

Deirdre Corcoran

First Options Fertility



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FIRST OPTIONS
FERTILITY

Deirdre Corcoran set up First Options Fertility in Gorey, Co. Wexford, after noticing a lack of adequate fertility services around the South East region.

A PhD in Developmental Biology with more than 13 years' experience working in IVF laboratories, Deirdre went into business in June 2020, offering semen analysis services in laboratories that match the rigorous standards of the World Health Organisation.

First Options Fertility is solely focused on the male aspect of fertility care, offering a range of test and assessment options – from semen oxidative stress tests to tests for DNA fragmentation – for men with concerns about the health of their semen.

The clinic is open every Thursday as well as two Saturdays per month. Deirdre believes that Saturday openings are something of a unique selling point as many clients don't wish to take time off work. First Options Fertility aims to make the processes as easy as possible for men to have their fertility assessed.

First Options has one other employee, an embryologist who runs the Thursday semen assessment clinics. Another service that has become particularly busy is the offering of post-op assessments for men who have undergone vasectomies. The company is the exclusive provider of assessments for vasectomy.ie since May 2022.

Deirdre is thankful to ACORNS for bringing together likeminded people from different sectors to discuss problems common to entrepreneurs. "There are always issues to overcome in any business and the ACORNS group discussions helped with finding solutions and a way forward," she says.

She is targeting continued growth both across the South East and nationally in the next 12 months by continuing to build on First Options' reputation for high quality and quality assured testing. "It's all about getting ourselves better known and becoming the go-to place for male fertility assessments," she adds.

Providing early stage female entrepreneurs, living in rural Ireland, with the knowledge, support and networking opportunities to meet and even exceed their current aspirations.



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine