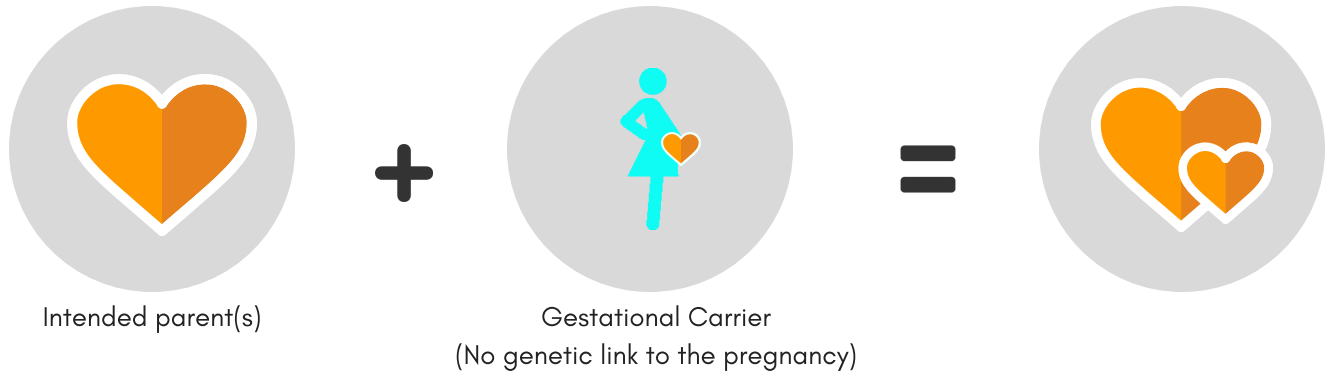


WHAT IS GESTATIONAL CARRIER SURROGACY

GESTATIONAL CARRIER SURROGACY ARRANGEMENT

The woman carrying the pregnancy is not genetically linked to the offspring.
Today, the vast majority of surrogacy arrangements are gestational carrier arrangements.



In genetic (traditional) surrogacy, the woman carrying the pregnancy is genetically linked to the offspring – it was her own egg that created the pregnancy.

FAMILY FORMATION THROUGH SURROGACY

There are a number of reasons why an Intended Parent may turn to surrogacy, including:

- Medical conditions that make it dangerous or impossible to carry a pregnancy (heart disease, cancer, lupus, type 1 diabetes)
- No uterus/uterine issues (born with MRKH syndrome, ruptured uterus from previous delivery, hysterectomy)
- Reproductive health disorders (recurrent miscarriages, complications from previous pregnancies or deliveries)
- Intended Parent(s) is without a female partner.

BEST PRACTICES TO SAFEGUARD ALL PARTIES



Mental Health Professional

- Evaluates gestational carrier & partner for psychopathology & ability to manage surrogacy
- Explores surrogate's motivation to ensure compensation is not primary motivation
- Educates about risks & roles
- Can disqualify surrogate



Attorney

- Drafts/reviews/negotiates contract(s)
- Advises on legal rights, responsibilities & risks; secures legal parentage
- Ensures clients understand & voluntarily agree to contract terms
- Applies pertinent state laws
- Each party has a separate lawyer representing that party's interests



Reproductive Endocrinologist

- Conducts medical evaluation, review of OB records
- Follows ASRM guidelines (21+, has one child, financially stable, etc.)
- Engages in collaborative informed consent process
- Educates about risks of surrogacy process & pregnancy
- Ensures mental health screening is completed
- Can disqualify surrogate



Agency

- Reviews screening information
- Provides case management
- Conducts background check
- Obtains medical records for doctor review
- Requests professional health insurance review
- Intermediary between gestational carrier and intended parents
- Can disqualify surrogate