

Woman, 59, who tried for decades to get pregnant gives birth

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In a Thursday, July 13, 2017 photo, Isaiah Somuah Anim, 59, and his wife Akosua Budu Amoako, 59, hold their son Isaiah Somuah Anim, Jr. in Dr. Khushru Irani's office in Niskayuna, N.Y. Budu says she and her husband had tried for years to get pregnant after they married 38 years ago, but eventually stopped trying. (Lori Van Buren/The Albany Times Union via AP)

During nearly four decades of marriage, Akosua Budu Amoako and her husband tried to have a child, without success. But last month, at age 59, Budu gave birth to her first child after fertility treatments.

The full-term 7-pound, 4-ounce boy was born June 15 at Bellevue Woman's Center in Niskayuna, near Albany. He's named after his father, Isaiah Somuah Anim.

"They're doing super, very well," Dr. Khushru Irani, who delivered the baby, told The Associated Press on Monday. The couple, he added, "are so happy about the whole thing."

Budu said she and her 59-year-old husband, who live in Schenectady, had tried for years to get

pregnant naturally after they married 38 years ago, but they eventually stopped trying. Then last year, after learning that a 60-year-old woman in the couple's homeland of Ghana gave birth to triplets after fertility treatments, the couple, both medical professionals at a local hospital, decided to try once again to have a child.

Irani said he was apprehensive at first, noting the risks of complications that can arise from giving birth at such an advanced age.

"Initially, when I saw her, I'm saying no, it's not a good idea for your health to have a baby at your age," the doctor said. "But they were very insistent and they wanted to try it out."

Budu underwent in vitro fertilization at an Albany-area clinic using her husband's sperm and a donor egg. The entire process, from initial screening to successful fertilization, cost \$20,000 and took about a year, the elder Amin told the newspaper.

"We haven't gotten much sleep, but I feel fine and I think he already knows our voices," Budu told the Times Union.

The couple, who came to the United States in 2005, are naturalized U.S. citizens.

"And our son is born an American, and a New Yorker," Amin said.

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