

Zinnige zorg wat kan het laboratorium hieraan bijdragen?

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Epidemiologist/Methodologist

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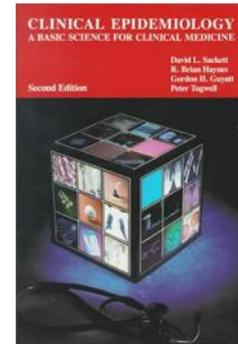


UNIVERSITEIT
VAN AMSTERDAM

am  *Center for reproductive medicine*

Conflict of interest

- I lead the Satellite of the Cochrane Gynecology and Fertility
- I am mother of identical healthy twins
- I have no commercial interests in assisted reproduction



Zinnige zorg volgens ZN

de identificatie en het tegengaan van niet-effectieve en/of onnodige zorg, zodat de kwaliteit van de zorg voor de patiënt verbetert, de gezondheidswinst toeneemt en onnodige kosten worden vermeden

ICSI en IVF in Nederland

2017

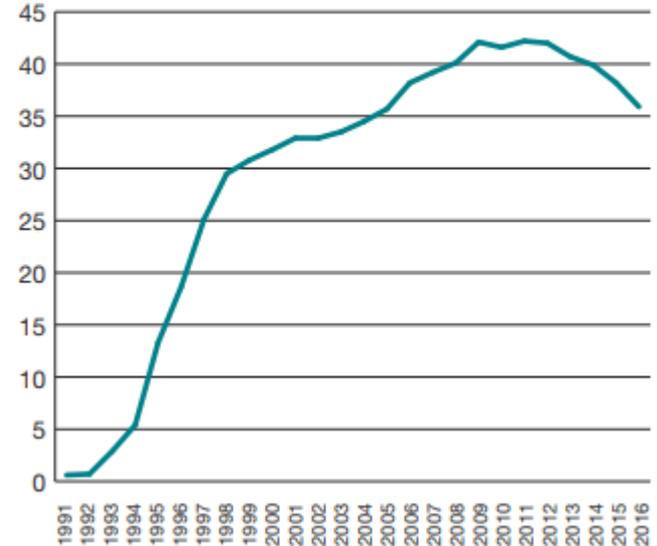
	IVF		ICSI		aantal
	Aantal	%	aantal	%	
gestarte cycli	6417	100	7574	100	
follikelpuncties	5536	86,3	6500	85,8	
embryotransfers	5922	76,7	5793	76,5	13469
zwangerschappen	1636	25,5	2177	28,7	3166
doorgaande zwangersch.	1204	18,8	1676	22,1	2187
betrouwbaarheidsinterval		18-20		21-23	
eenling	1164	97,7	1608	95,9	2138
tweeling	40	3,3	67	4,0	48
drieling	0	0	1	0,1	1



IVF 2250 – 2650

ICSI 2600 – 3000

Figure 29: Proportion of IVF treatment cycles that used ICSI



To ICSI or not?

ICSI does not increase the cumulative live birth rate in non-male factor infertility

Z Li, A Y Wang, M Bowman, K Hammarberg, C Farquhar, L Johnson, N Safi, E A Sullivan ✉

Human Reproduction, Volume 33, Issue 7, July 2018, Pages 1322–1330,

8470 vrouwen ICSI | 4993 vrouwen IVF

HR kind 0.99 (95% CI 0.92–1.06)

HR cum kind 0.96 (95% CI 0.85–1.10)

Add-ons

Sperm DNA fragmentation tests

Hyaluron acid or MACS

Time-lapse imaging

Preimplantation genetic screening

Mitochondria DNA load
measurement

Assisted hatching

Endometrial scratching



[Asian J Androl](#). 2017 Jan-Feb; 19(1): 80–90.

Published online 2016 Jun 24. doi: [10.4103/1008-682X.182822](#)

PMCID: PMC5227680

PMID: [27345006](#)

A systematic review and meta-analysis to determine the effect of sperm DNA damage on *in vitro* fertilization and intracytoplasmic sperm injection outcome

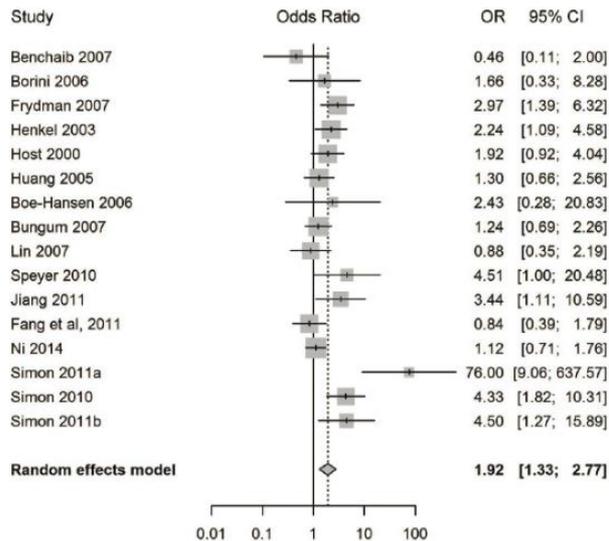
[Luke Simon](#),^{1,*} [Armand Zini](#),^{2,*} [Alina Dyachenko](#),² [Antonio Ciampi](#),² and [Douglas T Carrell](#)^{1,3,4}

Study characteristics

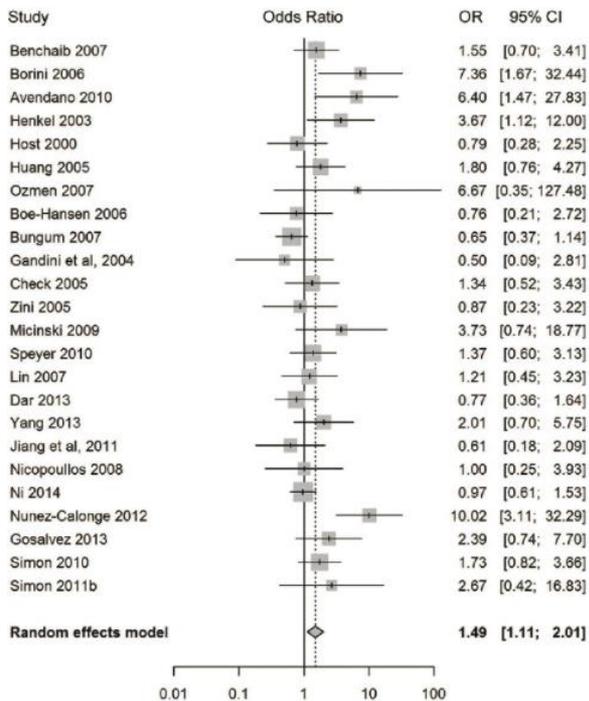
Sperm DNA damage test	Nr of studies	Number of cycles	Cut-off value (range %)
SCSA	23	2813	10-30
SCD	8	2358	17-30
TUNEL	18	2098	4-48
COMET	7	798	52-82

Effect	Number of studies	Fixed effects model		Random effects model		Percentage of variation across studies <i>I</i> (%)	
		OR (95% CI)	<i>P</i>	OR (95% CI)	<i>P</i>		
Overall effect	56	1.68 (1.49–1.89)	0.0000*	1.84 (1.5–2.27)	<0.0001*	60.9	
Sperm DNA damage assays							
SCSA	23	1.18 (0.96–1.44)	0.1115	1.22 (0.93–1.61)	0.1522	38.1	
TUNEL	18	2.18 (1.75–2.72)	0.0000*	2.22 (1.61–3.05)	<0.0001*	43.8	
Comet	7	3.34 (2.32–4.82)	0.0000*	3.56 (1.78–7.09)	0.0003*	65.5	
SCD	8	1.51 (1.18–1.92)	0.0011*	1.98 (1.19–3.3)	0.0086*	72.9	
Types of assisted treatment							
IVF	16	1.65 (1.34–2.04)	0.0000*	1.92 (1.33–2.77)	0.0005*	60.7	
ICSI	24	1.31 (1.08–1.59)	0.0068*	1.49 (1.11–2.01)	0.0075*	48.7	
Mixed	16	2.37 (1.89–2.97)	0.0000*	2.32 (1.54–3.5)	0.0001*	64.4	
<i>Assays</i>	<i>Types</i>						
SCSA	IVF	6	1.32 (0.91–1.91)	0.1471	1.43 (0.86–2.37)	0.1670	35.9
SCSA	ICSI	12	0.96 (0.72–1.27)	0.7800	0.96 (0.72–1.27)	0.7800	0.0
SCSA	Mixed	5	1.69 (1.07–2.66)	0.0234*	1.93 (0.68–5.42)	0.2147	70.5
TUNEL	IVF	6	1.81 (1.29–2.55)	0.0007*	1.78 (1.2–2.65)	0.0039*	20.1
TUNEL	ICSI	7	2.11 (1.38–3.23)	0.0005*	2.38 (1.31–4.31)	0.0042*	42.4
TUNEL	Mixed	5	2.92 (1.95–4.38)	0.0000*	3.17 (1.45–6.94)	0.0038*	61.5
Comet	IVF	3	5.86 (2.97–11.53)	0.0000*	8.39 (2.16–32.55)	0.0021*	67.8
Comet	ICSI	2	1.84 (0.92–3.68)	0.0859	1.84 (0.92–3.68)	0.0859	0.0
Comet	Mixed	2	3.36 (1.92–5.86)	0.0000*	2.27 (0.46–11.26)	0.3150	81.9
SCD	IVF	1	1.12 (0.71–1.76)	0.6405	1.12 (0.71–1.76)	0.6405	N/A
SCD	ICSI	3	1.42 (0.95–2.12)	0.0896	2.65 (0.64–10.86)	0.1770	85.9
SCD	Mixed	4	2.07 (1.36–3.16)	0.0007*	2.14 (1.09–4.19)	0.0272*	60.9

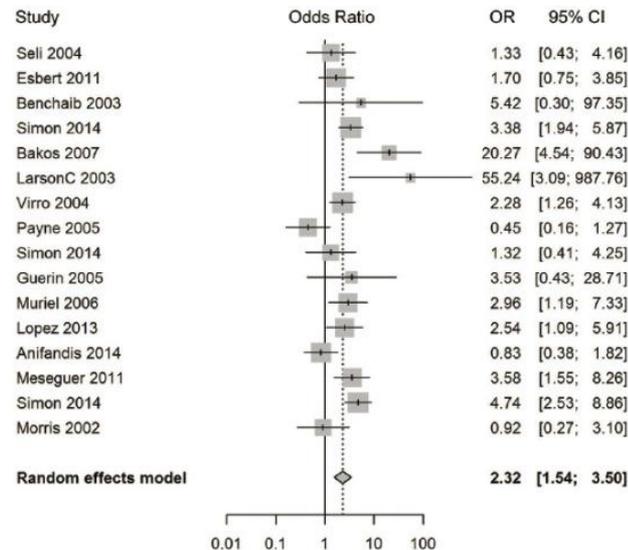
IVF



ICSI



IVF/ICSI





ELSEVIER

www.sciencedirect.com
www.rbmonline.com

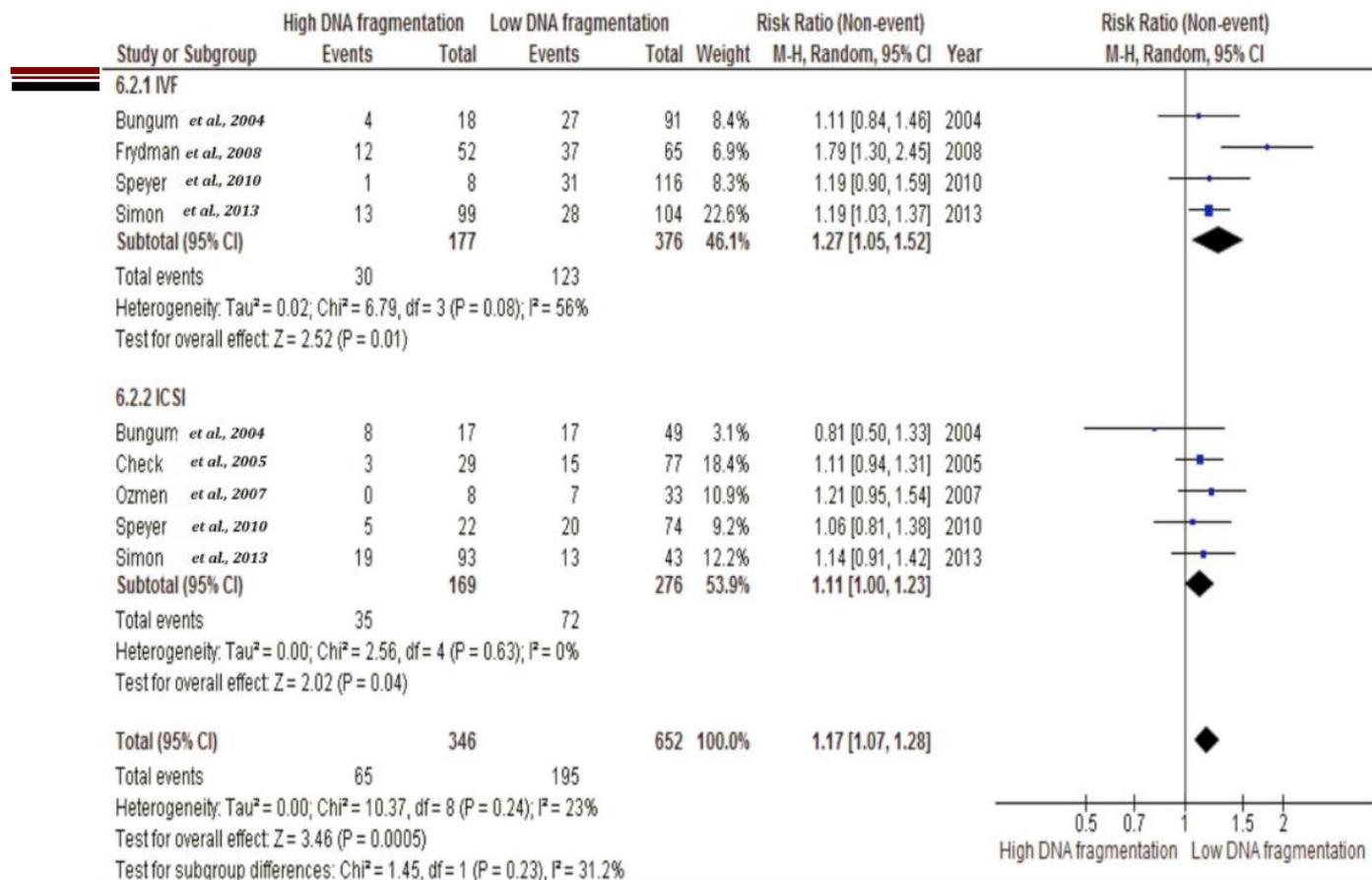
REVIEW

The effect of sperm DNA fragmentation on live birth rate after IVF or ICSI: a systematic review and meta-analysis

A Osman *, H Alsomait, S Seshadri, T El-Toukhy, Y Khalaf

Study characteristics

Sperm DNA damage test	Nr of studies	Number of cycles	Cut-off value DFI (%)
SCSA	3	620	27-30
TUNEL	2	158	10-35
COMET	1	339	50



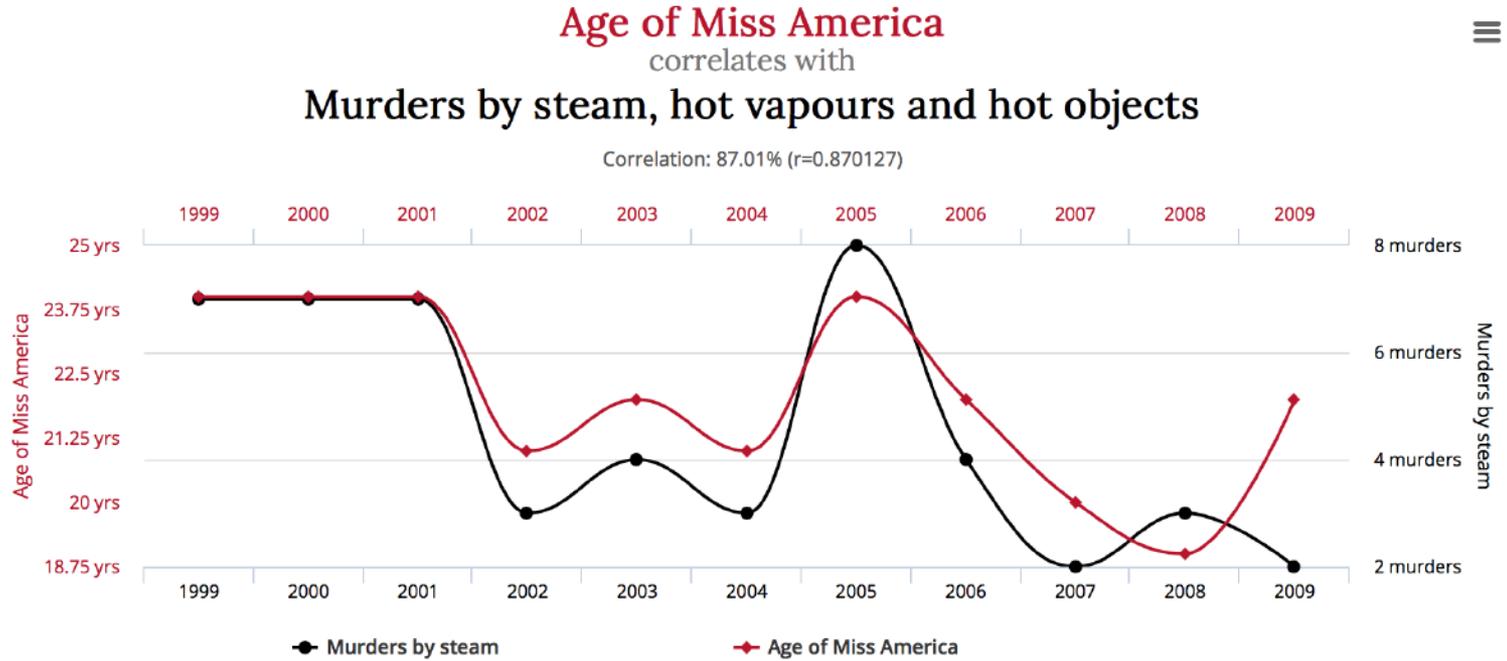
Pregnancy loss

- Miscarriage: Robinson 2011
 - Meta-analysis more miscarriage in high vs low SDF
 - Overall RR 2.16 (1.54, 3.03)
 - TUNEL assay RR 3.94 (2.45, 6.32)

Association is not causation

- Association
 - A relation was found between 2 variables
 - Is the relationship due to other factors?
 - Controlling for confounders helps
- Causation
 - A change in the variable under study directly caused a change in the outcome

Biological plausibility...



