



www.sciencedirect.com  
www.rbmonline.com



## LETTER

### Response: gender incidence of intracytoplasmic morphologically selected sperm injection-derived embryos: a prospective randomized study

To the Editor

We would like to thank Zech et al. (2012) for their interest in our article (Setti et al., 2012), their valuable comments and for sharing their experience of investigations similar to our own. We appreciate the opportunity to respond to their remarks.

An important difference in our objectives may explain the difference in the results obtained. The main objective and interest of our work was to investigate whether the use of high-magnification sperm selection in intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) is associated with gender incidence in the derived embryos. Therefore, we evaluated the gender of all the embryos that were biopsied and did not consider which of these embryos were transferred, implanted and resulted in live births. However, Zech et al. evaluated the gender distribution of babies born after intracytoplasmic morphologically selected sperm injection (IMSI), thereby taking into account only the embryos that implanted after IMSI and not all the embryos derived from IMSI.

A possible explanation for the differences observed between the two studies may be the fact that since male

embryos reach the blastocyst stage before female embryos, more male embryos are selected for fresh transfer (Menezes et al., 1999). Therefore, it is possible that after blastocyst transfers we would have observed no difference between our results and those obtained by Zech et al.

## References

- Menezes, Y.J., Chouteau, J., Torello, J., Girard, A., Veiga, A., 1999. Birth weight and sex ratio after transfer at the blastocyst stage in humans. *Fertil. Steril.* 72, 221–224.
- Setti, A., Figueira, R.C.S., Braga, D.P.A.F., Laconelli, A., Borges Jr., E., 2012. Gender incidence of intracytoplasmic morphologically selected sperm injection-derived embryos: a prospective randomized study. *Reprod. Biomed. Online* 24, 420–423.
- Zech, N.H., Wirleitner, B., Cassuto, N.G., Schuff, M., Spitzer, D., Vanderzwalmen, P., 2012. Gender incidence of intracytoplasmic morphologically selected sperm injection-derived embryos: a prospective randomized study (Letter). *Reprod. Biomed. Online*, 25, 333.

Amanda S Setti, Edson Borges Jr.  
*Fertility – Assisted Fertilization Center, Av. Brigadeiro Luis Antônio, 4545, Sao Paulo 01401-002, Brazil; Sapientiae Institute – Educational and Research Center in Assisted Reproduction, Sao Paulo, Brazil*