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*Rita Figueira, PhD, TS(ABB)*

# Assisted Reproductive Technologies Latin American Registry (2012)

- Where are we?

Reproductive BioMedicine Online (2015) 30, 43-51



[www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)  
[www.rbmonline.com](http://www.rbmonline.com)



ARTICLE

## Assisted reproductive technologies in Latin America: the Latin American Registry, 2012

Fernando Zegers-Hochschild <sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Juan Enrique Schwarze <sup>c</sup>,  
Javier A Crosby <sup>a</sup>, Carolina Musri <sup>a</sup>, Maria do Carmo Borges de Souza <sup>d</sup>



31,857 IVF-ICSI cycles

10,073 FETs cycles

5396 IVF-ICSI cycles with  
donated oocytes

1764 Fertility preservation  
cycles

47,326 Total cycles

21,452 Brazil (45%)

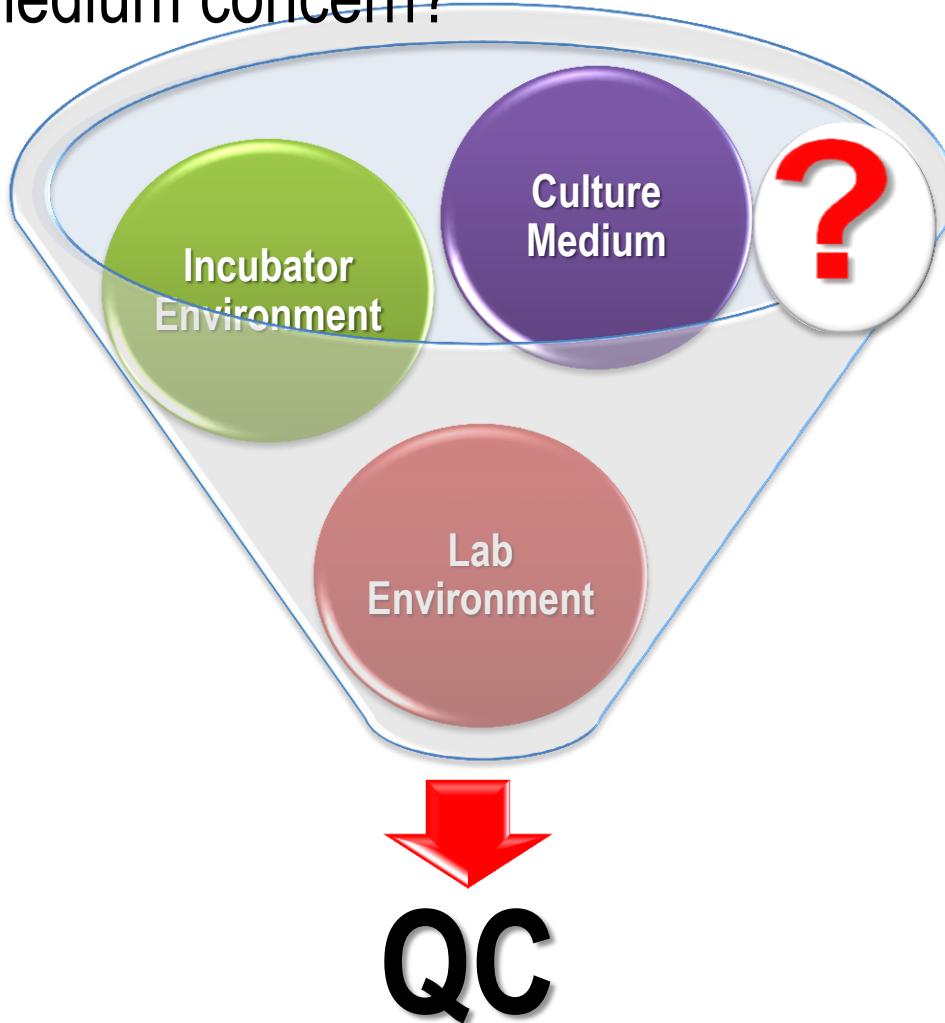
## Multinational data – Latin America

- 155 institutions
- 14 countries

# Assisted Reproductive Technologies

## Quality Control (QC)

- Why culture medium concern?



# Quality Control (QC)

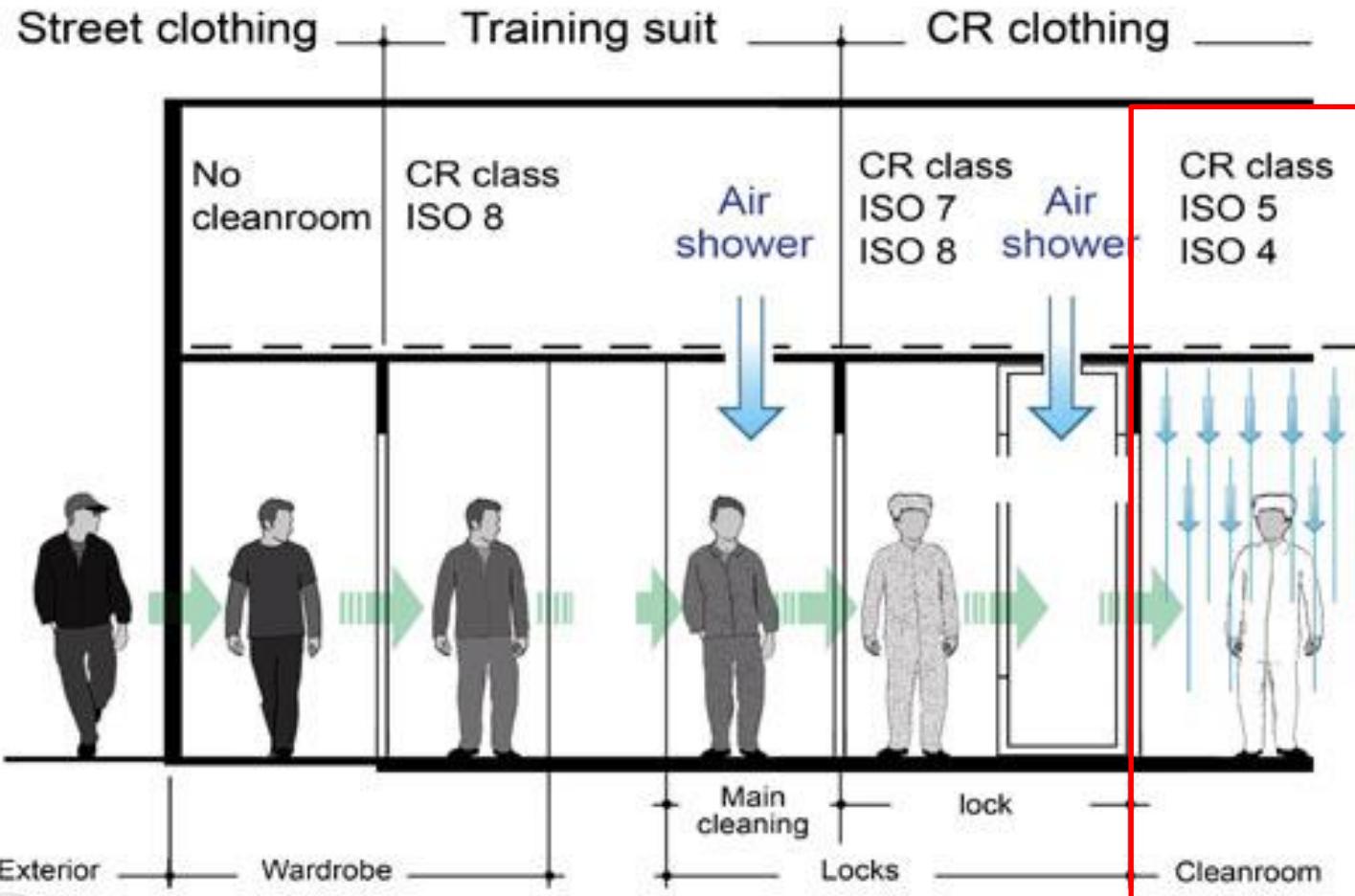
## Air Quality – ISO class 5



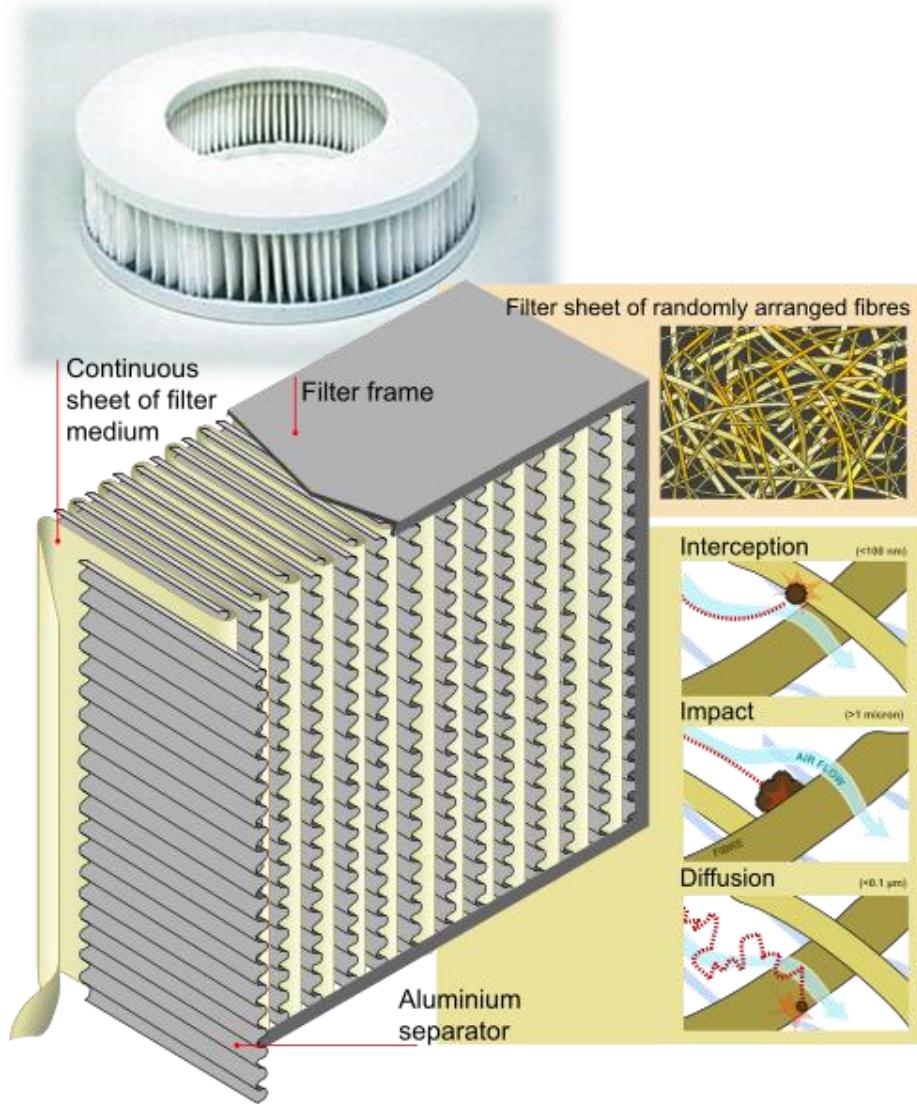
ARTICLE

Implementation of air quality control in reproductive laboratories in full compliance with the Brazilian Cells and Germinative Tissue Directive

Sandro C Esteves \*, Fabiola C Bento



# Quality Control (QC) Air Quality – Incubators



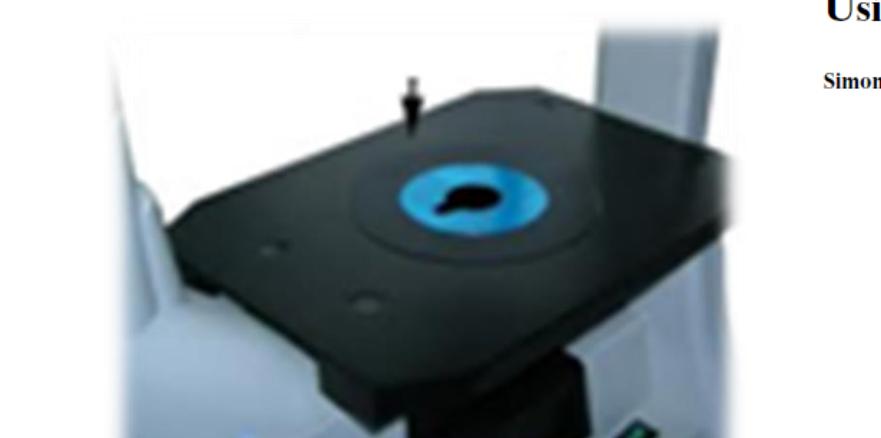
## Effect of air quality on assisted human reproduction<sup>†</sup>

Richard S. Legro<sup>1,\*</sup>, Mark V. Sauer<sup>2</sup>, Gilbert L. Mottla<sup>3</sup>,  
Kevin S. Richter<sup>3</sup>, Xian Li<sup>4</sup>, William C. Dodson<sup>1</sup>, and Duiping Liao<sup>4</sup>

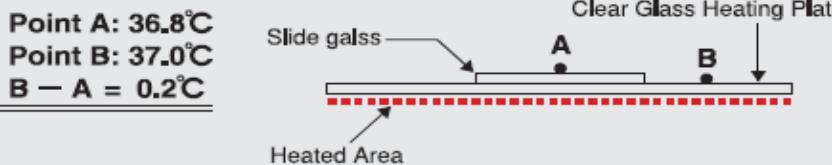
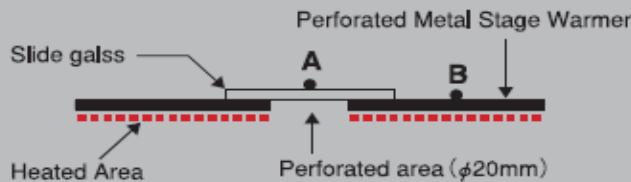
<sup>1</sup>Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine, 500 University Drive, H103, Hershey, PA 17033, USA <sup>2</sup>Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, NY 10032, USA <sup>3</sup>Shady Grove Fertility, Rockville, MD 20850, USA <sup>4</sup>Department of Public Health Sciences, Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine, Hershey, PA 17033, USA



# Quality Control (QC) Lab Environment

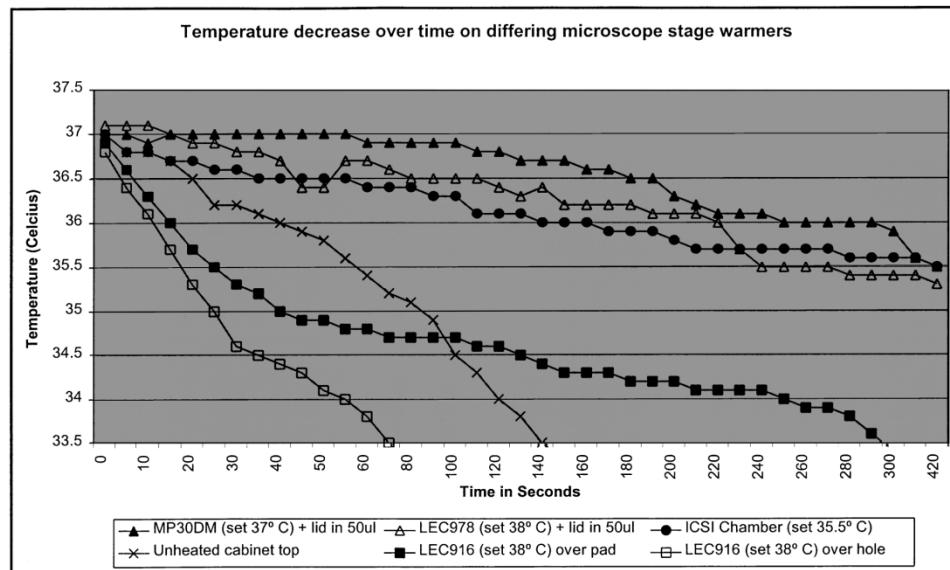


Point A: 32.9°C  
Point B: 37.0°C  
B - A = 4.1°C



## Objective Assessments of Temperature Maintenance Using In Vitro Culture Techniques<sup>1</sup>

Simon Cooke,<sup>2,5</sup> John P. P. Tyler,<sup>3</sup> and Geoff Driscoll<sup>3,4</sup>



# Quality Control (QC) Incubators Environment

Reproductive BioMedicine Online (2014) 28, 535–547



[www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)  
[www.rbm-online.com](http://www.rbm-online.com)



SYMPORIUM: QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN ASSISTED REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Decisions for the IVF laboratory: comparative analysis of embryo culture incubators



Jason E Swain



Gas monitoring and recovery



Temperature



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# Quality Control (QC) Culture Medium



Figure 4 Demonstration of the fluctuation and inaccuracy of fyrite as an indicator of pH (adapted from Pool (2004)).



## REVIEW

### Optimizing the culture environment in the IVF laboratory: impact of pH and buffer capacity on gamete and embryo quality

**Table III** Recommended pHe values for various commercial IVF media (adapted from Swain, 2010).

Company	Medium	Recommended pHe
Cook	Sydney IVF Cleavage	7.3–7.5
	Sydney IVF Blastocyst	7.3–7.5
	Sydney IVF Fertilization	7.3–7.5
FertiPro	FertiCult™ IVF	7.2–7.6
	FertiCult™ G3	7.3–7.6
Gynemed	GM501 Basic	7.2–7.45
	GM501 Cult	7.2–7.45
InVitroCare	IVC-ONE™	7.25–7.45
	IVC-TWO™	7.25–7.45
	IVC-THREE™	7.25–7.45
Irvine	PI®	7.27–7.32
	ECM®	7.2–7.25
	SSM™	7.28–7.32
	MultiBlast®	7.3–7.4
	HTF	7.2–7.3
Life Global	global®	7.2–7.4*
	global® for Fertilization	7.2–7.4*
	Blastocyst	7.2–7.4*
	HTF	7.2–7.4*
	HTFxtra	7.2–7.4*
Origio	Universal IVF	7.3–7.4
	ISM™	7.2–7.3
	ISM2™	7.35–7.45
	EmbryoAssist™	7.2–7.3
	BlastAssist®	7.35–7.45
Sage	EmbryoGen®	7.2–7.3
	Quinns Advantage® Fert	7.3 ± 0.1
	Quinns Advantage® Cleavage	7.2 ± 0.1
Vitrolife	Quinns Advantage® Blastocyst	7.3 ± 0.1
	G-IVF™ (GS-Series)	7.35 ± 0.1
	G-1™ (GS Series)	7.27 ± 0.07
	G-2™ (GS Series)	7.27 ± 0.07

\*Company recommends 7.3.

# Assisted Reproductive Technologies

## Quality Control (QC)

Fertility and Sterility® Vol. 94, No. 4, September 2010

## What do consistently high-performing in vitro fertilization programs in the U.S. do?

Bradley J. Van Voorhis, M.D.,<sup>a</sup> Mika Thomas, M.D.,<sup>b</sup> Eric S. Surrey, M.D.,<sup>c</sup> and Amy Sparks, Ph.D.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, Iowa City, Iowa; <sup>b</sup> Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates, Dallas, Texas; and <sup>c</sup> Colorado Center for Reproductive Medicine, Lone Tree, Colorado

Título: Resolução RDC n° 23, 27 de maio de 2011

Ementa: Dispõe sobre o regulamento técnico para o funcionamento dos Bancos de Células e Tecidos Germinativos e dá outras providências.

Publicação: D.O.U. – Diário Oficial da União; Poder Executivo, de 30 de maio de 2011

Órgão emissor: ANVISA – Agência Nacional de Vigilância Sanitária

Alcance do ato: Federal – Brasil

Área de atuação: Sangue, outros Tecidos, Células e Órgãos

TABLE 2

Common clinical and laboratory practices among high-performing IVF programs: reported by at least 7 of 10 programs.

