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INTRODUCTION

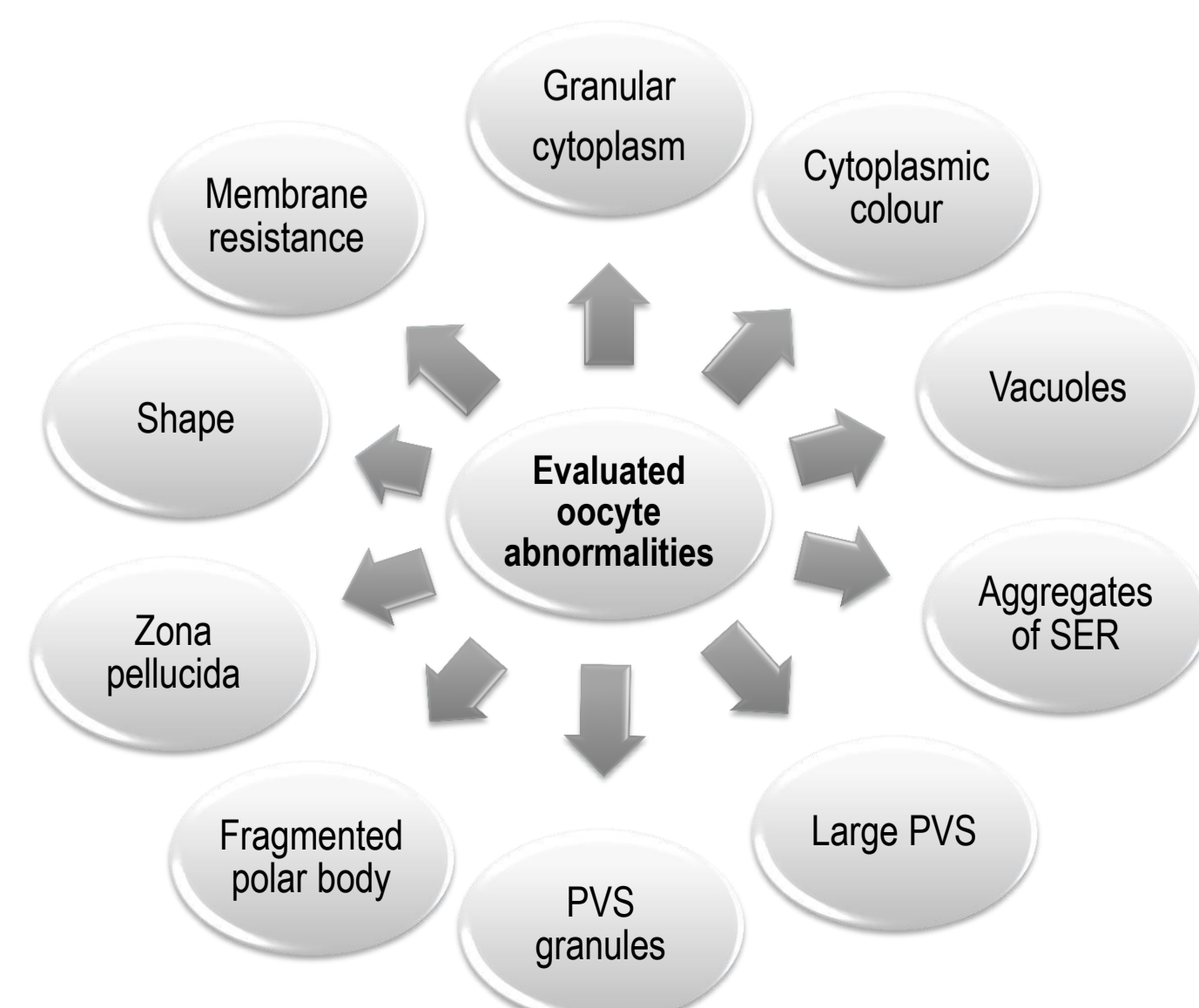
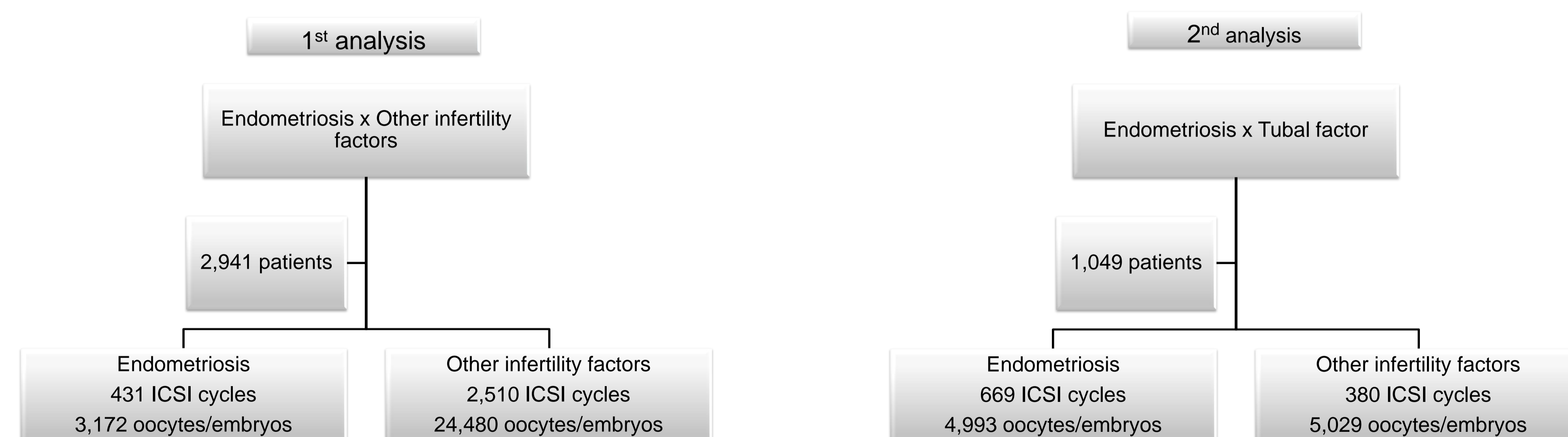
Endometriosis-associated infertility patients undergoing ART have a poor ovarian response, lower fertilization, decreased endometrial receptivity and poor implantation. It has also been suggested that the oocyte and embryo quality may be compromised in endometriosis-associated infertility. It was even reported that the incidence of aneuploidy is significantly higher in the presence of endometriosis. To our knowledge, the effect of endometriosis-associated infertility on oocyte quality, specifically intra- and extra-cytoplasmic defects, has still not been investigated.

