

## SECTION 4: ART CYCLES USING DONOR EGGS

### Are older women undergoing ART more likely to use donor eggs or embryos?

As shown in Figures 16 and 35 (pages 22 and 41), eggs produced by women in older age groups form embryos that are less likely to implant and more likely to result in miscarriage if they do implant. As a result, ART using donor eggs is much more common among older women than among younger women. Donor eggs or embryos were used in 19,847 ART cycles performed in 2012. Figure 38 shows the percentage of ART cycles using donor eggs in 2012 according to the woman's age. Few women younger than age 40 used donor eggs; however, the percentage of cycles performed with donor eggs increased sharply after age 40. Among women older than age 48, for example, 87% of all ART cycles used donor eggs.

**Figure 38**

Percentages of ART Cycles Using Donor Eggs, by Age of Woman, 2012