### Laboratory practices

Selective use of ICSI (median, 60% of cases; range, 42%–98%)

Use of group culture of embryos in microdrops of media

**Adjustment of incubator % CO<sub>2</sub> based on media pH**

Selective use of assisted hatching (median rate, 10% in women aged ≤37 y) and PGS (median rate, 5% in women aged ≤37 y)

Use of both cleavage stage (range, 17%–95%) and blastocyst (range, 5%–83%) ET

### Laboratory environment

**Positive air pressure in the lab**

**HEPA filtration of laboratory air**

**Filtration of laboratory air for volatile and chemically active compounds**

**Use of laminar flow hoods**

**Use of heated microscope stages**

# Quality Control (QC)

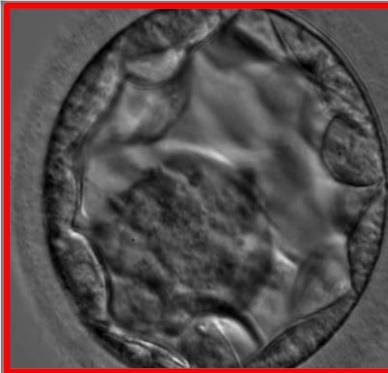
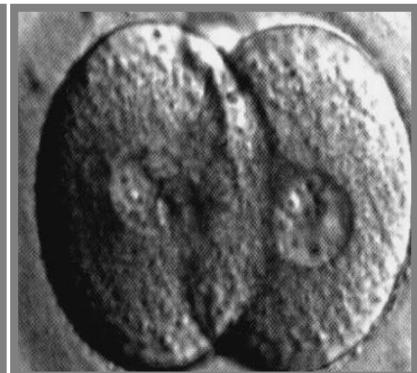
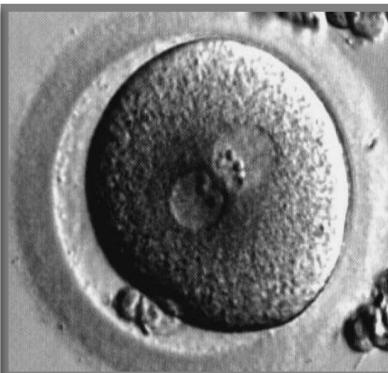
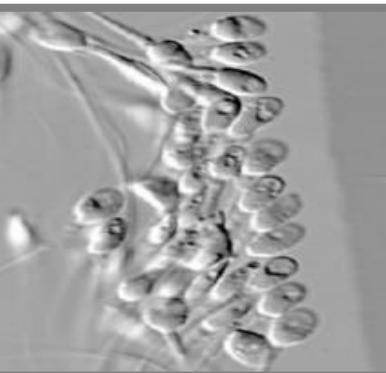
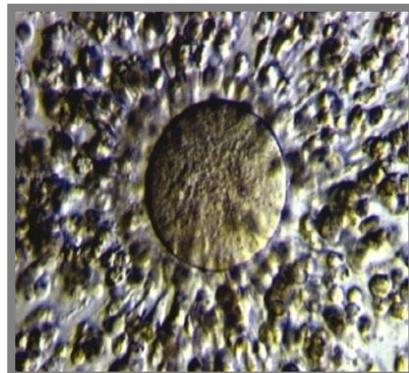
## Day 5 transfer

Human Reproduction Vol.16, No.4 pp. 617–619, 2001

OPINION

To blastocyst or not to blastocyst? That is the question

Michael M.Alper<sup>1,5</sup>, Peter Brinsden<sup>2</sup>, Robert Fischer<sup>3</sup> and Matts Wikland<sup>4</sup>



# Quality Control (QC)

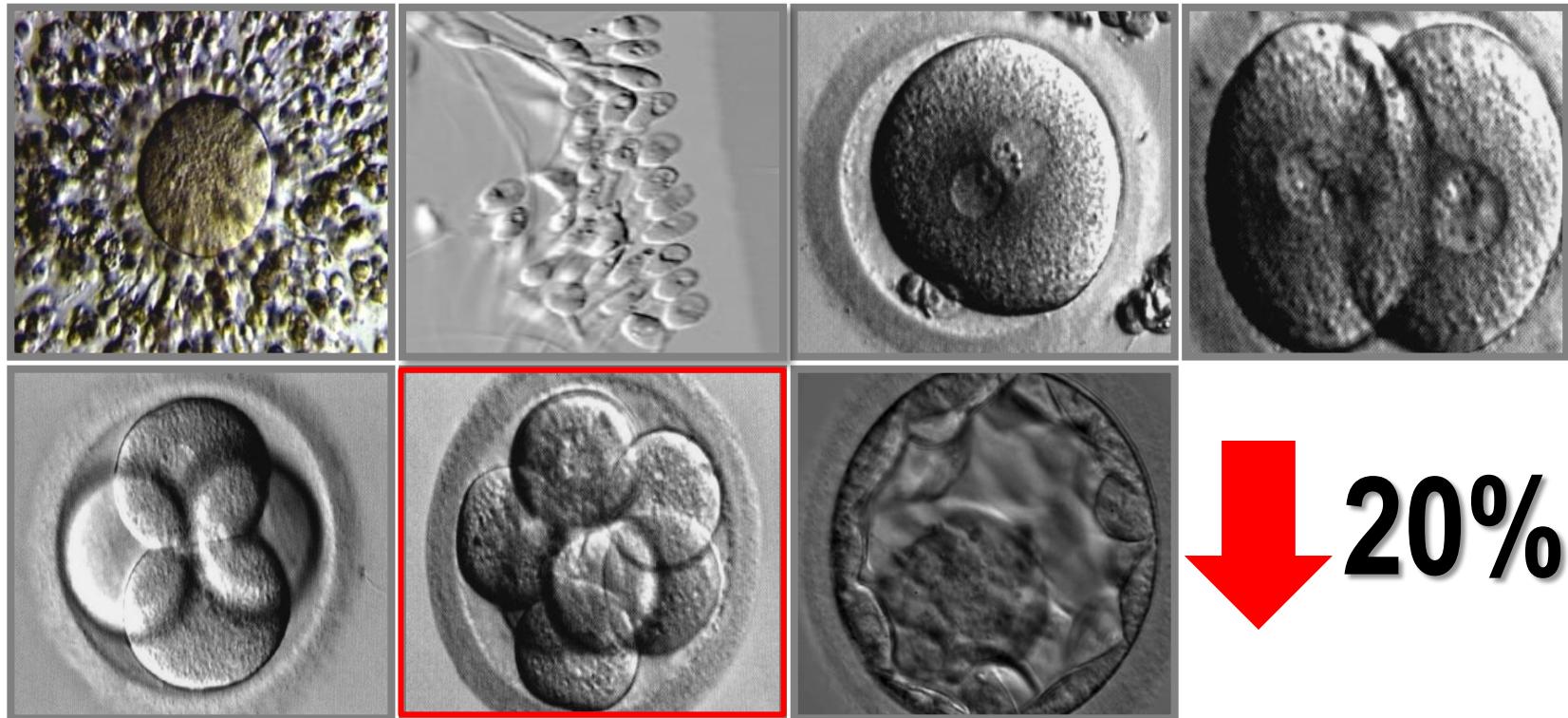
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20%

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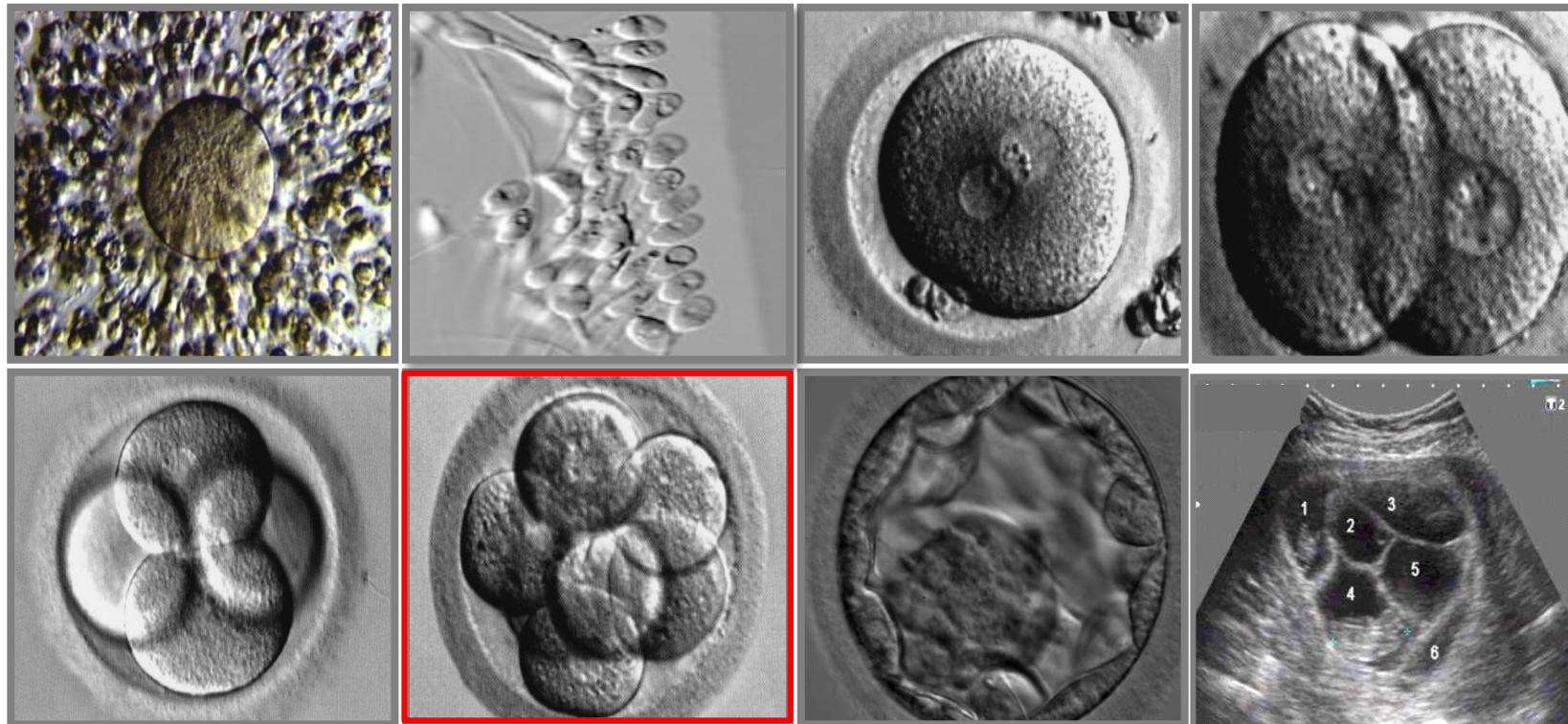
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# Assisted Reproductive Technologies

## Day 5 transfer

Fertility and Sterility® Vol. 99, No. 3, March 1, 2013

### Blastocyst culture and transfer in clinical-assisted reproduction: a committee opinion

The Practice Committees of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine and the Society for Assisted Reproductive Technology  
American Society for Reproductive Medicine, Birmingham, Alabama

Quality Control



Culture Medium

Culture Systems: Low O<sub>2</sub>

Blastocyst Cryopreservation

# Quality Control (QC)

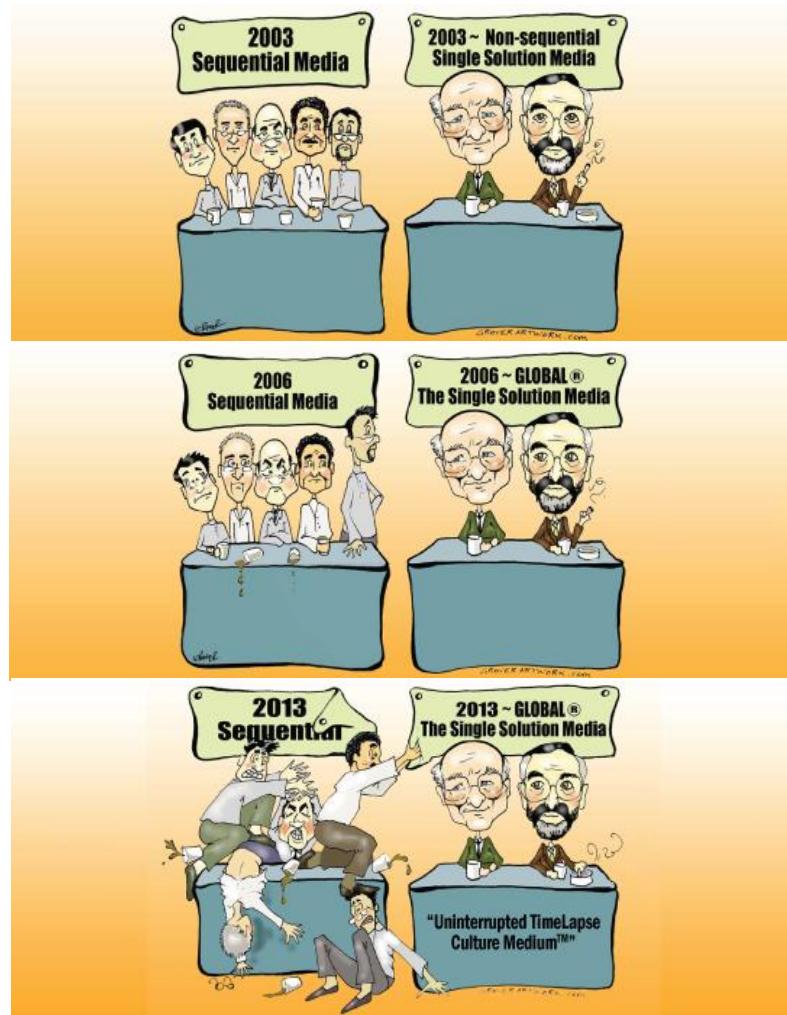
## Culture of the human embryo

- Which media to use?
- Formulations Strategies

→ Universal Media

→ Back to the Nature

→ Let the embryo choose



# Assisted Reproductive Technologies

## Day 5 transfer

Fertility and Sterility® Vol. 99, No. 3, March 1, 2013

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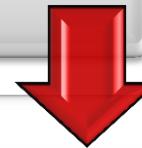


Culture Medium



Culture Systems: Low O<sub>2</sub>

Blastocyst Cryopreservation

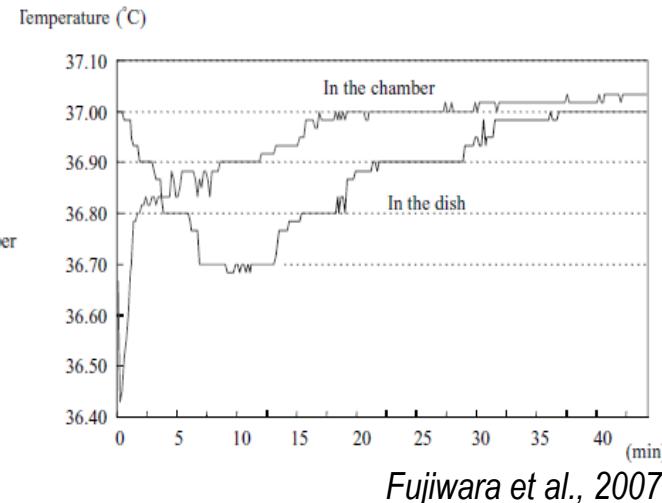
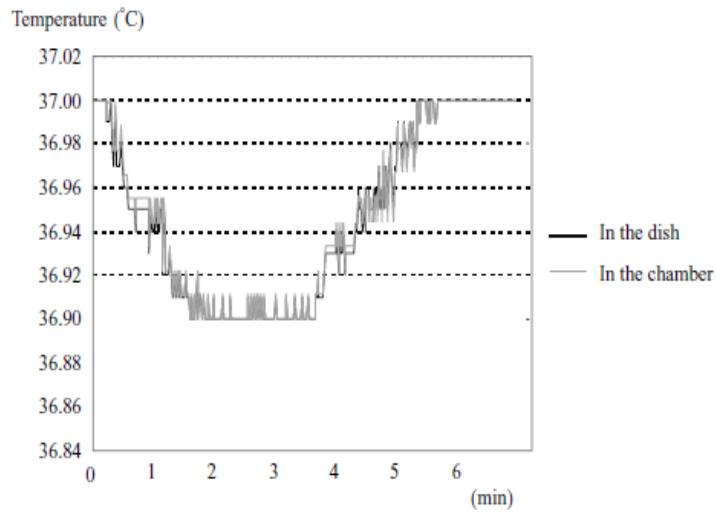


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# Culture Systems: Low O<sub>2</sub>



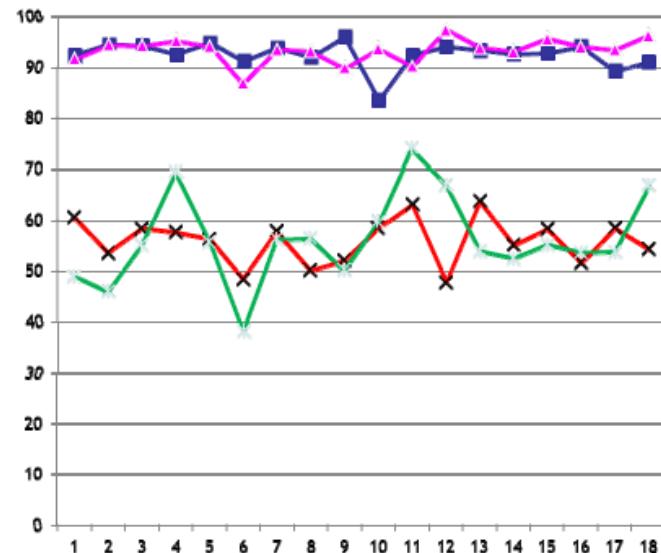
## Benchtop Incubators



Fujiwara et al., 2007

## Blastocyst Cryopreservation

### Vitrification



Embryologist	Nº vit. cycles	Nºvit oocytes
1	54	634
2	128	1459
3	112	1211
4	44	475
5	362	4180
6	32	336
7	306	3562
8	15	171
9	31	362
10	27	367
11	30	374
12	27	348
13	63	737
14	397	4476
15	49	560
16	83	876
17	79	940
18	30	373

Ana Cobo, ALPHA 2012



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# Assisted Reproductive Technologies

## *How to improve results?*



# Assisted Reproductive Technologies

## *Current and future perspectives*



Sperm



Oocyte



Embryo Day 1



Embryo Day 2



Embryo Day 3

# Assisted Reproductive Technologies

## *Current and future perspectives*



Sperm



Oocyte



Embryo Day 1



Embryo Day 2



Embryo Day 3

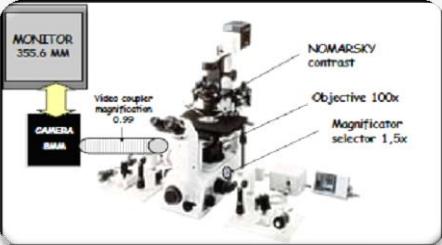


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# SPERM MORPHOLOGY

## MSOME

### *Motile Sperm Organellar Morphology Examination*



The diagram illustrates an inverted light microscope setup. A monitor labeled 'MONITOR 355.6 MM' is connected to a camera labeled 'CAMERA BMRA'. The microscope itself features 'NOMARSKY contrast' and includes an 'Objective 100x' and a 'Magnifier selector 1.5x'.

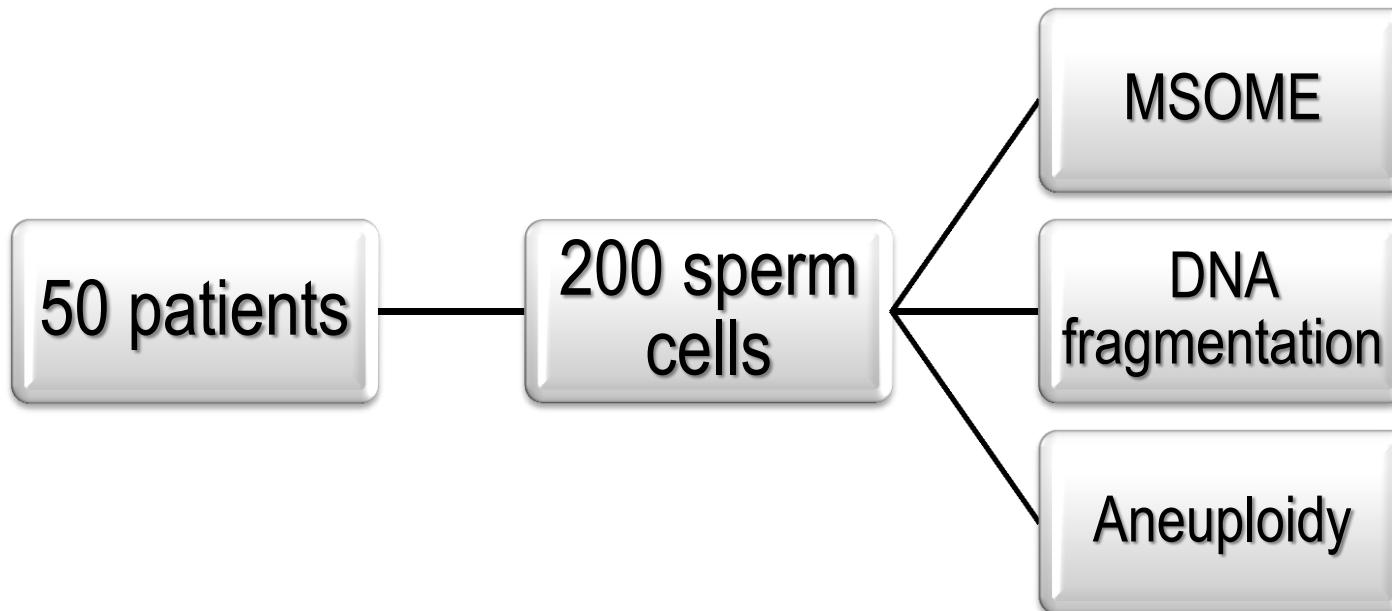
**INVERTED LIGHT MICROSCOPE DIC**

**REAL TIME SELECTION VIABLE SPERM CELL AFTER EVALUATION**

**MAGNIFICATION 6000-13000x**



## Sperm Organelle Morphologic Abnormalities: Contributing Factors and Effects on Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection Cycles Outcomes



Edson Borges, Jr.

UROLOGY 78 (4), 2011

# Sperm Organelle Morphologic Abnormalities: Contributing Factors and Effects on Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection Cycles Outcomes



**Table 1.** Multivariate regression analysis of factors contributing to motile sperm organelle morphology defects incidence with variables including sperm DNA fragmentation percentage, patient's age, and sperm aneuploidy frequency

Predictor Variables	Response Variable MSOME			
		Slope	R <sup>2</sup>	P
Percentage of sperm DNA fragmentation	Normal cells	-0.016	0.030	.145
	Abnormal shape	0.010	0.009	.411
	Abnormal size	0.004	0.189	<.001
	Large vacuoles	0.004	0.067	.029
	Small vacuoles	0.006	0.063	.034
Sperm aneuploidy	Normal cells	0.00291	0.009	.805
	Abnormal shape	0.00115	0.001	.960
	Abnormal size	0.08637	0.006	.528
	Large vacuoles	0.00291	0.009	.805
	Small vacuoles	0.00115	0.001	.960

Edson Borges, Jr.