OBJECTIVE

The goal of the present study was to identify any association between the presence of endometriosis and oocytes defects, embryo developmental potential and cycle outcomes.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

- ICSI cycles performed between Jan/2005 and May/2014
- Patients with female age ≤ 36 years
- 2 independent analysis



- Comparisons between the groups**
 - Oocyte quality
 - Clinical outcomes
- Continuous variables**
 - Student t test
 - Mann-Whitney test
- Percentages**
 - Chi-squared test
 - Fisher's exact test

RESULTS

Variables	1 st analysis		p-value	Variables	2 nd analysis		p-value
	Endometriosis (n=431)	Other (n=2510)			Endometriosis (n=669)	Tubal factor (n=380)	
Female age (y-old)	33.0 ± 2.54	32.9 ± 3.22	0.165	Female age (y-old)	35.5 ± 3.8	34.3 ± 4.1	< 0.001
FSH administered (IU)	2327 ± 652	2159 ± 600	< 0.001	FSH administered (IU)	2403 ± 670	2269 ± 618	< 0.001
Aspirated follicles	15.7 ± 12.2	21.0 ± 13.7	< 0.001	Aspirated follicles	13.5 ± 11.0	18.5 ± 12.3	< 0.001
Retrieved oocytes	10.6 ± 21.2	14.6 ± 21.1	< 0.001	Retrieved oocytes	9.2 ± 7.5	12.9 ± 8.8	< 0.001
Oocyte yield (%)	68.1 ± 20.0	70.6 ± 19.6	0.015	Oocyte yield (%)	69.1 ± 20.7	71.6 ± 19.4	0.028
Mature oocyte rate (%)	74.4 ± 20.8	73.9 ± 19.5	0.661	Mature oocyte rate (%)	74.5 ± 22.4	73.6 ± 20.3	0.459
Fertilization rate (%)	80.5 ± 21.2	79.1 ± 20.0	0.189	Fertilization rate (%)	80.6 ± 22.4	80.9 ± 19.8	0.799
Obtained embryos	6.1 ± 4.43	7.8 ± 5.12	< 0.001	Obtained embryos	5.46 ± 4.18	7.04 ± 4.66	< 0.001
High-quality embryos rate on D3 (%)	45.36	47.29	0.037	High-quality embryos rate on D3 (%)	47.55	52.45	0.045
Blastocyst formation rate (%)	51.97	52.49	0.780	Blastocyst formation rate (%)	52.45	53.37	0.531
Transferred embryos	2.2 ± 0.9	1.8 ± 0.9	0.035	Transferred embryos	2.3 ± 0.9	1.5 ± 0.81	< 0.001
Pregnancy rate (%)	36.9	38.5	0.529	Pregnancy rate (%)	32.7	32.3	0.903
Miscarriage rate (%)	16.5	13.6	0.352	Miscarriage rate (%)	18.2	15.5	0.486
Implantation rate (%)	28.1 ± 38.9	33.9 ± 42.7	0.012	Implantation rate (%)	26.1 ± 38.6	31.4 ± 42.7	0.039

Table 1. Comparison of ICSI cycles' outcomes between patients with endometriosis and other types of infertility

Oocyte abnormalities	Endometriosis (n=3172)	Other (n=24480)	p-value
Zona pellucida	22.13	18.27	< 0.001
PVS granules	47.91	45.70	0.017
Large PVS	28.80	24.28	< 0.001
Fragmented polar body	38.15	35.40	0.002
Shape	15.22	13.51	0.007
Resistant membrane	15.29	14.03	0.053
Non-resistant membrane	16.11	14.46	0.013

Table 2. Comparison of oocyte abnormalities' incidence between patients with endometriosis and other types of infertility

Table 3. Comparison of ICSI cycles' outcomes between patients with endometriosis and tubal infertility

Oocyte abnormalities	Endometriosis (n=4993)	Tubal factor (n=5029)	p-value
Zona pellucida	25.13	13.21	< 0.001
PVS granules	39.24	36.90	0.015
Large PVS	23.78	19.08	< 0.001
Fragmented polar body	29.57	26.66	< 0.001
Shape	15.04	13.38	0.028
Resistant membrane	16.23	14.34	0.048
Non-resistant membrane	16.11	14.46	0.009
Aggregates of SER	14.91	3.28	0.020
Refractile bodies	17.89	16.21	0.025

Table 4. Comparison of oocyte abnormalities' incidence between patients with endometriosis and tubal infertility

CONCLUSION

Endometriosis patients have a reduced oocyte and embryo quality, what may explain the lower implantation rate and increased chance of cycle cancelation observed in this group of patients.