

“because they realize it’s not right to not cover it. Building a family is not elective. It’s essential for most of us. It’s a very important part of life.

“And with InvoCell, the hope is that we can minimize some of that extra work, so that it becomes cheaper—it becomes more cost effective for the patient,” he said.

Foulk said he’s been using InvoCell in his Salt Lake City and Las Vegas practices for almost nine months now and has been pleased with several resulting pregnancies. It’s a great, and possibly cheaper, option, he said—for the right type of patient, which isn’t everyone.

FACTS OF LIFE

“The most ideal candidates, I’ve learned, are young women—young meaning women that have a good ovary reserve, and that’s just a measure of how many eggs they have left—who have tubal issues,” Foulk said. “Their Fallopian tubes don’t work well. What IVF is for, essentially, is to bypass what normally happens in the Fallopian tube. And normally fertilization happens in the distal Fallopian tube.”

In cases where a couples’ problems are different—say if sperm are unable to fertilize eggs on their own—InvoCell is not a viable

solution and different forms of IVF need to be considered.

“But it still gives us an alternative for a lot of folks that could otherwise not be able to afford it or just want a more natural way to let the process unfold,” Foulk said. “It’s very good for a group of people—and it’s usually the younger folks that tend to be struggling more financially. They’re not as set in there jobs and such, and those are the ones it helps most. So it’s directed toward those that need it the most.”

In his centers where InvoCell has been deployed, Foulk said the resulting embryos—and pregnancies—have been encouraging.

“What’s remarkable is that the embryo quality you see from the InvoCell often is better than what you’d see if it was grown in vitro, in artificial conditions—

which kind of makes sense, right?

We’re never going to be as good as mother nature.”

“It still gives us an alternative for a lot of folks that could otherwise not be able to afford it or just want a more natural way to let the process unfold.”

Dr. Russell Foulk
Nevada Center for
Reproductive Medicine

Learn more about the Nevada Center for Reproductive Medicine at nevadafertility.com.

In session



Classes resumed for the fall semester at the University of Nevada, Reno on Monday, Aug. 26. As part of the school's Welcome Week events schedule, the Associated Students of the University of Nevada (ASUN) gathered several local food trucks, vendors and campus and community groups for the Taste of Reno & Service Palooza on the lawn of the Mathewson IGT Knowledge Center. The event was meant to both feed students and inspire them to become civically engaged during their college careers.

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Sang Matiz fuses energetic World and Afro-Latin and tropical beats with pop, jazz and funk to create catchy, syncopated melodies with flamenco-style finger picking. The group performs 7pm–11pm Aug. 29 and 8pm–midnight Aug. 30–31.

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