

"In contrast to spontaneously conceived or NON DONOR IVF pregnancies, in egg donor pregnancies the embryo is immunogenetically completely unrelated to the mother unless the egg is donated from a relative.

Previous studies have demonstrated that egg donor pregnancies are at increased risk of hypertensive complications. Additionally, there are significant histological (cell) and immunological differences between placentas of egg donor and non egg donor IVF pregnancies. The increased immune activity and fibrinoid (fibrin is solid material) deposition at the maternal–fetal interface of egg donor pregnancies and could represent a host versus graft rejection–like phenomenon."

(Fertility and Sterility 2010;93:397–404)

In English, the above is saying that donor egg recipients are at a higher risk of pre–eclampsia, eclampsia (toxic condition characterized by convulsions and possibly coma during or immediately after pregnancy) and immunological rejection of the embryo than the non donor egg IVF patient or spontaneous conception population.

Acupuncture and herbal medicine have a positive (regulating) effect on the immune system. Thus, donor–egg–IVF–patients would do well to receive acupuncture and herbal medicine before and after transfer for a period of time not less than 3 months post transfer and up to 3 months before transfer where possible. This type of intervention, would, based upon my clinical experience, possibly help to reduce the event of pre–eclampsia, eclampsia and miscarriage.