UROLOGY 78 (4), 2011

# Sperm Organelle Morphologic Abnormalities: Contributing Factors and Effects on Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection Cycles Outcomes



**Table 2.** Multivariate regression analysis of factors contributing to the fertilization and implantation rates and binary logistic regression of factors contributing to pregnancy rate, with variables, including percentage of normal and abnormal cells according to motile sperm organelle morphology

Response Variable	Predictor Variables		<i>R</i> <sup>2</sup>	<i>P</i>
	MSOME	Slope		
Fertilization Rate	Normal cells	0.015	0.040	.0547
	Abnormal shape	-0.004	0.054	.2183
	Abnormal size	-0.002	0.116	.1231
	Large vacuoles	-0.019	0.012	.044
	Small vacuoles	-0.170	0.056	.005
Implantation rate	Normal cells	0.015	0.168	<.001
	Abnormal shape	-0.006	0.002	.290
	Abnormal size	-0.009	0.147	.004
	Large vacuoles	-0.013	0.139	.002
	Small vacuoles	-0.077	0.340	<.001
Pregnancy rate	MSOME	OR	CI	<i>P</i>
	Normal cells	1.158	0.783–1.711	.046
	Abnormal shape	0.860	0.628–1.178	.346
	Abnormal size	0.853	0.735–1.167	.032
	Large vacuoles	0.780	0.630–1.210	.043
	Small vacuoles	1.065	0.953–1.680	.103

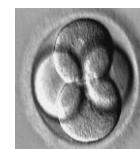
Edson Borges, Jr.

UROLOGY 78 (4), 2011

## Sperm morphological abnormalities visualised at high magnification predict embryonic development, from fertilisation to the blastocyst stage, in couples undergoing ICSI

Amanda Souza Setti · Daniela Paes de Almeida Ferreira Braga ·  
Livia Vingris · Thais Serzedello · Rita de Cássia Sávio Figueira ·  
Assumpto Iaconelli Jr. · Edson Borges Jr.

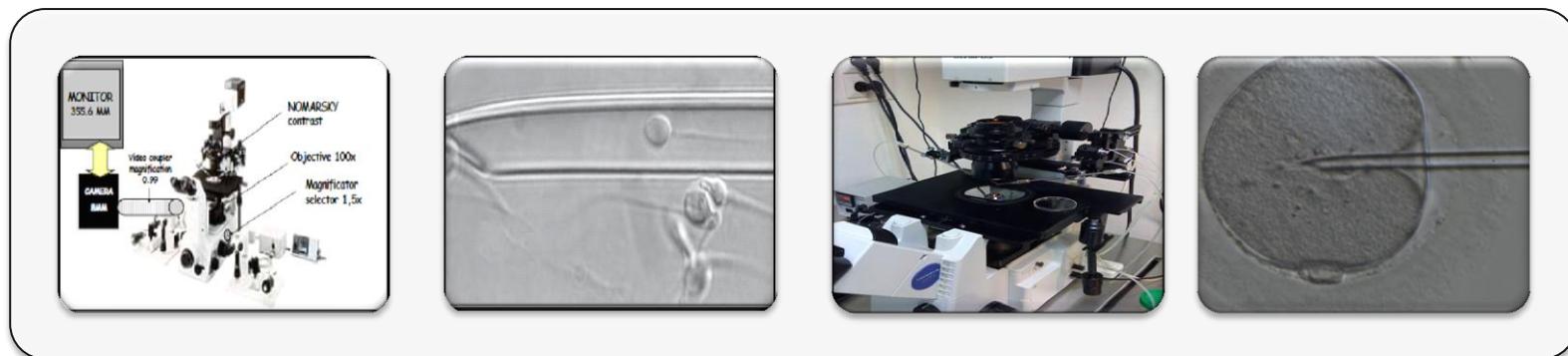
**Table 3** Binary regression analysis of the embryo's characteristics that may be affected by the incidence of LNV sperm

Predictor variable	Response variable	OR	CI	p value	
Incidence of LNV sperm	<b>Day 1</b> 	Zygote formation	0.98	0.95–1.01	NS
		Halo abnormality	1.00	0.94–1.05	NS
		<u>PN size abnormalities</u>	1.21	1.02–1.44	0.029
		<u>PN position abnormality</u>	1.17	1.02–1.36	0.034
		<u>PN distance abnormality</u>	1.27	1.04–1.54	0.022
		<u>NPB number abnormality</u>	1.26	1.16–1.52	0.017
		<u>NPB distribution abnormality</u>	1.29	1.25–1.62	0.015
	<b>Day 2</b> 	Embryo cleavage	1.01	0.98–1.04	NS
		<u>Normal number of blastomeres</u>	0.78	0.69–0.87	<0.001
		Blastomere symmetry	0.96	0.92–1.01	NS
		Normal fragmentation	0.90	0.80–1.02	NS
		Blastomeres showing no visible nucleus	1.07	0.98–1.10	NS
		Multinucleated blastomere	1.05	0.95–1.13	NS
	<b>Day 3</b> 	High-quality embryo	0.99	0.95–1.03	NS
		<u>Normal number of blastomeres</u>	0.75	0.68–0.88	<0.001
		Blastomere symmetry	1.00	0.96–1.03	NS
		Normal fragmentation	0.94	0.88–1.01	NS
	<b>Day 5</b> 	Blastomeres showing no visible nucleus	1.04	0.98–1.08	NS
		Multinucleated blastomere	1.01	0.96–1.07	NS
		High-quality embryo	0.96	0.92–0.99	0.019
		<u>Blastocyst formation</u>	0.90	0.87–0.94	<0.001
		<u>Normal TE</u>	0.84	0.79–0.89	<0.001
		<u>Normal ICM</u>	0.85	0.79–0.92	<0.001
		Grade of expansion	0.97	0.84–1.15	0.1278
		<u>High-quality blastocyst</u>	0.84	0.79–0.89	<0.001

OR odds ratio; CI confidence intervals; LNV large nuclear vacuole; PN pronuclear; NPB nucleolar precursor bodies

# IMSI

## *Intracytoplasmic Morphologically Selected Injection*



**INVERTED  
LIGHT  
MICROSCOPE  
DIC**

**MAGNIFICATION  
6000-13000x**

**INVERTED  
LIGHT  
MICROSCOPE  
HOFFMAN**

**IMSI**

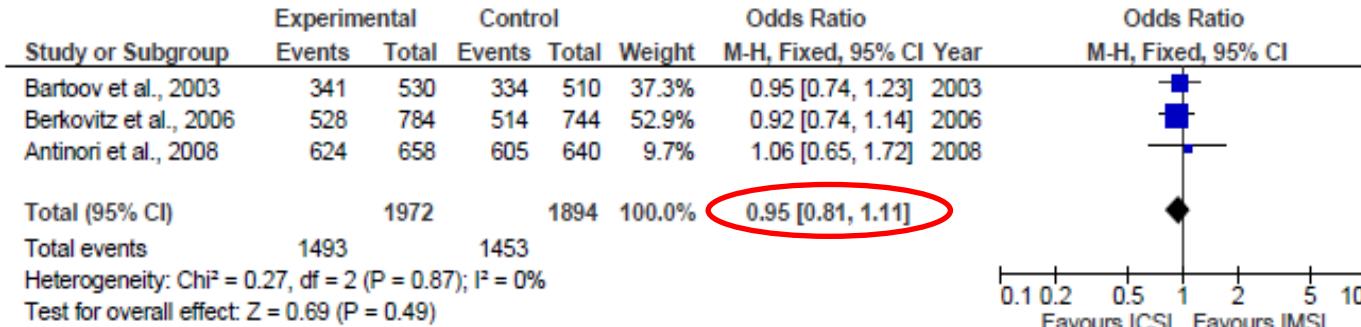


## REVIEW

## Intracytoplasmic sperm injection outcome versus intracytoplasmic morphologically selected sperm injection outcome: a meta-analysis

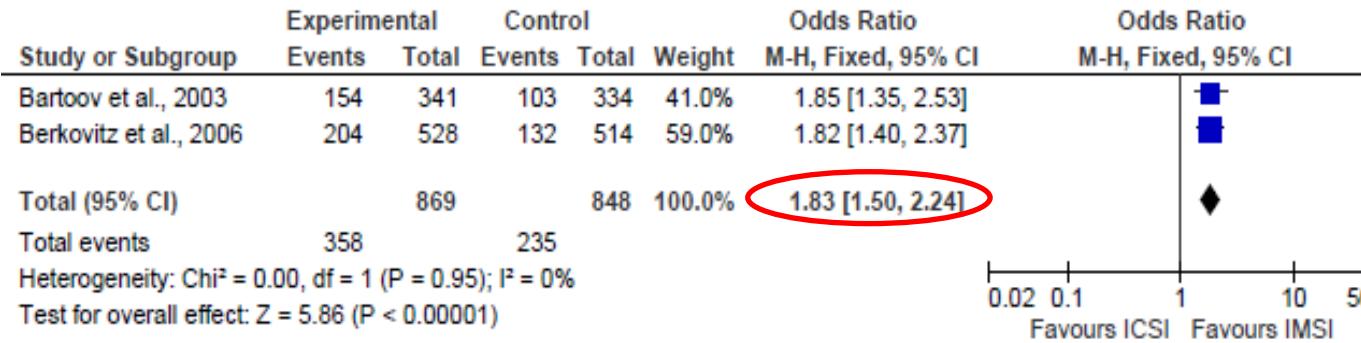
Amanda Souza Setti <sup>a</sup>, Renata Cristina Ferreira <sup>b</sup>,  
 Daniela Paes de Almeida Ferreira Braga <sup>a,b</sup>, Rita de Cássia Sávio Figueira <sup>a,b</sup>,  
 Assumpto Iaconelli Jr <sup>b</sup>, Edson Borges Jr <sup>a,b,\*</sup>

## Fertilization



No significance

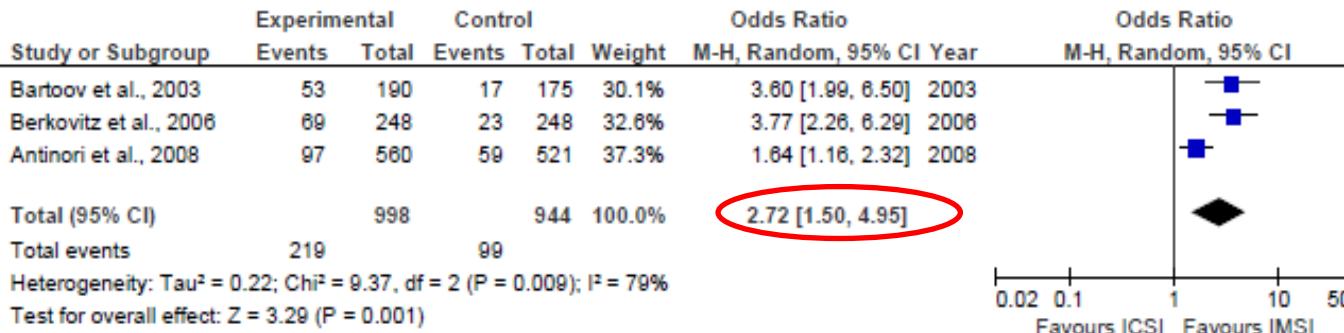
## High-quality embryos



OR: 1.83 (1.50 – 2.24),  $p < 0.001$

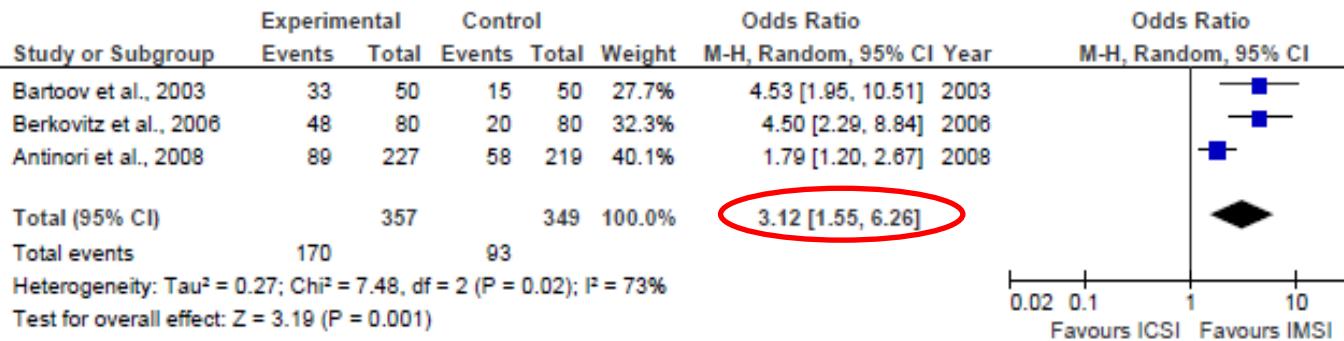


# Implantation



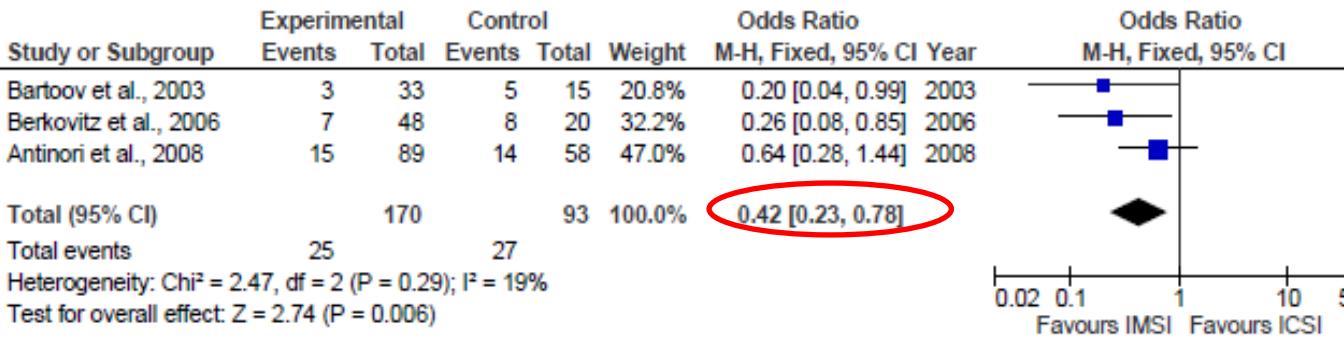
OR: 2.72 (1.50 – 4.95),  $p=0.001$

# Pregnancy



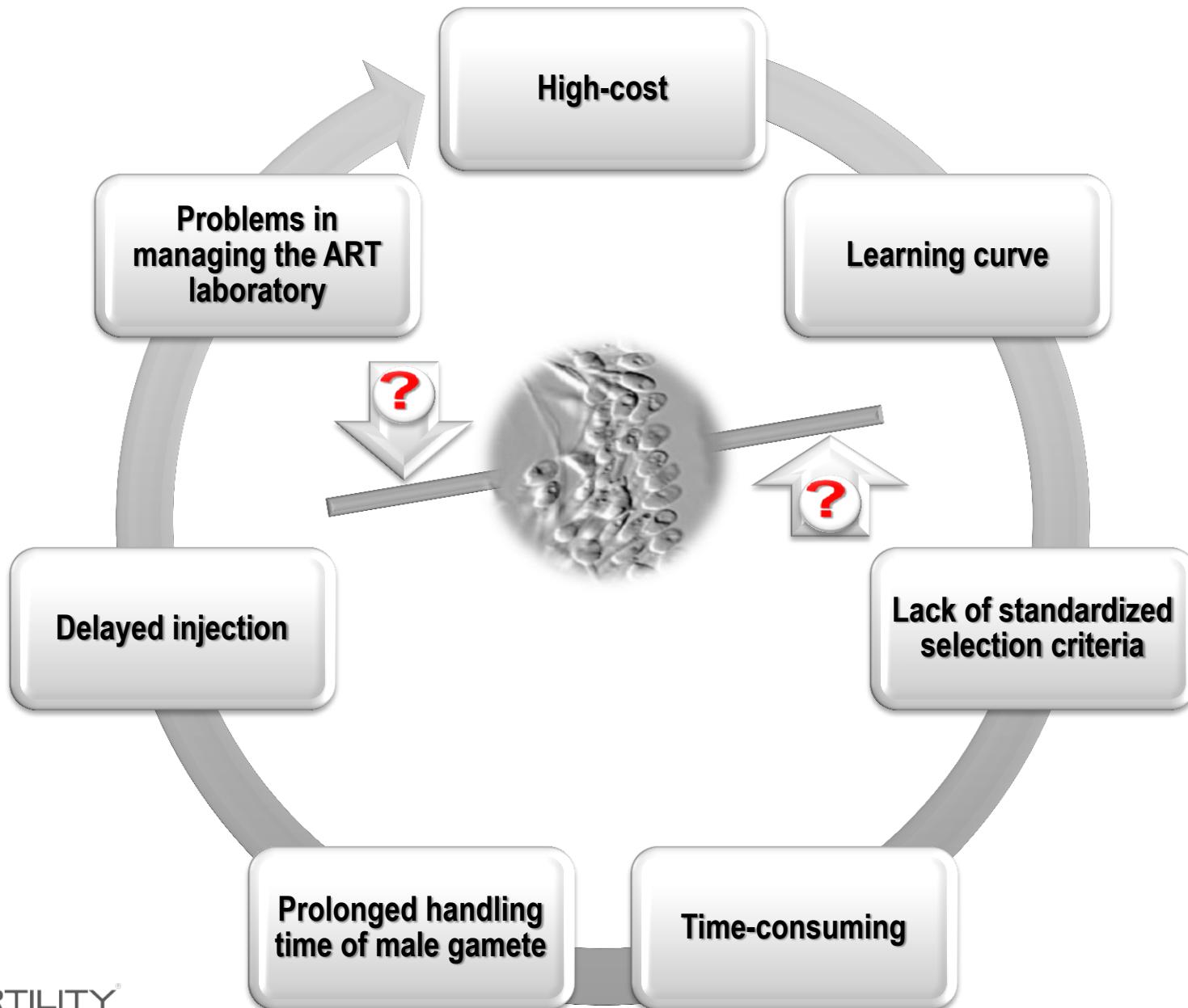
OR: 3.12 (1.55 – 6.26),  $p=0.001$

# Miscarriage



OR: 0.42 (0.23 – 0.78),  $p=0.006$

# IMSI – DRAWBACKS





## IMPLANTATION FAILURE

(Bartoov, 2002 e 2003; Junca, 2004; Berkovitz, 2006; Hazout, 2006; Antinori 2008; Nadalini, 2009; Cassuto, 2009; Wilding, 2011)



## HIGH SPERM DNA FRAGMENTATION RATE

(Hazout, 2006; Wilding, 2011)



## MALE FACTOR

(Balaban, 2010; Wilding, 2011, Setti, 2011)



## LOW BLASTOCYST RATE

(Knez, 2012)



## ADVANCED MATERNAL AGE

(Setti, 2013 )



## UNEXPLAINED INFERTILITY

(Setti, 2013 *in press*)





## IMPLANTATION FAILURE

(Bartoov, 2002 e 2003; Junca, 2004; Berkovitz, 2006; Hazout, 2006; Antinori 2008; Nadalini, 2009; Cassuto, 2009; Wilding, 2011)



## HIGH SPERM DNA FRAGMENTATION RATE

(Hazout, 2006; Wilding, 2011)



## MALE FACTOR

(Balaban, 2010; Wilding, 2011, Setti, 2011)



## LOW BLASTOCYST RATE

(Knez, 2012)



## ADVANCED MATERNAL AGE

(Setti, 2013 )



## UNEXPLAINED INFERTILITY

(Setti, 2013 *in press*)



# IMSI – MALE FACTOR

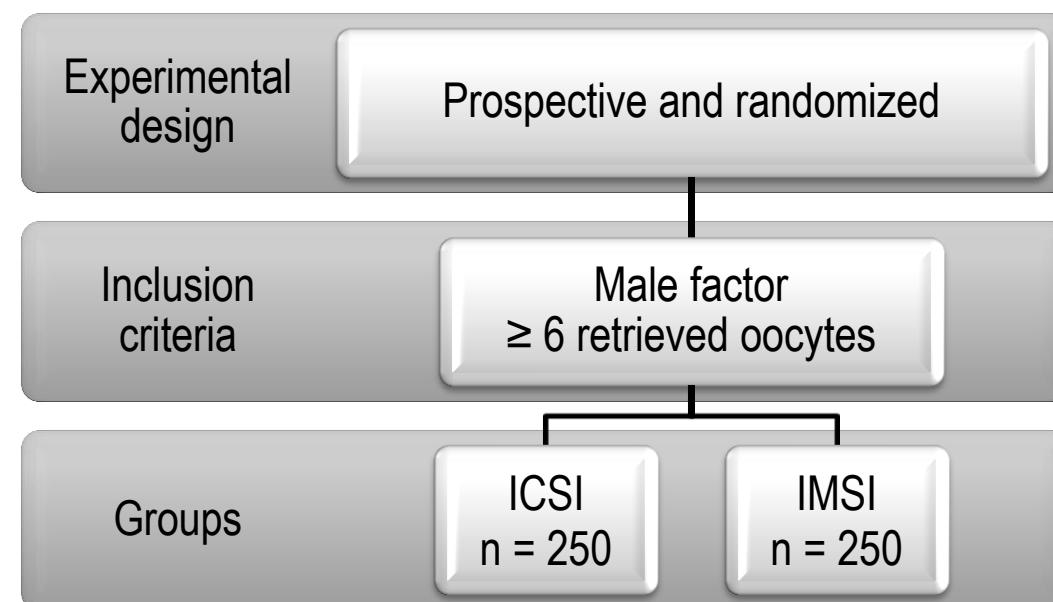
Fertility and Sterility® Vol. 95, No. 8, June 30, 2011 **2711**

