

OOCYTE VITRIFICATION AND ACCUMULATION AS A STRATEGY FOR SELECTING EMBRYOS IN ENDOMETRIOSIS PATIENTS WITH A LOW RESPONSE

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INTRODUCTION: Low response patients with endometriosis have less chance to achieve a pregnancy due to endometriosis itself and the number of oocytes retrieved.

The aim of this retrospective study is to evaluate if clinical pregnancy and implantation rates are affected by freezing low response's mature oocytes of patients with endometriosis and accumulate them for an ICSI cycle with thawed eggs.

MATERIAL & METHODS: Between 2007 and 2010, 1215 ICSI procedures were performed, where 97 of them were with thawed eggs.

After ovarian stimulation and oocyte retrieval, the eggs of patients with less than 3 retrieved, were vitrified, and thawed when six of these oocytes were available to be thawed and to ensure a proper embryo selection.

Number of oocytes injected, fertilization, clinical pregnancy and implantation rates were assessed.

RESULTS: 1118 ICSI were performed on endometriosis patients' fresh oocytes, and 97 on patients with frozen oocytes. An average of 6, 49 oocytes in the fresh group, and 6.61 in the frozen group were microinjected, and 1.85, and 1.88 embryos transferred. Fertilization rates were 69, 4% and 66, 8%, while 39.06% and 32, 89% of clinical pregnancy and 26, 23% and 20.98% of implantation rates were achieved respectively.

CONCLUSIONS: According to these results, no statistical differences between both groups were found, so it seems that freezing and oocyte accumulation in low response patients suffering endometriosis is a good strategy to ensure an adequate number of oocytes suitable to be fertilized and proper embryo selection for transfer.

Key words. Oocyte, accumulation, endometriosis