Data sources: Wikipedia and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

tylervigen.com

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[April 2008](#) Volume 89, Issue 4, Pages 823–831

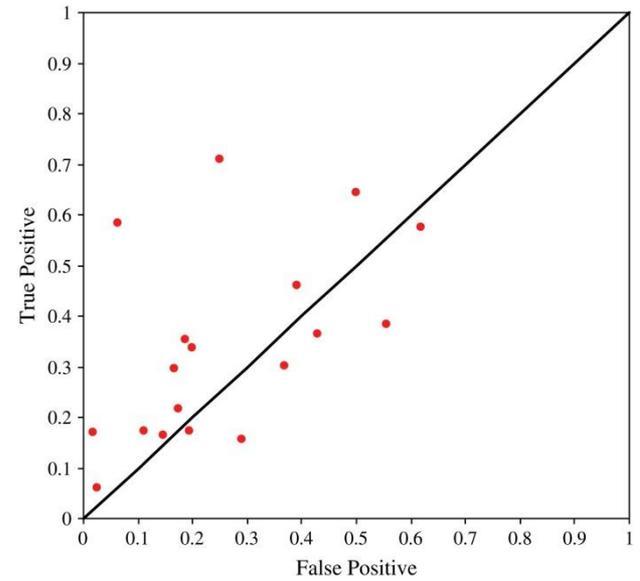
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Do sperm DNA integrity tests predict pregnancy with in vitro fertilization?

[John A. Collins, M.D.](#)  , [Kurt T. Barnhart, M.D.](#), [Peter N. Schlegel, M.D.](#)

DNA damage to predict pregnancy

- 22 studies
- 13 studies involving 2162 cycles



 OPEN ACCESS

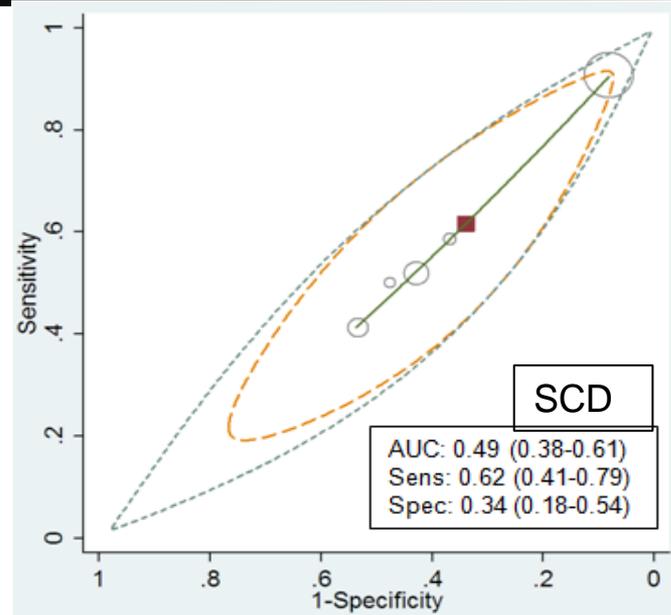
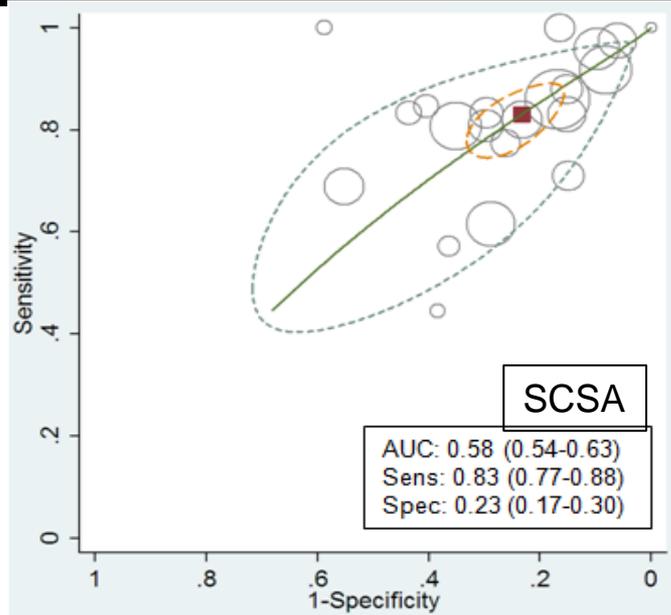
COLLECTION REVIEW

