CONVENTIONAL IVF IN CASE OF LOW NUMBER OF AVAILABLE OOCYTES: IS IT A RISK?
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INTRODUCTION The aim of this study is to evaluate pregnancy and implantation rates of conventional IVF where only 3 oocytes are available. Since April 2004 the Italian law 40/2004 has been regulated the use of assisted conception according to very restrictive regulations. Clinical and research implications of were thoroughly discussed between experts during these years. It was confirmed that there was a trend towards a higher percentage of intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) procedures compared with the previous years.

MATERIALS AND METHODS In our lab conventional IVF was applied to women at first attempt when seminal characteristics were normal. Retrospective analysis of 283 IVF cycles was carried. All women (mean age 35, 5+4, 3) were submitted to a similar ovarian stimulation protocol and for each patient no more than three oocytes were inseminated. Seminal basal characteristics were analyzed according to WHO guidelines and sperm morphology according to Kruger parameters. Swim up procedure was performed to semen sample before insemination. Embryo transfer was performed 48-72 hours after insemination with soft catheter under ultrasound control.

CONCLUSIONS Results demonstrate that conventional IVF leads to good implantation rate and it has good pregnancy rate even with low number of metaphase II oocytes. Therefore conflicting data on ICSI children at 12 and 24 months follow up do not allow exclusion of higher malformation rate and developmental problems.

KEYWORDS Oocyte, implantation rate, icsi