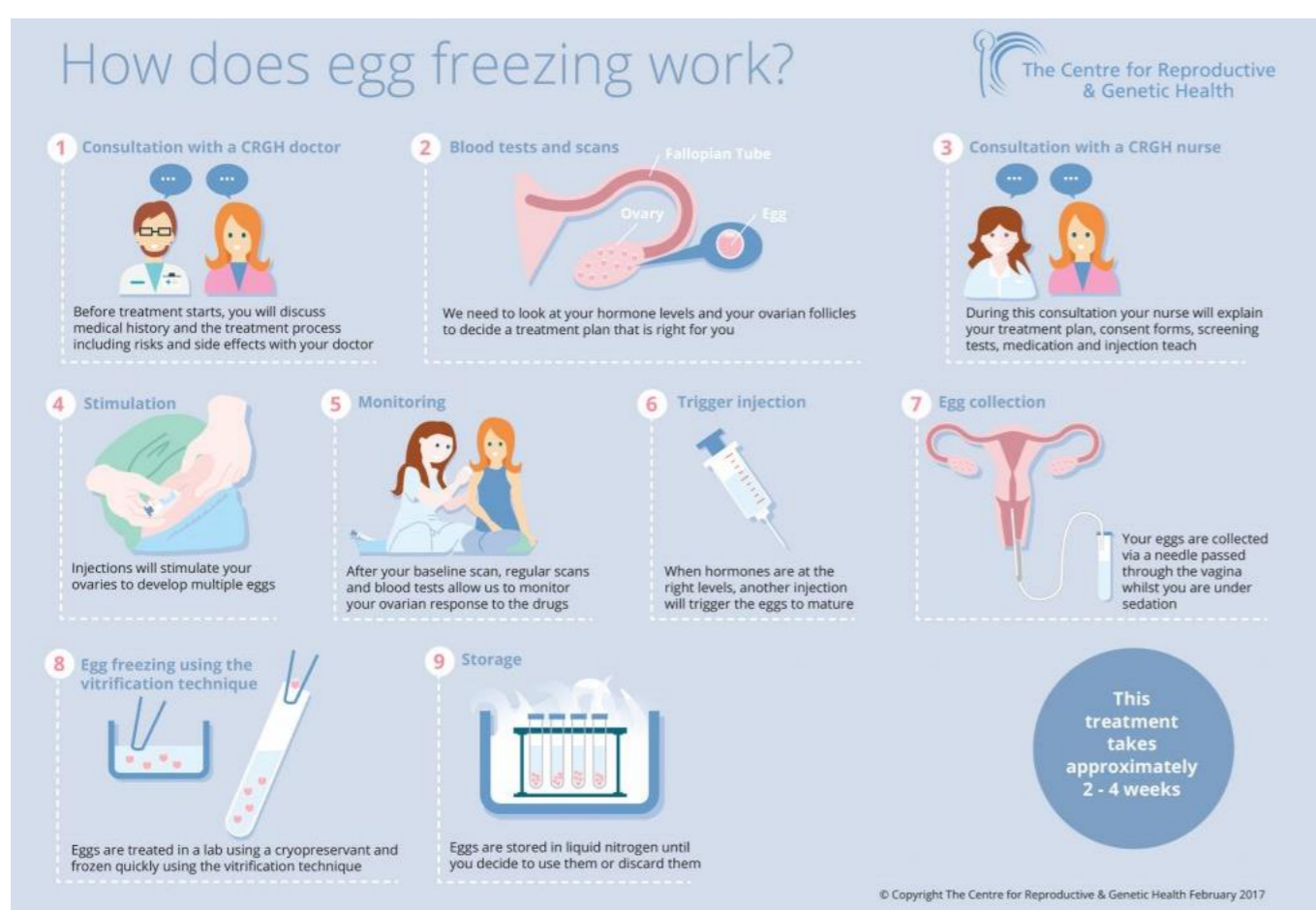


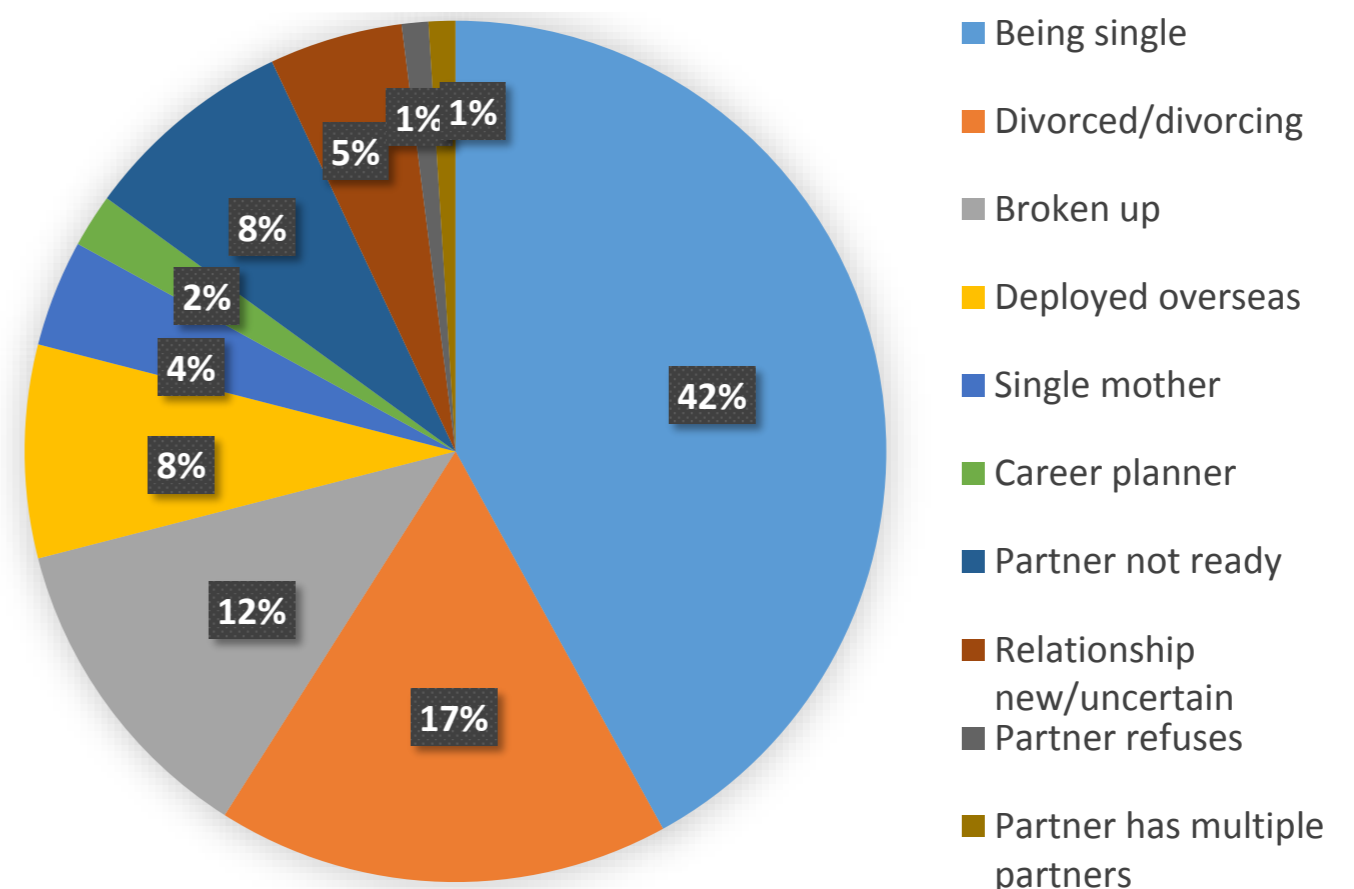
What is (non-)medical? ...and who decides? Bold Political Choices and the case of “Social Egg Freezing”

Making bold political choices for Agenda 2030 requires an understanding of who makes these choices, who defines what is medical treatment and what is not, and in how far apparently social problems may require medical solutions. So what is “medical”, what is “non-medical”, and what is “social” in the context of health care? And how is medical necessity perceived by different stakeholders? The project aims at addressing exactly these questions by comparing the issue of social egg freezing in two European countries: Austria and the Netherlands.

The Project: “Eggsplaining” Decision Making in Health Care Governance: A Multi-Level Comparative Study of Social Egg Freezing in the Netherlands and in Austria; Feb 2018 – Feb 2020



Reasons for elective egg freezing*



*see Inhorn et al., 2018, Ten pathways to elective egg freezing: a binational analysis

Background: Social/elective egg freezing has emerged as an alleged option for women of childbearing age to preserve fertility. It is legal in the Netherlands but not allowed in Austria, whereas medical freezing (e.g. in the course of oncology treatment) has been practiced in both countries for years.

Research Methods:

1. Document analysis & expert interviews
2. Q-Methodology (patients, providers, policy makers)

Who: Johanna Kostenzer PhD in cooperation with Prof. Antoinette de Bont; collaborations with practice partners and international researchers (e.g. University of Göttingen, De Montfort University)

→ Let's talk about Social Egg Freezing!



You are an interested policy maker, health care professional, potential freezer, or scholar? Please contact me to discuss the project, share ideas and link up!

Contact: kostenzer@eshpm.eur.nl



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 707404. The opinions expressed in this document reflect only the author's view. The European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.