Edson Borges Jr., M.D., Ph.D.<sup>a,b,c</sup>

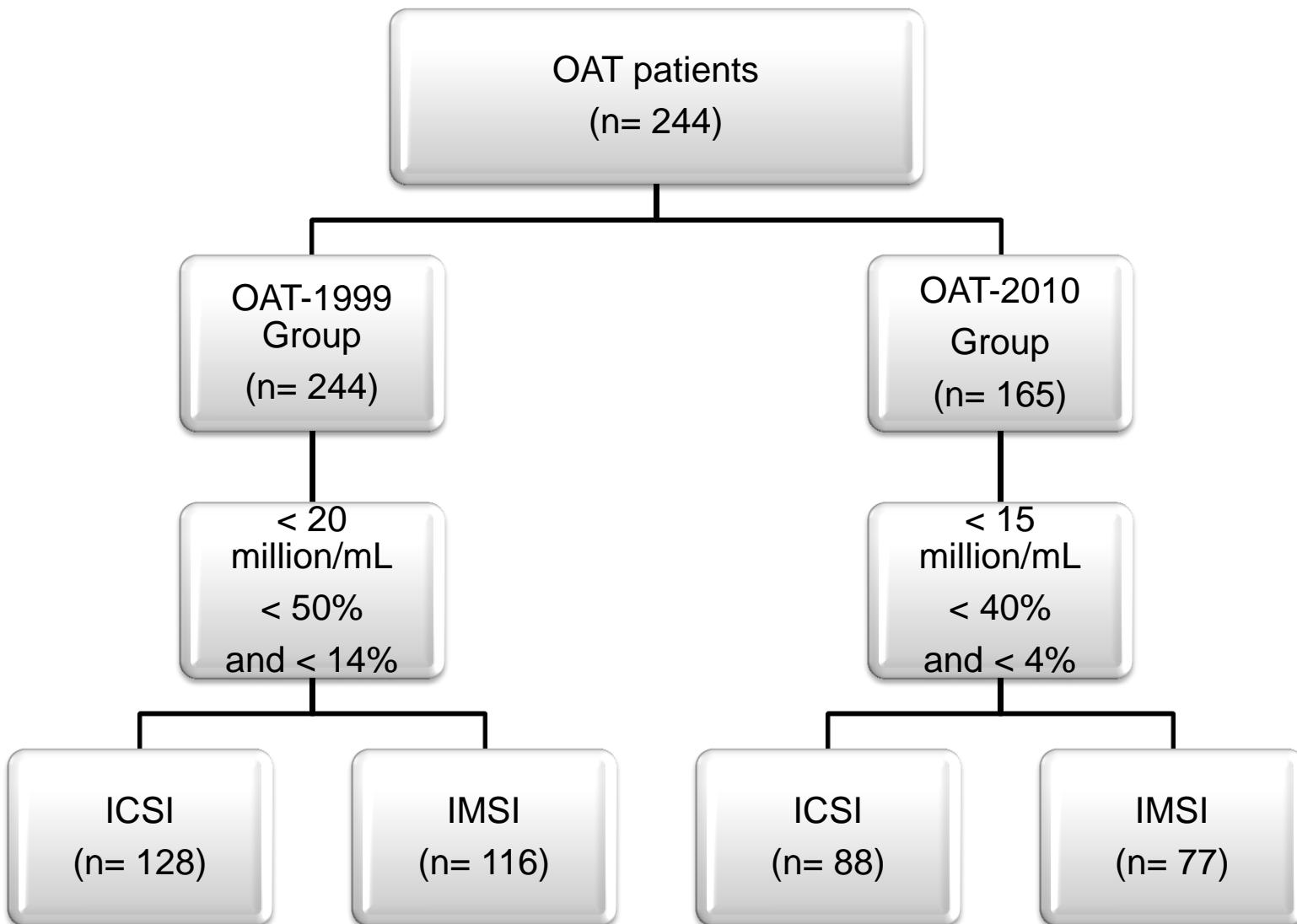
<sup>a</sup> Sapientiae Institute—Educational and Research Center in Assisted Reproduction, São Paulo, Brazil

<sup>b</sup> Fertility-Assisted Fertilization Center, São Paulo, Brazil

## Intracytoplasmic morphologically selected sperm injection benefits for patients with oligoasthenozoospermia according to the 2010 World Health Organization reference values



# IMSI – MALE FACTOR



# IMSI – MALE FACTOR

IMSI efficacy → OAT-2010 Group

Outcome	OR	CI	P value
Fertilization	4.3	2.2 – 6.4	0.004
Top quality embryos	0.87	0.6 – 1.8	0.784
Pregnancy	1.67	1.2 – 3.0	0.045
Implantation	2.6	1.2 – 5.7	0.013
Miscarriage	1.2	0.6 – 1.6	0.487



## IMPLANTATION FAILURE

(Bartoov, 2002 e 2003; Junca, 2004; Berkovitz, 2006; Hazout, 2006; Antinori 2008; Nadalini, 2009; Cassuto, 2009; Wilding, 2011)



## HIGH SPERM DNA FRAGMENTATION RATE

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Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

## European Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Reproductive Biology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ejogrb](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ejogrb)



Intracytoplasmic morphologically selected sperm injection is beneficial in cases of advanced maternal age: a prospective randomized study

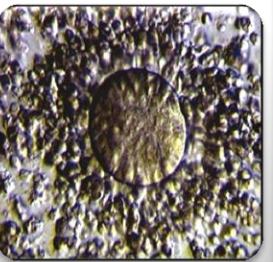
A.S. Setti <sup>a,b</sup>, R.C.S. Figueira <sup>b</sup>, D.P.A.F. Braga <sup>a,b</sup>, T. Aoki <sup>c</sup>, A. Iaconelli Jr. <sup>a,b,\*</sup>, E. Borges Jr. <sup>a,b,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Instituto Sapientiae – Centro de Estudos e Pesquisa em Reprodução Humana Assistida, Rua Vieira Maciel, 62, 04503-040 São Paulo, SP, Brazil

<sup>b</sup> Fertility – Centro de Fertilização Assistida, Av. Brigadeiro Luís Antonio, 4545, 01401-002 São Paulo, SP, Brazil

<sup>c</sup> Faculdade de Ciências Médicas da Santa Casa de São Paulo, Rua Dr. Cesário Motta Junior, 61, 01401-002 São Paulo, SP, Brazil

# OOCYTE REPAIR



Clinic appointment

Eligible

Not eligible

Discuss trial,  
invite patient  
to participate

Standard care

Agree to  
participate

Does not agree  
to participate

Consent

Randomization

IMSI  
N = 33

ICSI  
N = 33



FERTILITY  
MEDICAL GROUP

# IMSI – MATERNAL AGE

Variable	IMSI group (n=33)	ICSI group (n=33)	p value
Fertilization rate (%)	67,1	69,7	0,727
High-quality embryos rate on D3 (%)	48,5	44,3	0,615
Cycles with embryo transfer (%)	30/33 (90,9)	29/33 (87,9)	0,688
Miscarriage rate (%)	6/18 (33,3)	0/4 (0,0)	0,540



## IMPLANTATION FAILURE

(Bartoov, 2002 e 2003; Junca, 2004; Berkovitz, 2006; Hazout, 2006; Antinori 2008; Nadalini, 2009; Cassuto, 2009; Wilding, 2011)



## HIGH SPERM DNA FRAGMENTATION RATE

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## LOW BLASTOCYST RATE

(Knez, 2012)



## ADVANCED MATERNAL AGE

(Setti, 2013 )



## UNEXPLAINED INFERTILITY

(Setti, 2013 *in press*)



# IMSI – UNEXPLAINED INFERTILITY

Variable	IMSI group (n=36)	ICSI group (n=36)	p value
High-quality embryos rate on D3 (%)	53,5	59,6	0,412
Mean number of transferred embryos	$2,8 \pm 0,5$	$2,7 \pm 0,6$	0,546

MEDLINE

April 2013

- Articles ICSI x IMSI

Keywords

- “ICSI”, “IMSI”,  
“MSOME”, “high  
magnification IMSI”

Selected studies

n = 12

Inclusion criteria

Previous ICSI failures  
n = 6

Male factor  
n = 8

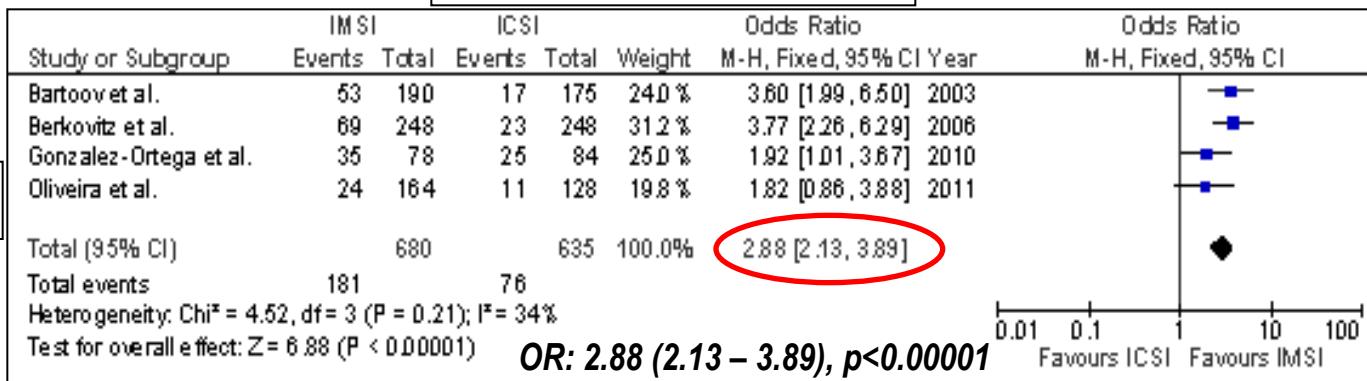
Cycles

n = 440 IMSI  
n = 667 ICSI

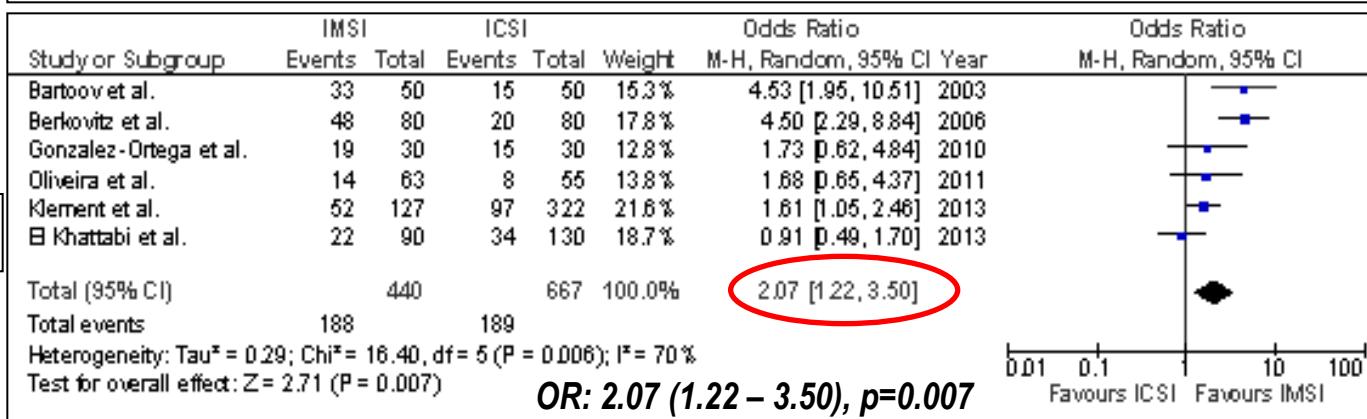
n = 1200 IMSI  
n = 1999 ICSI

## Previous ICSI failures

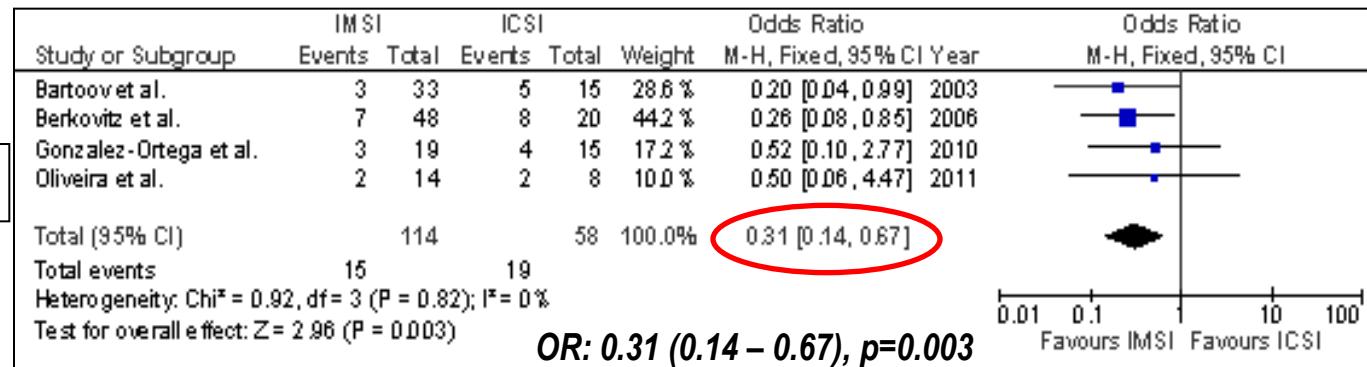
**IR**



**PR**

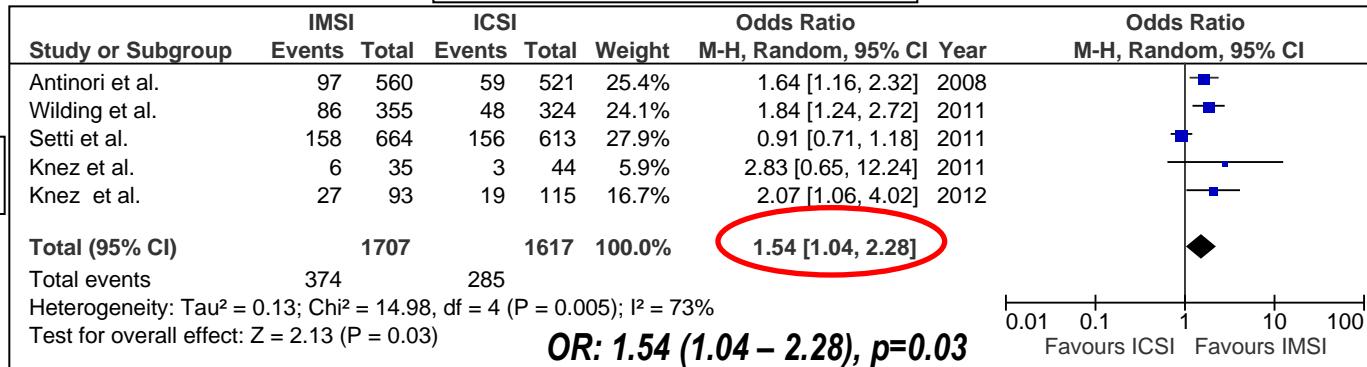


**MR**

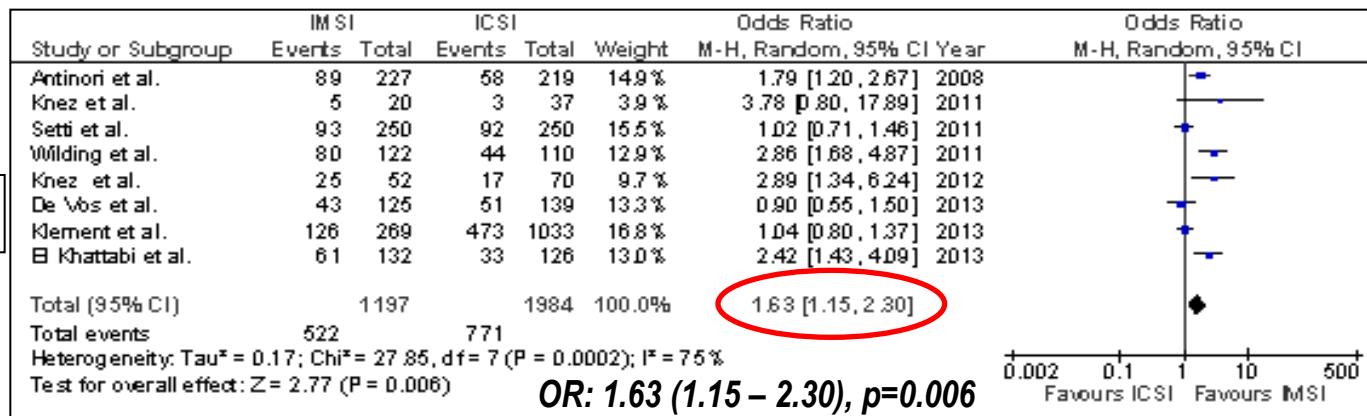


## Male factor

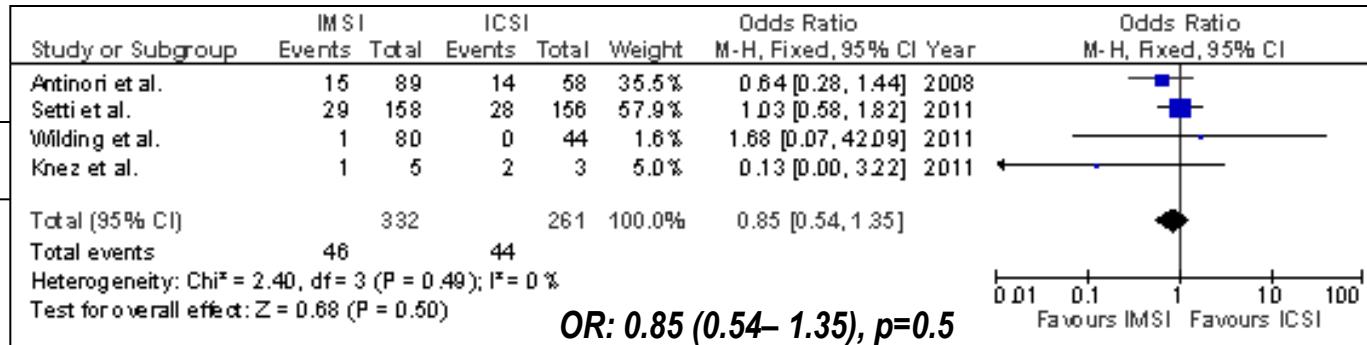
**IR**



**PR**



**MR**



# Assisted Reproductive Technologies

## *Current and future perspectives*



Sperm



Oocyte



Embryo Day 1



Embryo Day 2



Embryo Day 3



FERTILITY  
MEDICAL GROUP

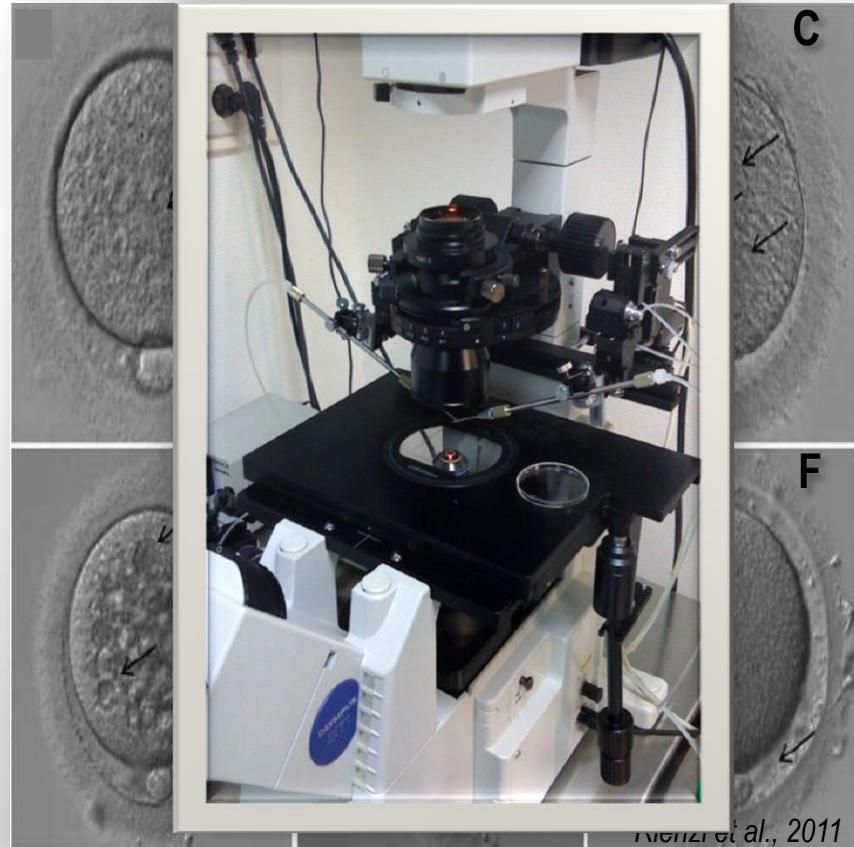
# OOCYTE MORPHOLOGY

## Cytoplasmic features

- Diffuse cytoplasmic granularity (**A**)
- Centrally located cytoplasmic granular area (**B**)
- Dark granular cytoplasm
- Smooth endoplasmic reticulum clusters (**C**)
- Vacuoles (**D**)
- Cytoplasmic inclusions

