

**Letter to Prospective Participants:**

**Study Title:** *Cellular Propeller*

**Name of researcher:** Dr Howard Boland

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Thank you for reading this. I would like to invite you to take part in my project by donating sperm samples. It is entirely up to you whether you participate but your participation would be valued.

This experimental study looks at how sperm cells can be used to mobilise a synthetic plastic scaffold. The scaffold is designed as a hollow coin and is coated with a material so that sperm cells become attached to it with their head first in a perpendicular manner. The scaffold is coated in a manner that once sperm cell are attached they are able to rotate the scaffold depending on the success of the experiment and the swimming capability of the sperm cells used.

If you are interested in taking part, your written consent will be required and you will be asked to sign the consent form before donating sperm cells. Access to a room with appropriate visuals and container will be provided and all reasonable steps will be taken to ensure privacy and confidentiality. Consent forms and samples from participants will be destroyed once the experiment is completed.

Taking part is **voluntary** and you can change your mind to opt out at any time. Participants must be aged over 18 years.

Once collected, the fresh sperm cells will be stored cooled and then applied to the experimental set up once ready. Samples will be stored in a laboratory refrigerator and used used within 6 days of collection.

All samples (used or otherwise) will be destroyed in accordance with biosafety procedures.

If you wish to learn more about the results of the research please refer to [www.c-lab.co.uk](http://www.c-lab.co.uk). The outcomes experiment may be exhibited.

Thank you for your interest.

If you have any concerns regarding this research or require further information please contact me.

With thanks,  
Dr Howard Boland  
Director, C-LAB (UK)

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