



2023 update to the ART Guidelines

The [Ethical guidelines on the use of assisted reproductive technology in clinical practice and research](#) (ART Guidelines) have been subject to a rolling review since being developed in 2004, meaning that parts of the guidelines have been updated as required. The most recent update in 2023 added Part D (Mitochondrial Donation Supplementary Section) to enable the ethical introduction of mitochondrial donation, following enactment of the *Mitochondrial Donation Law Reform (Maeve’s Law) Act 2022*. Minor administrative revisions were also made to update the process narrative, provide information about the updated legislation and update the terminology used in the pre-implantation genetic testing section so that it reflects contemporary ART practice.

Table 1. Main changes to ART Guidelines – 2023 update

ART Guidelines reference	Amendment
Part D: Mitochondrial Donation Supplementary Section	New Part D

Table 2. Minor administrative amendments to ART Guidelines – 2023 update

ART Guidelines reference	Minor administrative amendments
Abbreviations	Remove PGD. Add PGT-M and PGT-SR. Remove PGS. Add PGT-A.
Explanation of Key Terms	Add ‘Mitochondrial Donation’.
	Amend ‘National Statement’ as the legislation now refers to the National Statement as existing from time to time, rather than a specific (outdated) version of the National Statement.
	Replace words “Preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD)” with “Preimplantation genetic testing for single gene (monogenic) disorders (PGT-M)”.
	Add ‘Preimplantation genetic testing for structural rearrangements (PGT-SR)’.
	Replace words “Preimplantation genetic screening (PGS)” with “Preimplantation genetic testing for aneuploidy (PGT-A)”.

ART Guidelines reference	Minor administrative amendments
	Amending various references to sections of the RIHE and PHCR Acts following enactment of Maeve's law.
Introduction	Update statistic about the number of individuals who gave birth in Australia using some form of ART to do so (change from 1 in 25 in 2012, to 1 in 20 in 2020, according to National Perinatal Data Collection annual update).
	Add description of the Mitochondrial Donation Supplementary Section, including its intended audience.
	Add row to table for 2023 review of the Ethical Guidelines.
Surrogacy legislation	Updated introduction of surrogacy section to reflect the existence of updated state legislation. No changes to the ethical guidance in this section (paras 8.8 – 8.12).
Preimplantation genetic testing	Revise terminology in introduction so that the term PGD is replaced with PGT-M and PGT-SR, and PGS is replaced with PGT-A. No changes to the ethical guidance in this section (paras 8.15 – 8.19.2).
Research involving human embryos (13.1)	Add footnote to fifth paragraph to explain technologies considered at time of publication [2017].
Appendix 1: A history of NHMRC's involvement in developing ethical guidelines for ART...	Add sentence about 2017 update and 2023 mitochondrial donation update. Add paragraph about the operation of the mitochondrial donation licensing system.
Appendix 4: Process Report	Add several paragraphs about the development of the 2023 Mitochondrial Donation Supplementary Section, including terms of reference and membership of the working committee, and key dates for finalisation of the revised ART Guideline through AHEC and Council.
Various	Amend 'licence' to 'general licence' where appropriate to distinguish from mitochondrial donation licence, following enactment of Maeve's Law.