## Extracytoplasmic features:

- Large / Polar body
- Abnormal zona pellucida shape or color (**E**)
- Perivitelline space granularity (**F**)
- Large perivitelline space (**F**)
- Abnormal shape of the oocyte



Figueira et al., 2010; Rienzi et al., 2011; Setti et al., 2011

# OOCYTE MORPHOLOGY

Contributing factors:



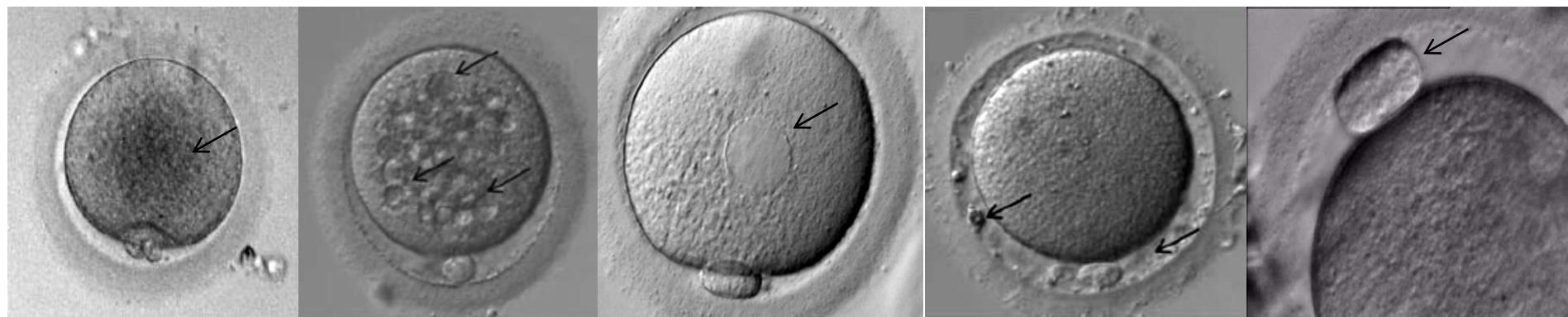
PATIENT  
AGE

FSH TOTAL  
DOSE

ASPIRATED  
FOLLICLES

OOCYTE  
YIELD

MII  
RATE

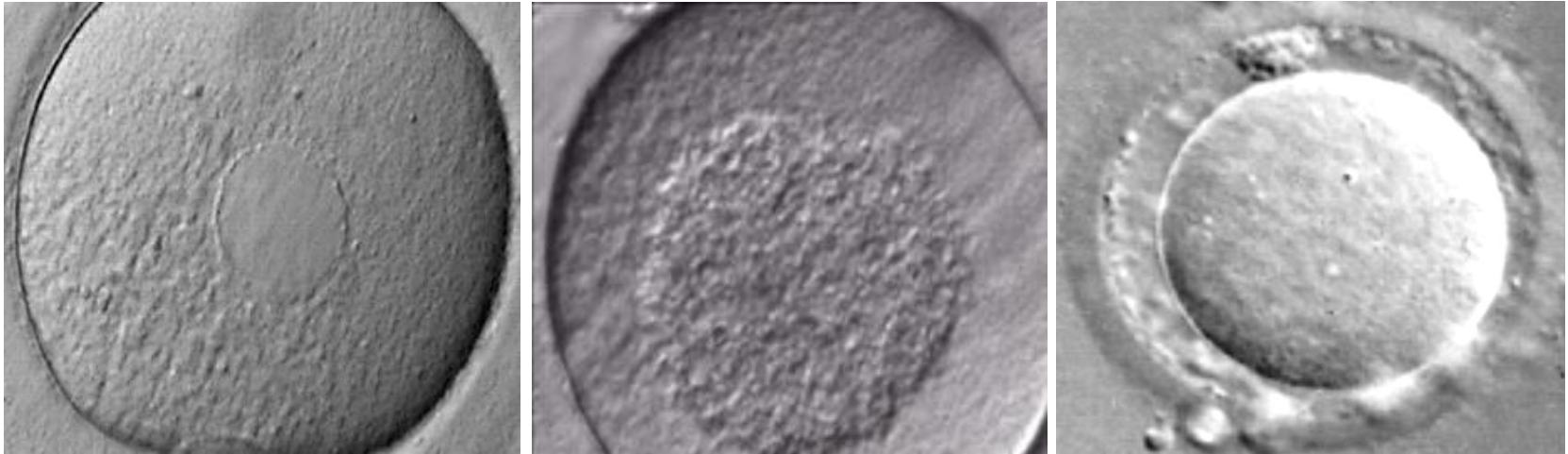


ICSI outcome effects:



FERTILIZATION      EMBRYO QUALITY

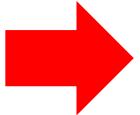
# OOCYTE MORPHOLOGY



**Metaphase II human oocyte morphology:  
contributing factors and effects on  
fertilization potential and embryo  
developmental ability in ICSI cycles**

Figueira et al., Fertil Steril 2010

3148 oocytes



60.2% at  
least one  
morphologic  
abnormality

**TABLE 1**

General characteristics of stimulation ICSI cycles.	
Cycles (n)	350
Age (yrs)	34.2 ± 4.7
Total gonadotropin dose (IU)	2,480 ± 756
E <sub>2</sub> concentration on hCG day (pg/mL)	1,705 ± 1,420
Aspirated follicles (n)	16.9 ± 13.2
Retrieved oocytes (n)	11.8 ± 9.2
Retrieved oocytes/no. of follicles (%)	69
MII oocytes (n)	8.7 ± 6.9
MII oocytes/total no. of retrieved oocytes (%)	71.2
Normal fertilization rate (%)	68.7
Rate of high-quality embryos (%)	62.1

*Note:* Values expressed as mean ± SD. MII = metaphase II.

*Figueira. Correspondence. Fertil Steril 2009.*

# OOCYTE MORPHOLOGY

Contributing factors and effects on oocyte morphology	Odds ratio (95% CI)	P value
<b>Maternal age</b>		
Large perivitelline space size	1.09 (1.07 - 1.11)	<0.001
Perivitelline space granularity	1.03 (1.01 - 1.05)	<0.001
Vacuoles	1.07 (1.04 - 1.11)	<0.001
<b>GnRH agonist protocol*</b>		
Large perivitelline space size	1.83 (1.49 - 2.25)	<0.001
Perivitelline space granularity	1.23 (1.02 - 1.48)	0.034
<b>Total dose of FSH*</b>		
Perivitelline space granularity	1.10 (1.00 - 1.20)	0.040
<b>Number of aspirated follicles*</b>		
Increased cytoplasmic granularity	1.02 (1.01 - 1.02)	<0.001
<b>Oocyte yield (no. of retrieved oocytes/no. follicles)*</b>		
Increased cytoplasmic granularity	1.01 (1.00 - 1.01)	0.016
Perivitelline space granularity	1.02 (1.01 - 1.02)	0.016
<b>MII oocyte rate (no. of MII oocyte/number of retrieved oocyte)*</b>		
Fragmented first polar body	1.01 (1.00 - 1.01)	0.013

# OOCYTE MORPHOLOGY

Oocyte abnormalities effects on fertilization and embryo quality	Odds ratio (95% CI)	P value
<b><i>Fertilization rate</i></b>		
Increased cytoplasmic granularity	1.22 (1.02 - 1.45)	0.010
Vacuoles	1.46 (1.02 - 2.10)	0.031
Large perivitelline space size	1.24 (1.02 - 1.52)	0.004
<b><i>Embryo quality on the third day of development</i></b>		
Perivitelline space granularity	1.32 (1.04 - 1.69)	0.023

# OOCYTE MORPHOLOGY

Contributing factors:



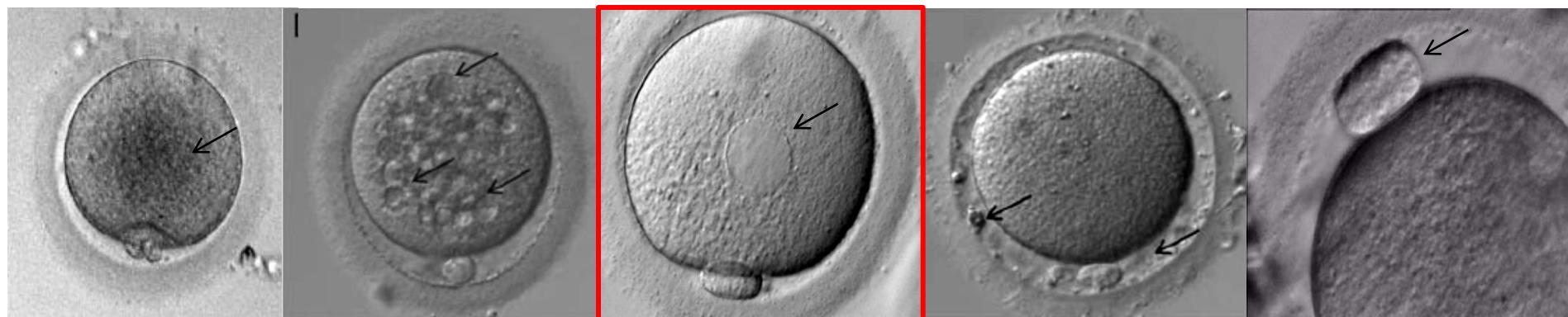
PATIENT  
AGE

FSH TOTAL  
DOSE

ASPIRATED  
FOLLICLES

OOCYTE  
YIELD

MII  
RATE



Human Reproduction, Vol.26, No.6 pp. 1270–1283, 2011  
Advanced Access publication on April 18, 2011 doi:10.1093/humrep/der037

human  
reproduction

ORIGINAL ARTICLE ESHRE pages

## The Istanbul consensus workshop on embryo assessment: proceedings of an expert meeting<sup>†</sup>

Alpha Scientists in Reproductive Medicine and ESHRE Special  
Interest Group of Embryology

Figueira et al., Fertil Steril 2010

# OOCYTE MORPHOLOGY

European Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Reproductive Biology 159 (2011) 364–370



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

European Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology and  
Reproductive Biology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ejogrb](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ejogrb)



## Relationship between oocyte abnormal morphology and intracytoplasmic sperm injection outcomes: a meta-analysis

Amanda S. Setti<sup>a</sup>, Rita C.S. Figueira<sup>b</sup>, Daniela P.A.F. Braga<sup>b</sup>, Simone S. Colturato<sup>b</sup>,  
Assumpto Iaconelli Jr.<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Edson Borges Jr.<sup>a,b,\*</sup>

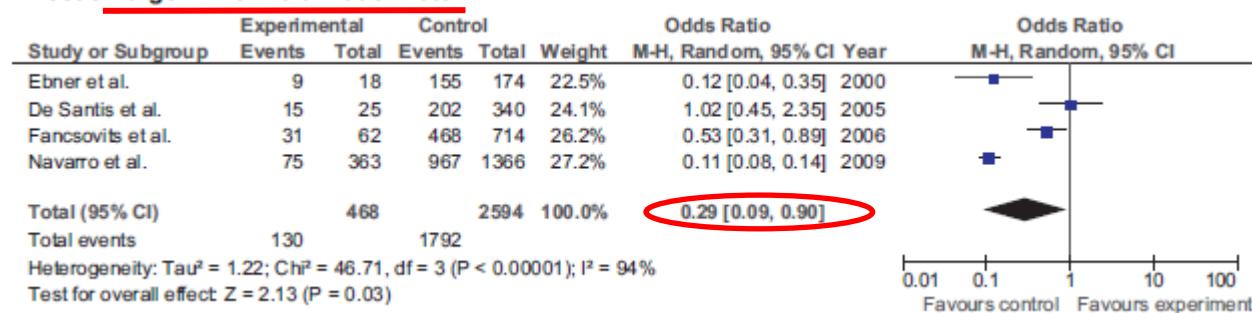
<sup>a</sup> Sapientiae Institute – Educational and Research Center in Assisted Reproduction, Rua Vieira Maciel, 62, São Paulo, SP, Zip 04503-040, Brazil

<sup>b</sup> Fertility – Assisted Fertilisation Center, Av. Brigadeiro Luis Antonio, 4545, São Paulo, SP, Zip 01401-002, Brazil

### Condensation

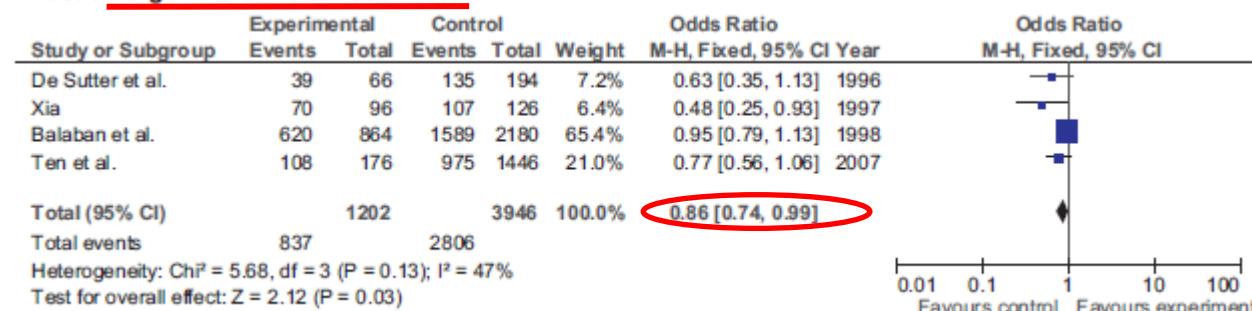
Our meta-analysis demonstrates that the probability of an oocyte becoming fertilised is significantly reduced by the presence of intracytoplasmic inclusions and extracytoplasmic dysmorphisms.

### Effect of large IPB on fertilization rate



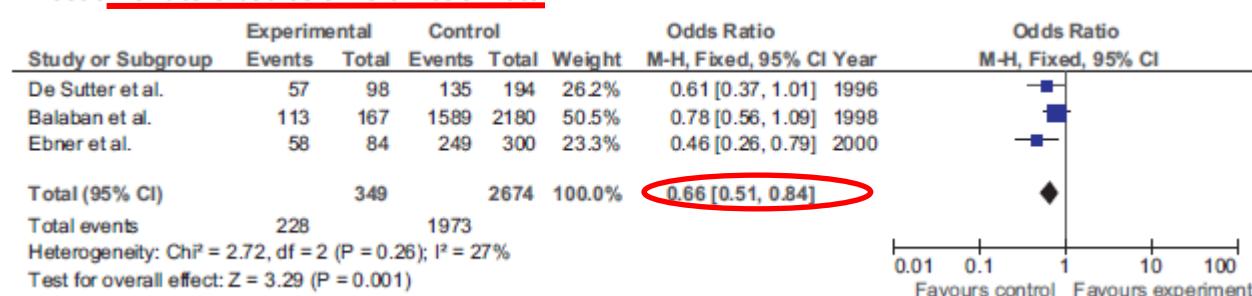
**OR: 0.29 (0.09 – 0.90), p<0.00001**

### Effect of large PVS on fertilization rate



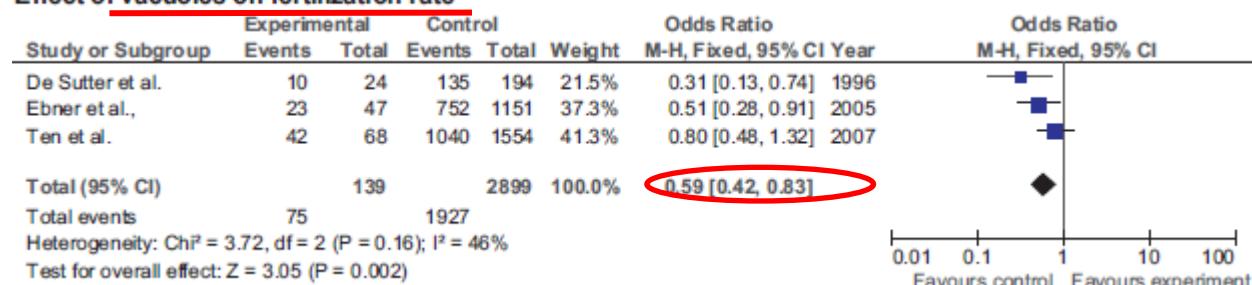
**OR: 0.86 (0.74 – 0.99), p=0.03**

### Effect of refractile bodies on fertilization rate



**OR: 0.66 (0.51 – 0.84), p=0.001**

### Effect of vacuoles on fertilization rate



**OR: 0.59 (0.42 – 0.83), p=0.002**

# Influence of oocyte dysmorphisms on blastocyst formation and quality

Daniela Paes Almeida Ferreira Braga, D.V.M., M.Sc.,<sup>a,b</sup> Amanda S. Setti, M.Sc.,<sup>a,b</sup>  
Rita de Cássia S. Figueira, M.Sc.,<sup>a</sup> Rogério Bonassi Machado, M.D., Ph.D.,<sup>c</sup> Assumpto Iaconelli Jr., M.D.,<sup>a</sup>  
and Edson Borges Jr., M.D., Ph.D.<sup>a,b</sup>

Ordinal regression analysis of oocyte dysmorphisms that may affect the blastocysts' degree of expansion and hatching status.

Response variable	Predictor variable	P value	OR	CI: lower	CI: upper
Degree of expansion and hatching status	Cytoplasmic granularity	.084	1.33	0.96	1.84
	Cytoplasmic color	.083	1.88	0.92	3.82
	Vacuoles in the ooplasm	.178	1.21	0.92	1.60
	Aggregates of smooth ERC	.020 <sup>a</sup>	0.61	0.40	0.93
	Large PVS	<.001 <sup>a</sup>	0.80	0.71	0.91
	PVS granularity	.955	1.45	1.22	0.91
	ZP abnormalities	.235	0.84	0.64	1.12
	Shape abnormalities	.002 <sup>a</sup>	0.75	0.24	0.95

<sup>a</sup> Statistically significant.

Braga. Oocyte defects and blastocyst quality. *Fertil Steril* 2013.

Binary regression analysis of oocyte dysmorphisms that may affect the blastocysts' inner cell mass and trophectoderm quality.

Response variable	Predictor variable	P value	OR	CI: lower	CI: upper
ICM quality	Cytoplasmic granularity	.998	1.15	0.95	2.15
	Cytoplasmic color	.708	1.87	0.92	2.68
	Vacuoles in the ooplasm	.983	1.01	0.31	3.28
	Aggregates of smooth ERC	.005 <sup>a</sup>	0.65	0.12	0.85
	Large PVS	.045 <sup>a</sup>	0.85	0.63	0.98
	PVS granularity	.158	0.53	0.22	1.28
	ZP abnormalities	.122	2.09	0.82	2.35
	Shape abnormalities.	.763	0.74	0.10	3.01
TE cell quality	Cytoplasmic granularity	.075	0.50	0.24	0.98
	Cytoplasmic color	.153	0.24	0.03	1.71
	Vacuoles in the ooplasm	.746	0.92	0.57	1.49
	Aggregates of smooth ERC	.731	1.13	0.55	2.33
	Large PVS	<.001 <sup>a</sup>	0.50	0.36	0.71
	PVS granularity	.210	1.15	0.93	1.42
	ZP abnormalities	.333	1.27	0.79	1.42
	Shape abnormalities.	.618	0.84	0.41	1.70

<sup>a</sup> Statistically significant.

Braga. Oocyte defects and blastocyst quality. *Fertil Steril* 2013.

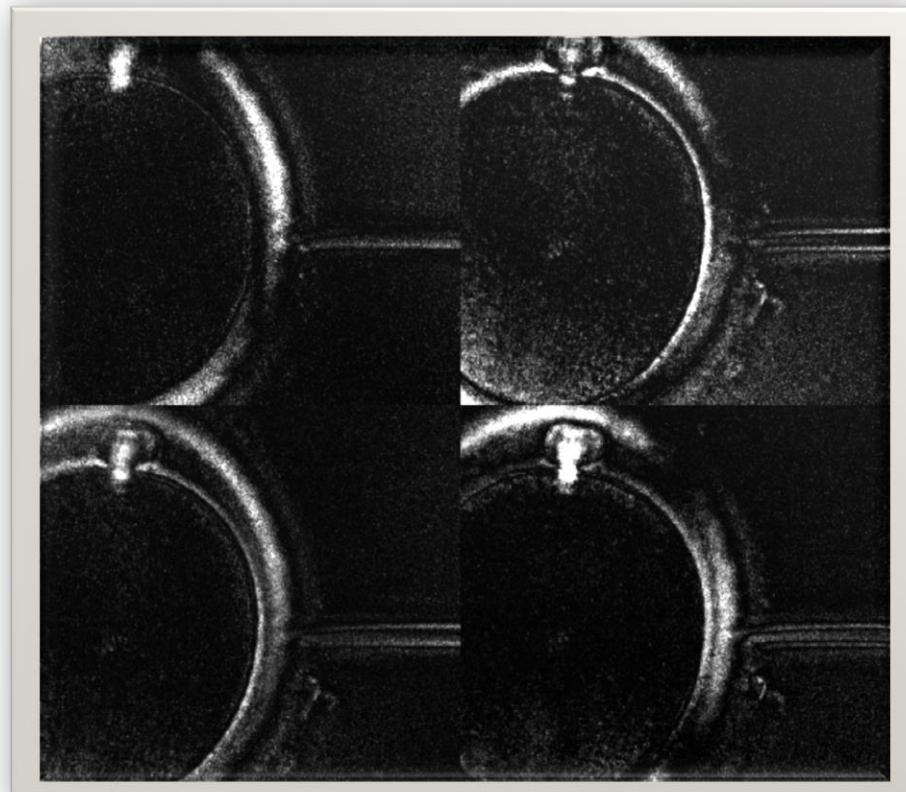
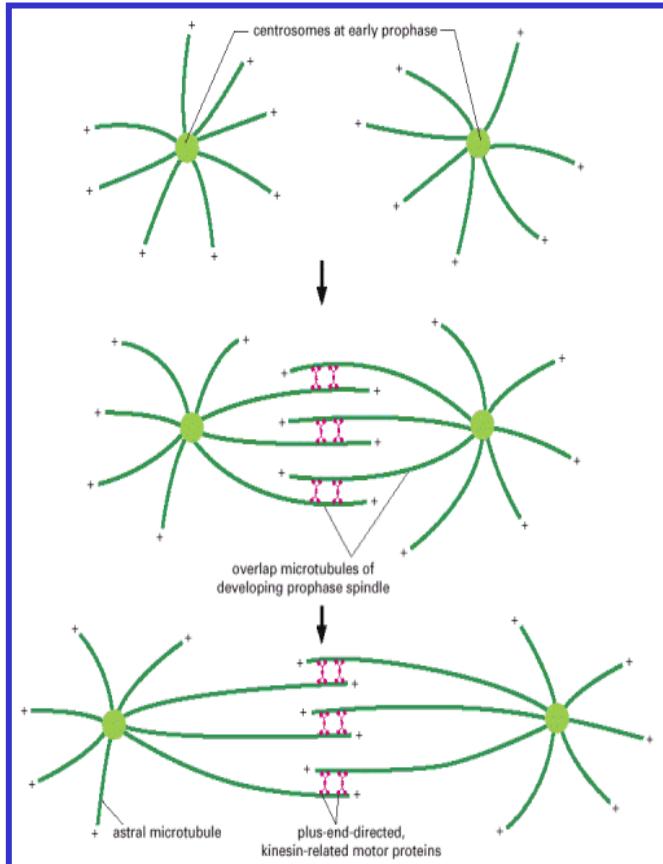
# OOCYTE SUBCELLULAR STRUCTURES

Human Reproduction Update, Vol.17, No.5 pp. 654–666, 2011  
Advanced Access publication on April 29, 2011 doi:10.1093/humupd/dmr016

human  
reproduction  
update

## Gamete competence assessment by polarizing optics in assisted reproduction

Markus Montag<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Maria Köster<sup>1</sup>, Katrin van der Ven<sup>1</sup>,  
and Hans van der Ven<sup>1</sup>



# Spindle imaging: a marker for embryo development and implantation

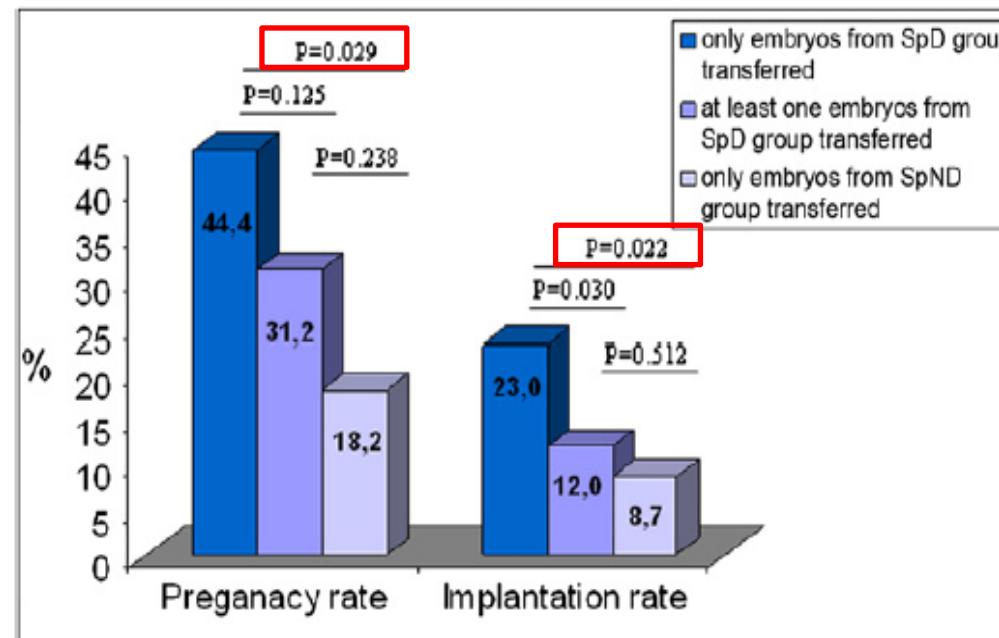
Camila Madaschi, B.Sc.,<sup>a</sup> Tatiana Carvalho de Souza Bonetti, M.Sc.,<sup>b</sup> Daniela Paes de Almeida Ferreira Braga, M.Sc.,<sup>a,b</sup> Fabio Firmbach Pasqualotto, M.D., Ph.D.,<sup>c</sup> Assumpto Iaconelli, Jr., M.D.,<sup>a,b</sup> and Edson Borges, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Fertility-Assisted Fertilization Center, São Paulo; <sup>b</sup> Sapientiae Institute, São Paulo; and <sup>c</sup> Institute of Biotechnology, University of Caxias do Sul, Caxias do Sul, Brazil

Fertility and Sterility® Vol. 90, No. 1, July 2008

## FIGURE 2

Pregnancy and implantation rates of the three different transfer sets.



Madaschi. Spindle imaging and embryo development. Fertil Steril 2008.

# OOCYTE SUBCELLULAR STRUCTURES

Zona pellucida birefringence score and meiotic spindle visualization in relation to embryo development and ICSI outcomes



**Table 3.** Implantation, pregnancy and miscarriage rates in the three different transfer groups.

Groups	<i>HB transfer</i>	<i>Combined transfer</i>	<i>LB transfer</i>	P-value
<i>n</i>	20	74	36	
Implantation rate <sup>a</sup> (%)	32.2 <sup>a</sup>	23.2 <sup>a,b</sup>	12.6 <sup>b</sup>	0.041
Pregnancy rate (%)	60.0 (12/20) <sup>a</sup>	50.0 (37/74) <sup>a,b</sup>	25.0 (9/36) <sup>b</sup>	0.004
Miscarriage rate (%)	0 (0/0) <sup>a</sup>	18.9 (7/37) <sup>a,b</sup>	33.3 (3/9) <sup>b</sup>	0.021

# Assisted Reproductive Technologies

## *Current and future perspectives*



Sperm



Oocyte



Embryo Day 1



Embryo Day 2

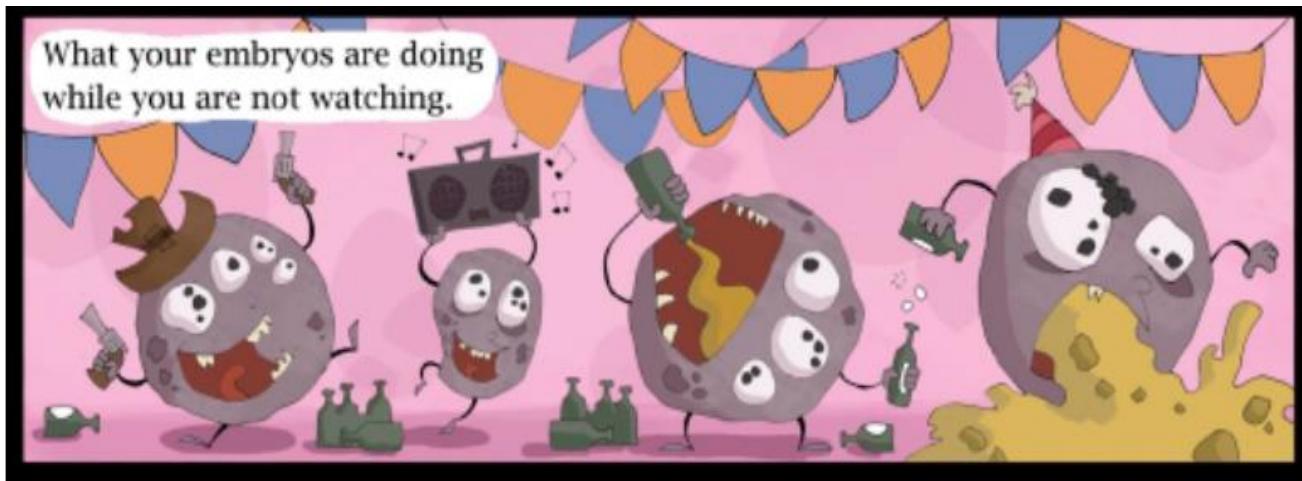


Embryo Day 3



FERTILITY  
MEDICAL GROUP

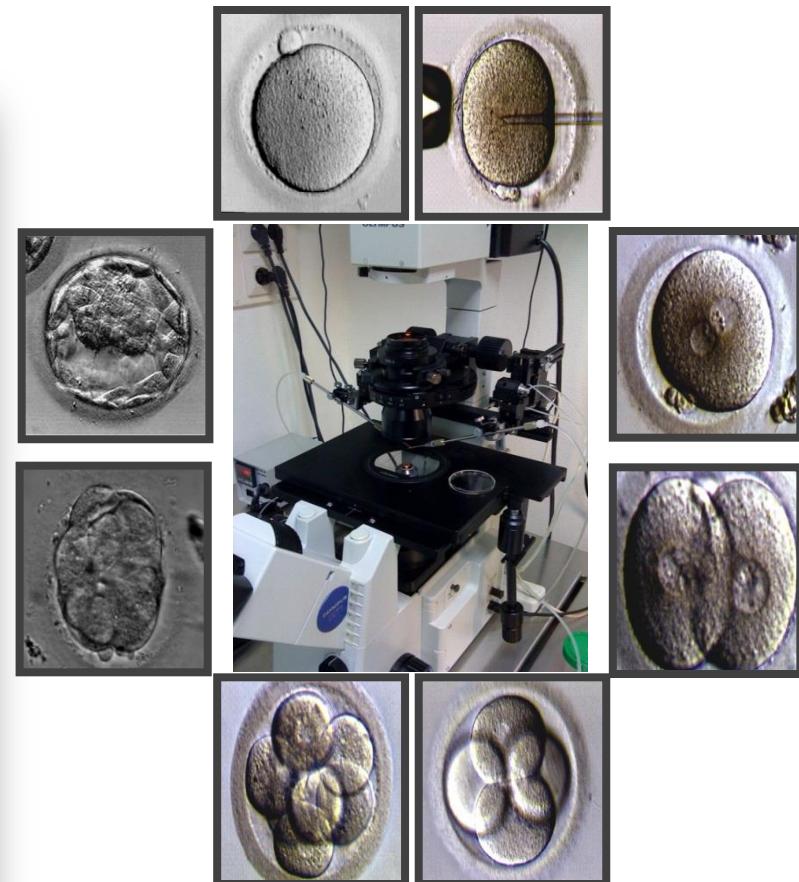
# EMBRYO MORPHOLOGY



## The Istanbul consensus workshop on embryo assessment: proceedings of an expert meeting<sup>†</sup>

Alpha Scientists in Reproductive Medicine and ESHRE Special  
Interest Group of Embryology

Type of observation	Timing (hours post- insemination)	Expected stage of development
Fertilization check	17 ± 1	Pronuclear stage
Syngamy check	23 ± 1	Expect 50% to be in syngamy (up to 20% may be at the 2-cell stage)
Early cleavage check	26 ± 1 h post-ICSI 28 ± 1 h post-IVF	2-cell stage
Day-2 embryo assessment	44 ± 1	4-cell stage
Day-3 embryo assessment	68 ± 1	8-cell stage
Day-4 embryo assessment	92 ± 2	Morula
Day-5 embryo assessment	116 ± 2	Blastocyst



# Assessing fertilization and zygotes

-Two pronuclei and two polar bodies

## Pronuclear (PN) morphology

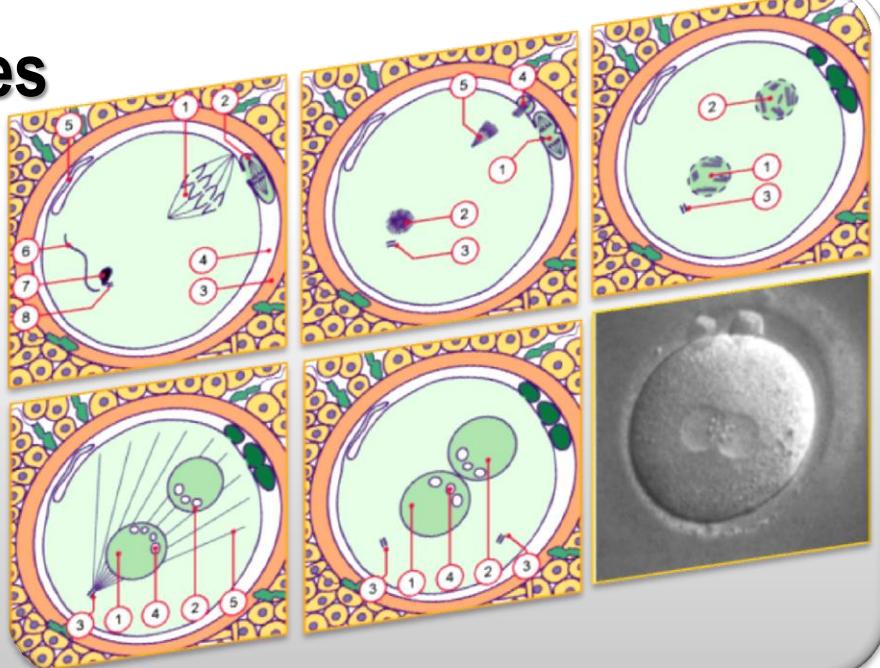
-PN size and position

-Nucleolar precursor bodies (NPBs) number

-NPBs relative position

-Cytoplasmic halo presence

-Vacuoles presence



Tesarik et al., 1999; Scott et al., 2000; Montag et al., 2001; Rienzi et al., 2002; Brezinova et al., 2009

# Assessing cleavage-stage embryos

## Blastomere number and cleavage rate

-No. of cells on day 2

-No. of cells on day 3

-Completely arrested

-Arrested in one blastomere

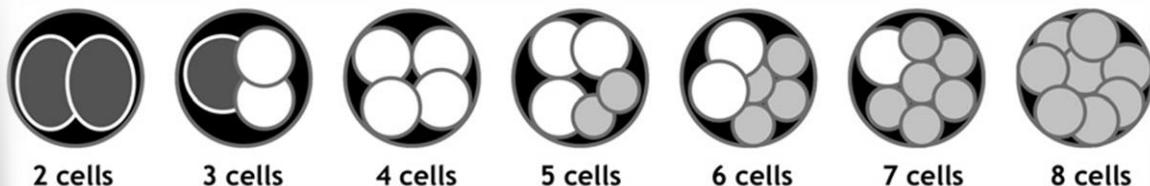


Racowsky et al., 2003; Magli et al., 2007; Racowsky et al., 2011; Kroener et al., 2014

# Assessing cleavage-stage embryos

## Uneven cell size

- Symmetrical blastomeres
- Asymmetrical blastomeres



Hardarson et al., 2001; Racowsky et al., 2003; Racowsky et al., 2011

## Fragmentation

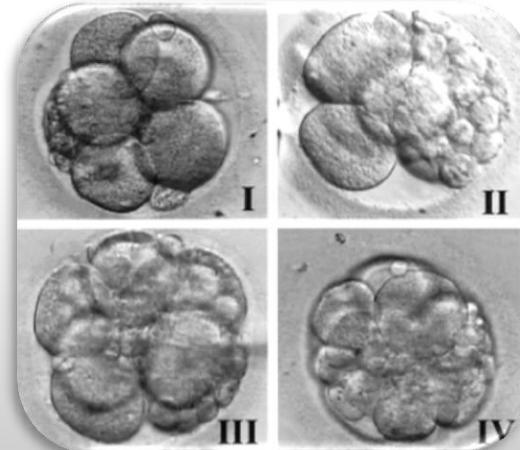
Quantitative description:

-Relative proportion

-<10% fragmentation - negligible

Qualitative description (Alikani et al., 1999):

-Size and distribution



Munne et al., 1998 ; Alikani et al., 1999; Magli et al., 2007; Stensen et al., 2015

## Multinucleation

-No. of interphase nucleus in each blastomere

-No. of multinucleated blastomeres



Meriano et al., 2004; Moriwaki et al., 2004; Rienzi et al., 2005; Magli et al., 2007

## The combination of pronuclear and blastocyst morphology: a strong prognostic tool for implantation potential

Daniela Paes Almeida Ferreira Braga • Amanda S. Setti •  
Rita de Cássia S. Figueira • Assumpto Iaconelli Jr. •  
Edson Borges Jr

**Table 1** Binary regression analysis of the pronuclear morphological characteristics that may affect the blastocyst morphological factors

Response variable	Predictor variable	P	OR	CI: Lower	CI: Upper
ICM alteration	Halo normality	0.513	2.33	0.19	9.25
	PN size	0.562	0.46	0.03	6.3
	PN position	0.649	1.63	0.2	3.28
	Number of NPB	<b>0.035</b>	2.51	1.2	3.34
	Size of NPB	0.997	1.76	0.65	3.43
	Distribution of NPB	0.185	0.18	0.01	2.27
TE alterations	Halo normality	0.434	1.43	0.58	3.51
	PN size	0.127	2.27	0.79	6.51
	PN position	<b>0.049</b>	2.38	1.31	4.05
	Number of NPB	0.196	0.86	0.21	1.55
	Size of NPB	0.236	0.754	0.34	1.14
	Distribution of NPB	<b>&gt;0.001</b>	6.03	2.31	15.77

Bold numbers are statistically significant

## The importance of the cleavage stage morphology evaluation for blastocyst transfer in patients with good prognosis

Daniela P. A. F. Braga · Amanda S. Setti ·  
Rita C. S. Figueira · Assumpto Iaconelli Jr. · Edson Borges Jr.

**Table 1** Binary regression analysis of the influence of embryo quality on days two or three on blastocyst formation and implantation chance

Predictor variable	Response variable	P	OR	CI: Lower	CI: Upper
Embryo quality on day two	Blastocyst formation	0.001	0.82	0.73	0.92
	Blastocyst implantation	<0.001	0.58	0.43	0.77
Embryo quality on day three	Blastocyst formation	<0.001	0.69	0.61	0.78
	Blastocyst implantation	0.001	0.63	0.48	0.83

OR: odds ratio. and CI: confidence interval

# MULTIVARIABLE PREDICTION MODEL

Study Population

743 ICSI Cycles

583 Patients

5850 Embryos

Morphological Evaluation

D+0



D+1



D+2



D+3



Parameters evaluated

- Oocyte dysmorphisms

- Number and size of pronuclei
- Number of nucleolar precursor bodies (NPB)
- NPB distribution in each pronucleus

- Number of blastomeres
- Blastomeres uniformity
- Fragmentation degree
- M multinucleated blastomeres
- C cleavage rate

End points

- Blastocyst rate



- Implantation rate

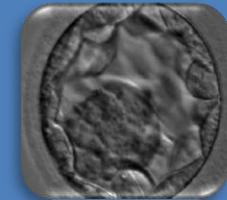


# Ranking embryos based on their blastocyst achievement potential

	Potential predictive factors	P	OR	CI (Lower-Upper)
1	Maternal age	<0.001	0.959	0.943-0.975
2	Oocytes retrieved (%)	0.003	0.994	0.990-0.998
3	Oocyte perivitelline space alteration	<0.001	0.668	0.556-0.804
4	Slow cleavage	<0.001	0.608	0.474-0.780
5	D Fast cleavage	<0.001	0.351	0.271-0.453
6	a Asymmetric blastomeres	<0.001	0.663	0.568-0.773
7	y Multinucleation	0.021	0.660	0.464-0.939
8	2 Multinucleation (more than 25% of embryo blastomeres)	0.001	0.560	0.392-0.801
9	Anucleated blastomeres	<0.001	0.619	0.525-0.730
10	Number of cells	<0.001	1.244	1.145-1.351
11	Slow cleavage	<0.001	0.465	0.351-0.616
12	D Fast cleavage	<0.001	0.504	0.370-0.687
13	a Asymmetric blastomeres	<0.001	0.676	0.575-0.795
14	y 0-10% Fragmentation	0.001	0.430	0.261-0.709
15	3 0-20% Fragmentation	<0.001	0.283	0.155-0.514
16	M multinucleated blastomeres	0.006	0.786	0.663-0.933
17	Anucleated blastomeres	0.010	0.891	0.815-0.973

## End points

- Blastocyst rate



- Implantation rate



# Ranking embryos based on their implantation potential

	Potential predictive factors	P	OR	CI (Lower-Upper)
1	Maternal age	<0.001	0.878	0.833-0.925
2	D Asymmetric blastomeres	0.046	0.624	0.393-0.992
3	a			
4	y Multinucleation	0.011	0.254	0.088-0.732
5	2 Anucleated blastomeres	0.029	0.451	0.221-0.923

## OMICS in assisted reproduction: possibilities and pitfalls

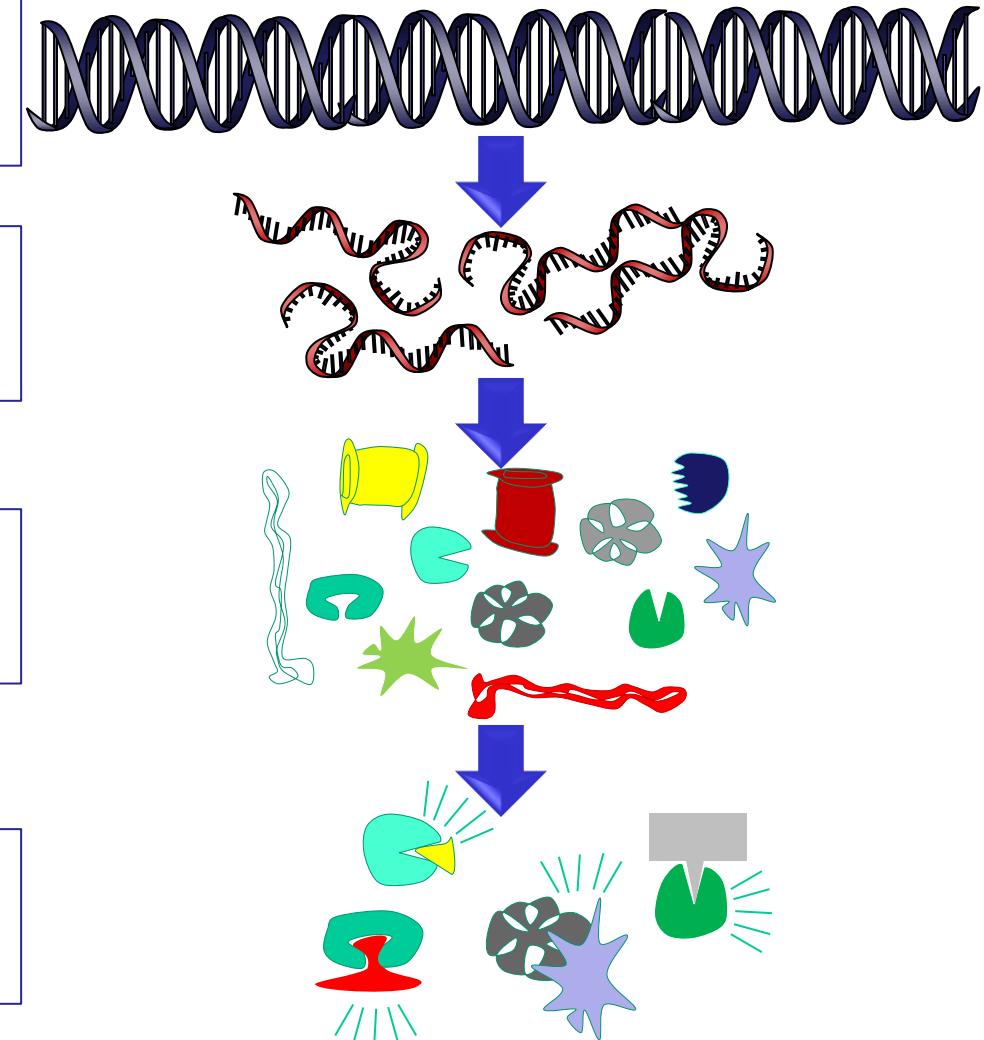
Emre Seli<sup>1</sup>, Claude Robert<sup>2</sup>, and Marc-Andre Sirard<sup>2,\*</sup>

**GENOME**  
**~25,000 GENES**

**TRANSCRIPTOME**  
**~100,000**

**PROTEOME**  
**~1,000,000**

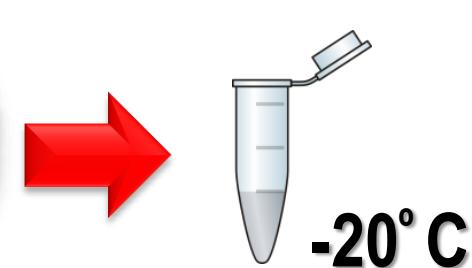
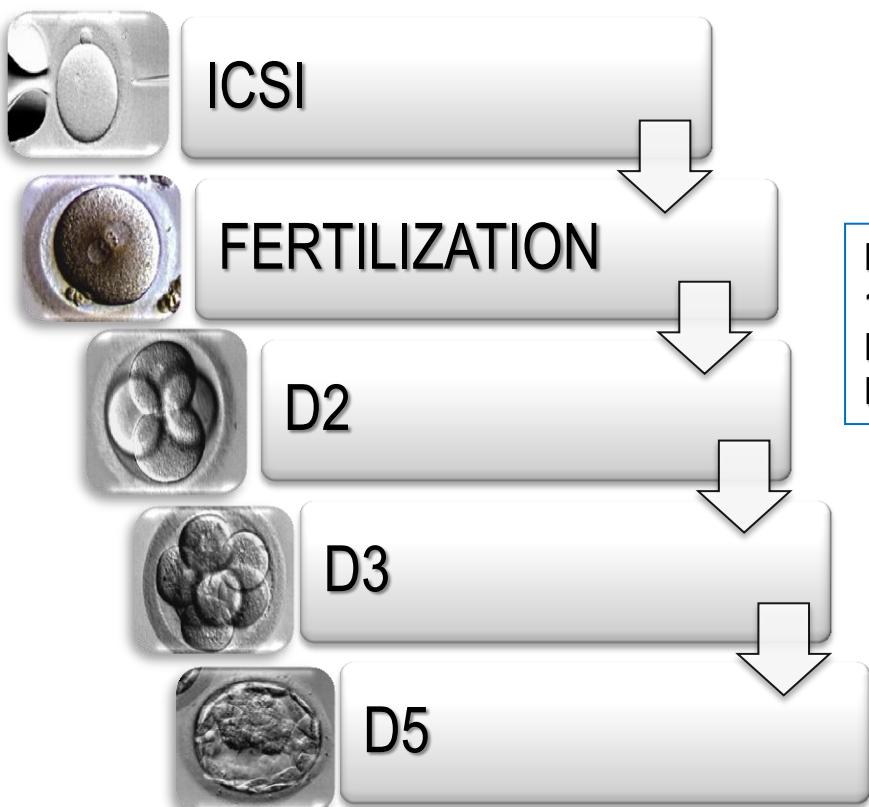
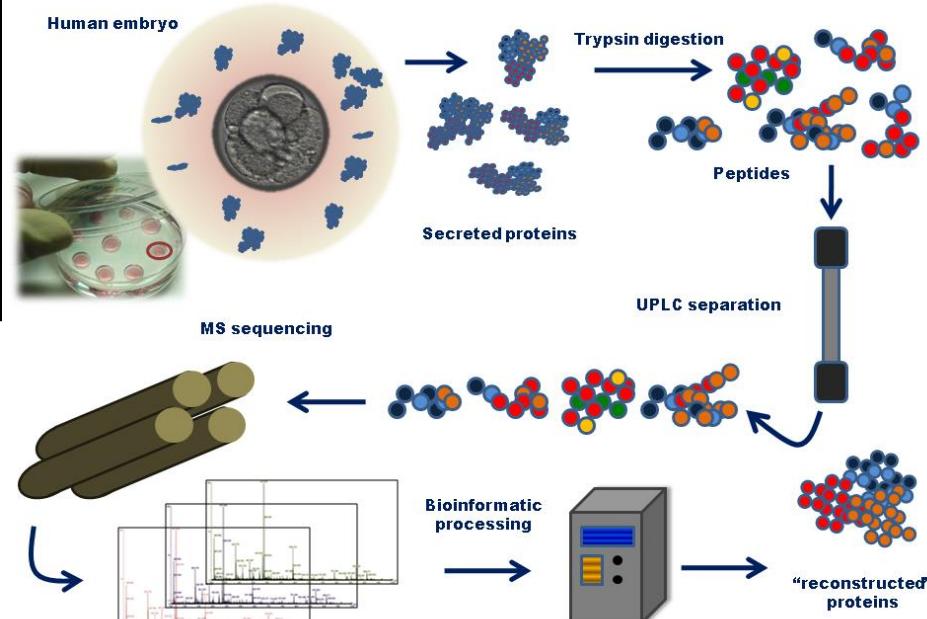
**METABOLOME**  
**~2,500**



# Secretome of the preimplantation human embryo by bottom-up label-free proteomics

Anal Bioanal Chem (2011) 401:1331–1339

Sylvia S. Cortezzi · Jerusa S. Garcia · Christina R. Ferreira · Daniela P. A. E. Braga ·  
Rita C. S. Figueira · Assumpto Iaconelli Jr · Gustavo H. M. E. Souza ·  
Edson Borges Jr · Marcos N. Eberlin



**FERTILITY**  
MEDICAL GROUP

# Secretome of the preimplantation human embryo by bottom-up label-free proteomics

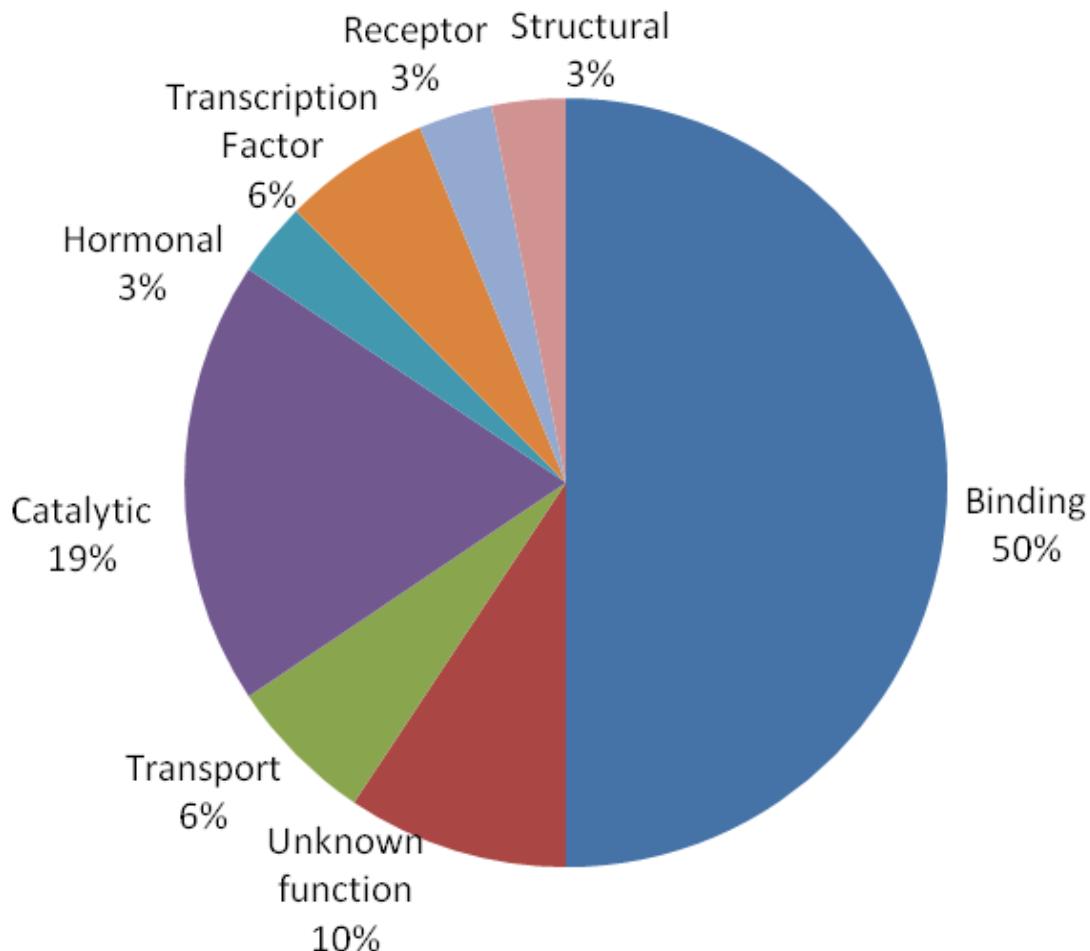
Anal Bioanal Chem (2011) 401:1331–1339

Sylvia S. Cortezzi · Jerusa S. Garcia · Christina R. Ferreira · Daniela P. A. E. Braga ·  
Rita C. S. Figueira · Assumpto Iaconelli Jr · Gustavo H. M. E. Souza ·  
Edson Borges Jr · Marcos N. Eberlin

**25 PROTEINS**

**Positive Group: 15**

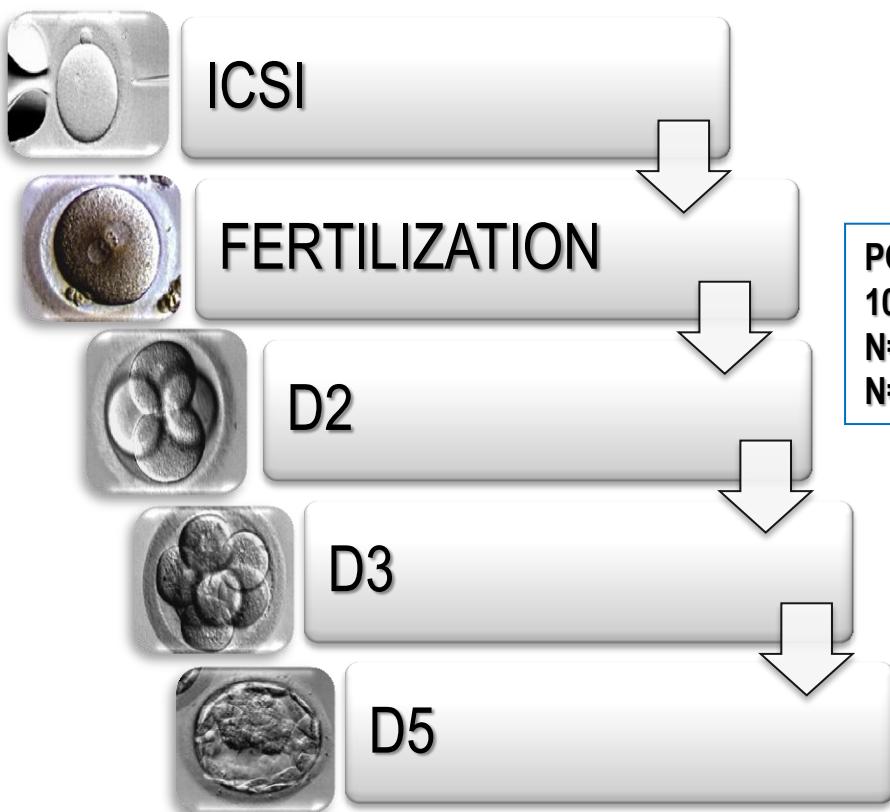
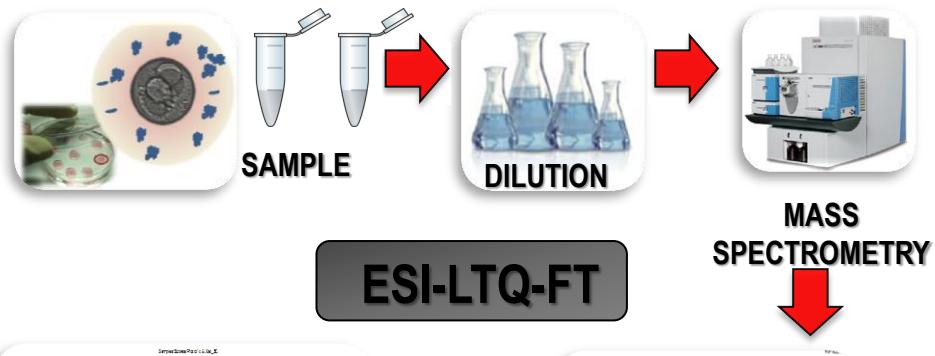
**Negative Group: 10**



# Prediction of embryo implantation potential by mass spectrometry fingerprinting of the culture medium

Reproduction (2013) 145 453–462

Sylvia Sanches Cortezzi<sup>1</sup>, Elaine Cristina Cabral<sup>2</sup>, Marcello Garcia Trevisan<sup>1,\*</sup>,  
Christina Ramires Ferreira<sup>2</sup>, Amanda Souza Setti<sup>1,5</sup>, Daniela Paes de Almeida Ferreira Braga<sup>1,5</sup>,  
Rita de Cássia Sávio Figueira<sup>5</sup>, Assumpto Iaconelli Jr<sup>1,5</sup>, Marcos Nogueira Eberlin<sup>2</sup>  
and Edson Borges Jr<sup>1,5</sup>



# Prediction of embryo implantation potential by mass spectrometry fingerprinting of the culture medium

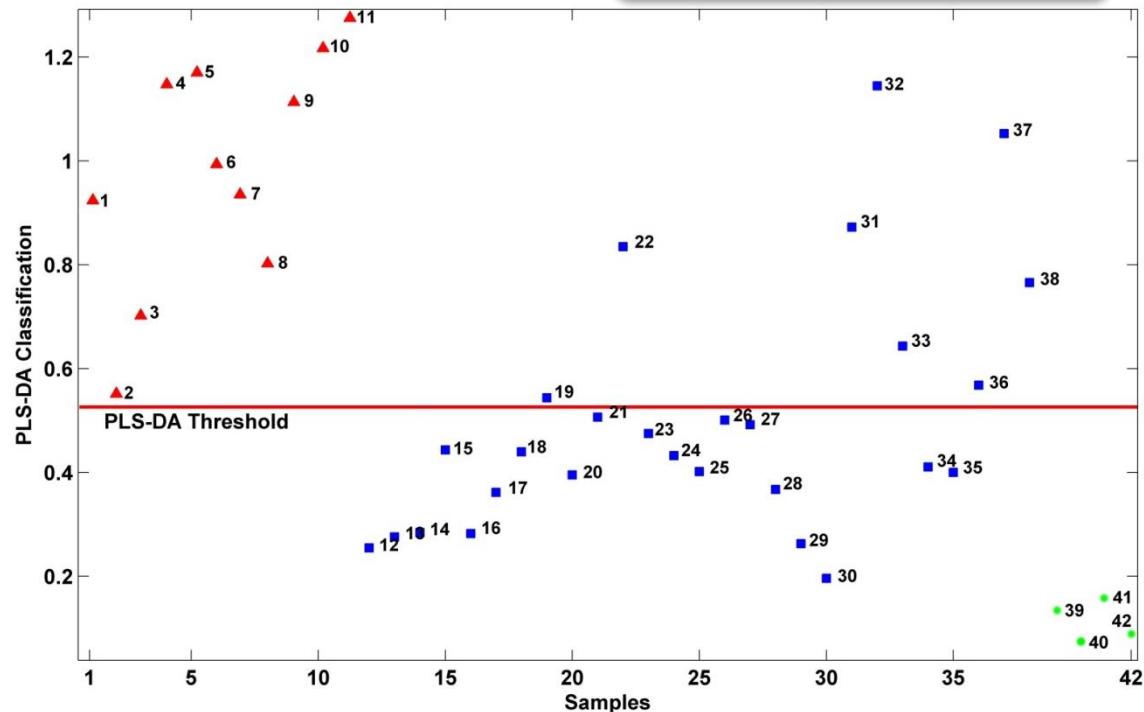
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and Edson Borges Jr<sup>1,5</sup>

**Positive: 100%**

## VALIDATION – 38 samples

**100% x 0%**  
**IMPLANTATION**



**Negative: 70%**

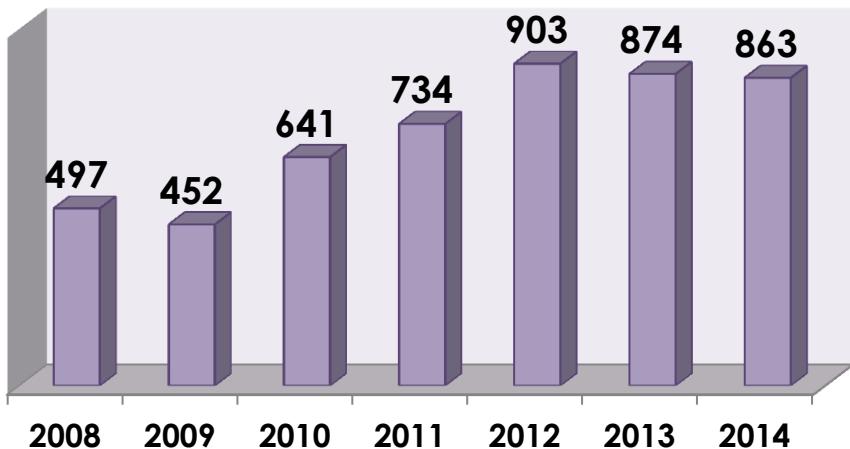
NON-INVASIVE PREDICTION OF EMBRYO IMPLANTATION POTENTIAL  
AND CULTURE MEDIA QUALITY CONTROL BY MASS SPECTROMETRY

FINGERPRINTING - GFI 2012

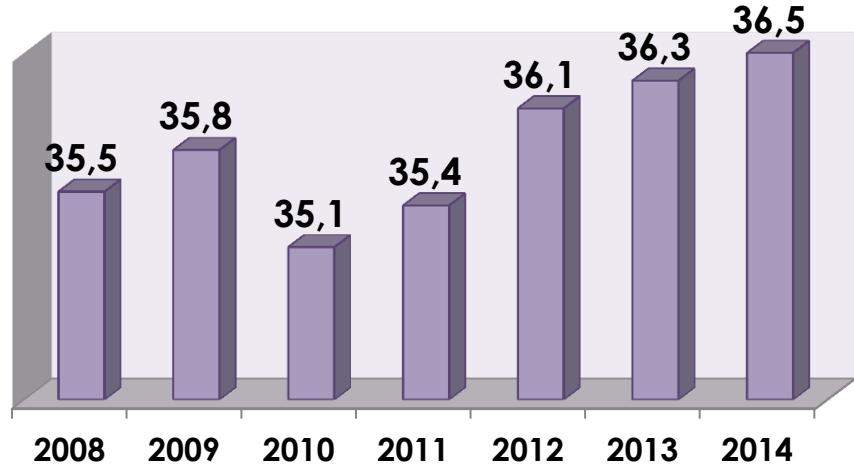
# Fertility Medical Group - Brazil

## Results IVF – ICSI cycles

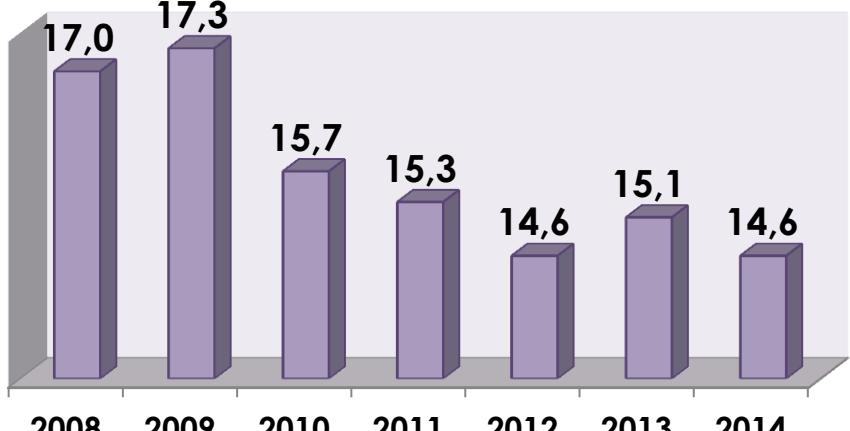
### ICSI cycles



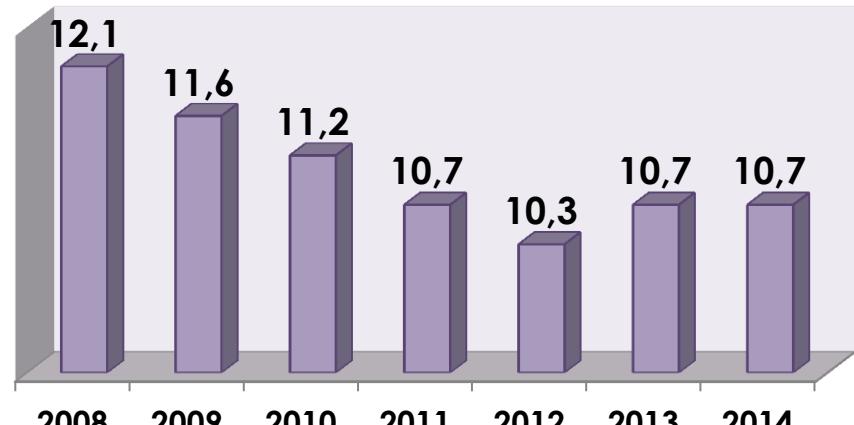
### Maternal age



### No. of aspirated follicles



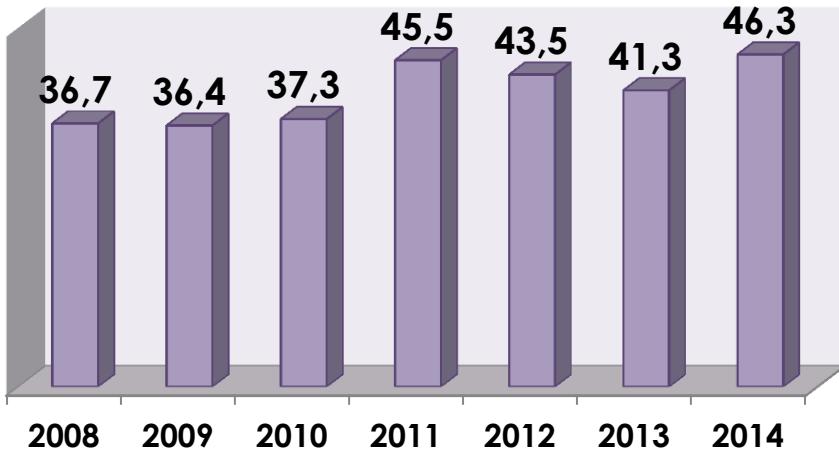
### No. of retrieved oocytes



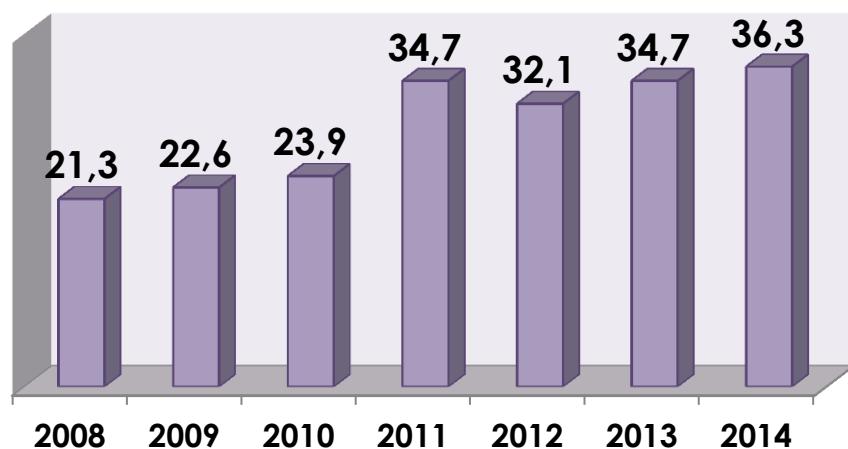
# Fertility Medical Group - Brazil

## Results IVF – ICSI cycles

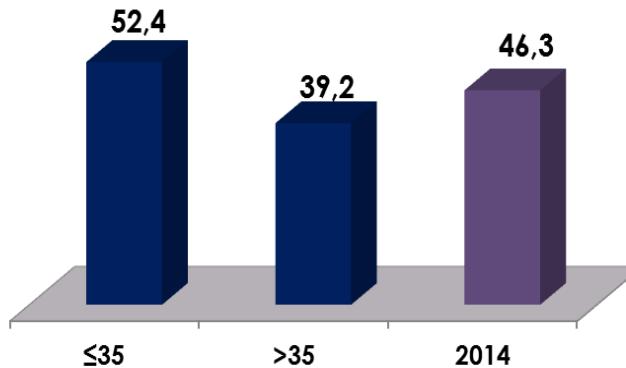
Pregnancy rate per embryo transfer(%)



Implantation rate (%)

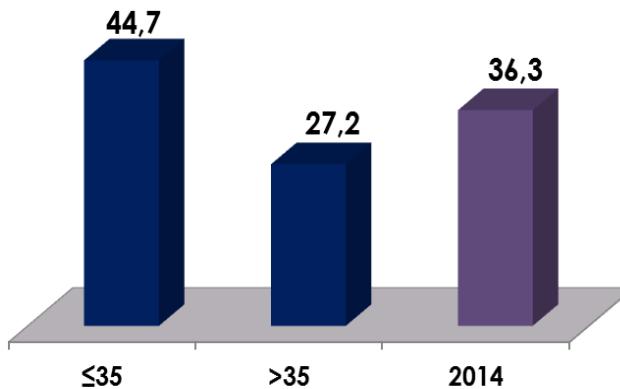


Pregnancy rate per embryo transfer (%) - 2014



Maternal age

Implantation rate (%) - 2014

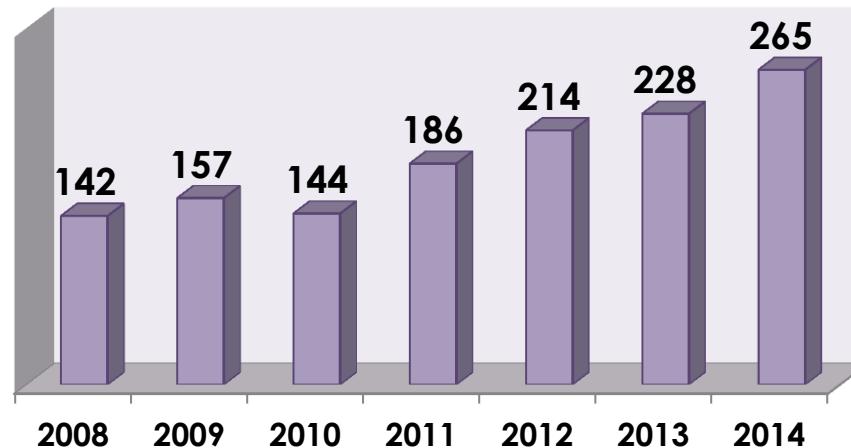


Maternal age

# Fertility Medical Group - Brazil

## Results FET cycles

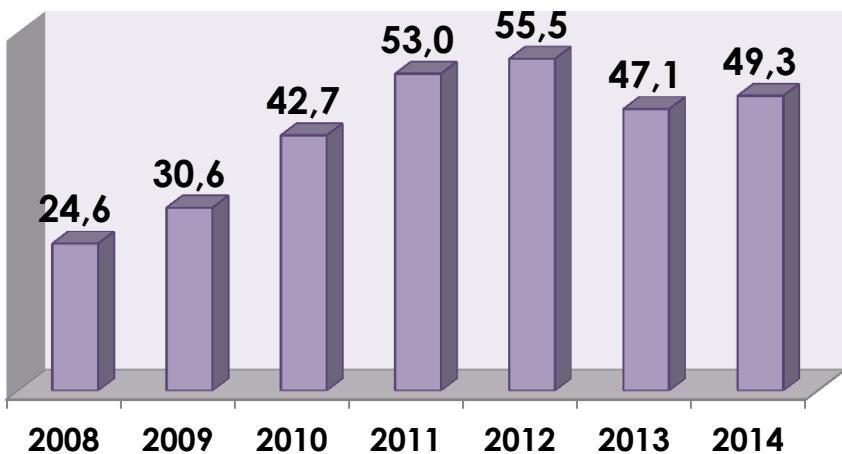
**FET cycles**



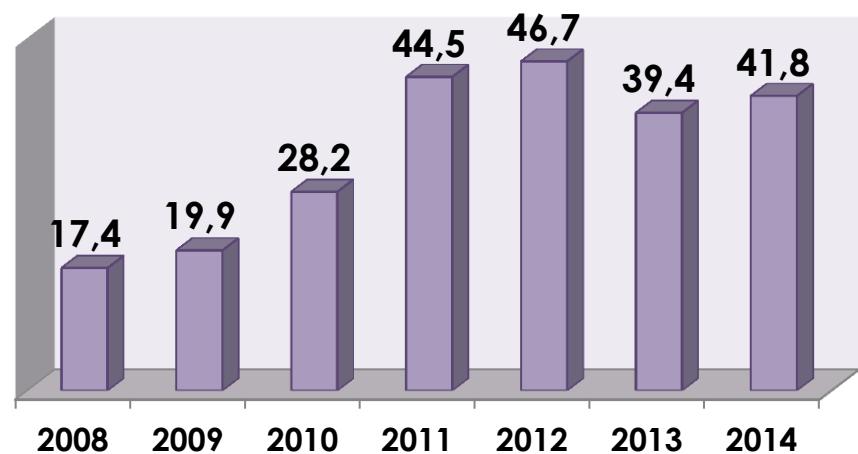
# Fertility Medical Group - Brazil

## Results FET cycles

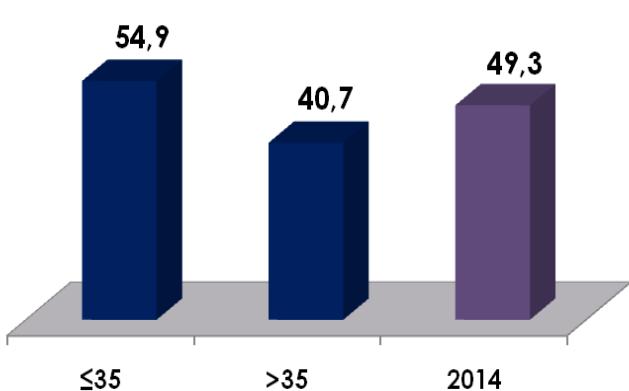
Pregnancy rate per embryo transfer (%)



Implantation rate (%)

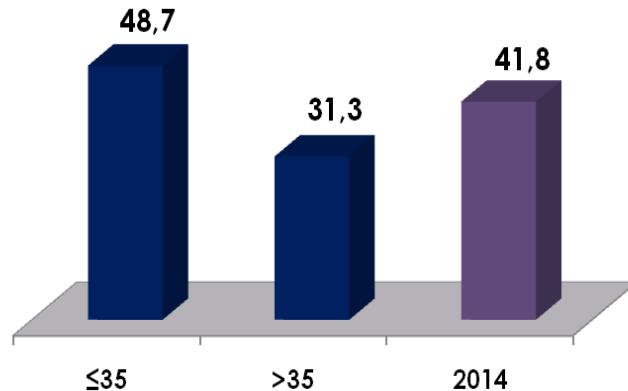


Pregnancy rate per embryo transfer (%) - 2014



Maternal age

Implantation rate (%) - 2014



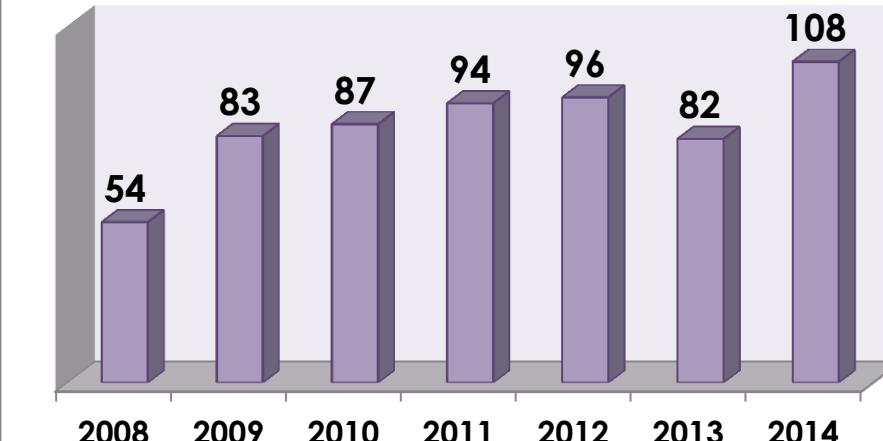
Maternal age



# Fertility Medical Group - Brazil

## Results Oocyte donation cycles

Oocyte donation cycles



	Fresh oocytes	Oocyte Bank
Pregnancy rate per embryo transfer	55,6%	52,1%
Implantation rate	40,0%	39,0%

# Full in vitro fertilization laboratory mechanization: toward robotic assisted reproduction?

Marcos Meseguer, Ph.D.,<sup>a</sup> Ulrich Kruhne, Ph.D.,<sup>b</sup> and Steen Laursen, Ph.D.<sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Instituto Valenciano de Infertilidad, Universidad de Valencia, Valencia, Spain; <sup>b</sup> Center for Process Engineering and Technology, Technical University of Denmark, Lyngby, Denmark; and <sup>c</sup> IVF-SYD, Fredericia, Denmark

**Human Reproduction, Vol.27, No.2 pp. 303–313, 2012**

Advanced Access publication on December 12, 2011 doi:10.1093/humrep/der414

human  
reproduction

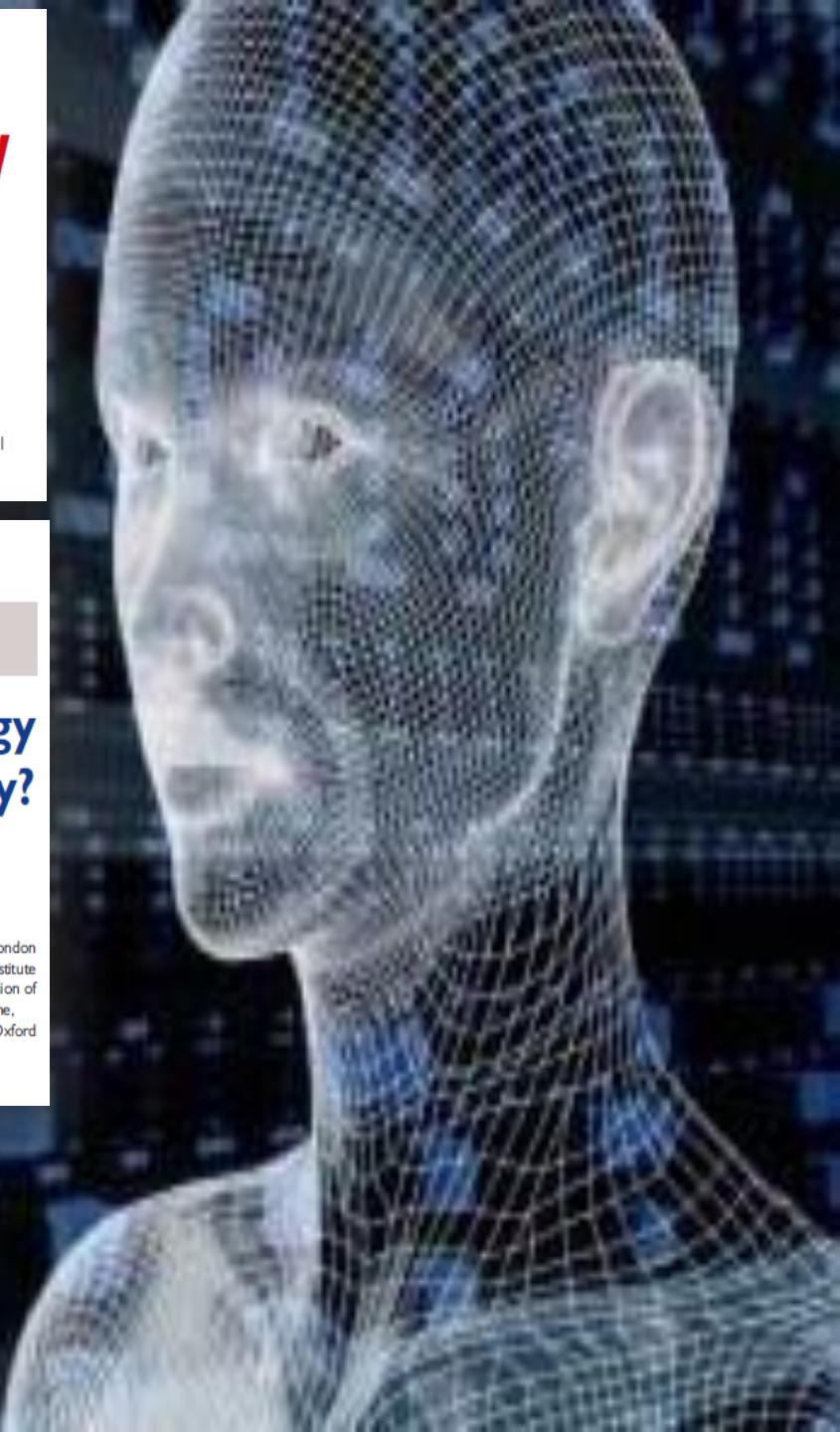
OPINION

## When and how should new technology be introduced into the IVF laboratory?

Joyce Harper<sup>1,\*</sup>, M. Cristina Magli<sup>2</sup>, Kersti Lundin<sup>3</sup>,  
Christopher L.R. Barratt<sup>4</sup>, and Daniel Brison<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>UCL Centre for PG&D, Institute for Womens Health, UCL and Centre for Reproductive and Genetic Health, University College London Hospital, London, UK <sup>2</sup>SISMER, Reproductive Medicine Unit, Bologna, Italy <sup>3</sup>Reproductive Medicine, Sahlgrenska University Hospital, Institute for Clinical Sciences, University of Gothenburg, 413 45 Gothenburg, Sweden <sup>4</sup>Reproductive and Developmental Biology Group, Division of Medical Sciences, Ninewells Hospital, University of Dundee, Dundee, Scotland DD1 9SY, UK <sup>5</sup>Department of Reproductive Medicine, St Mary's Hospital, Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Manchester Academic Health Sciences Centre, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9WL, UK

\*Correspondence address. joyce.harper@ucl.ac.uk



# Thank you!



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