Measuring Sperm DNA Fragmentation and Clinical Outcomes of Medically Assisted Reproduction: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Maartje Cissen, Madelon van Wely , Irma Scholten, Steven Mansell, Jan Peter de Bruin, Ben Willem Mol, Didi Braat, Sjoerd Repping, Geert Hamer

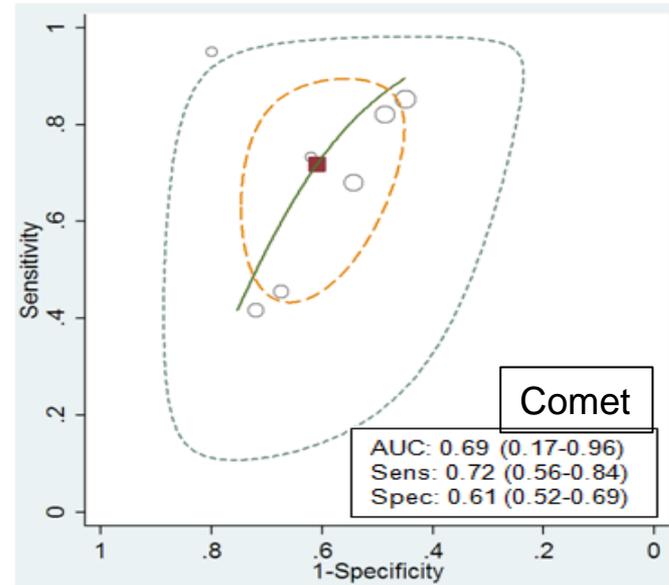
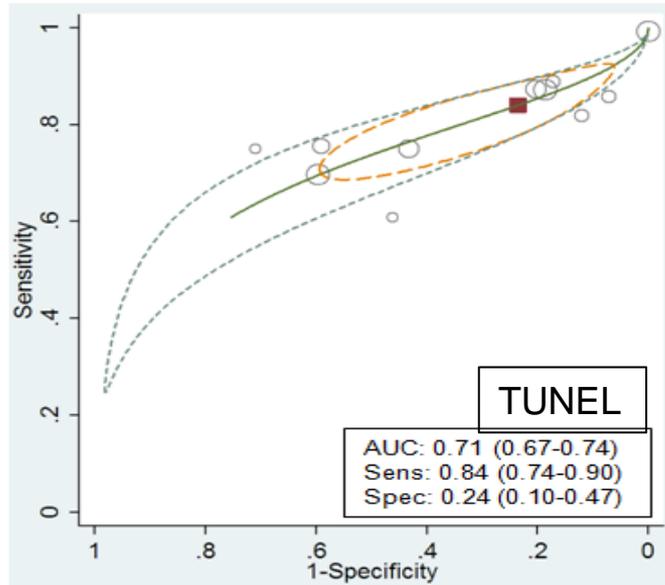
Published: November 10, 2016 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0165125>

Results: HSROC curve



- Study estimate
- Summary point
- HSROC curve
- - - 95% confidence region
- - - 95% prediction region

Results: HSROC curve



- Study estimate
- Summary point
- HSROC curve
- - - 95% confidence region
- - - 95% prediction region

Add-ons

Adjunct

Evidence

Sperm DNA fragmentation tests

Limited - no clinical value

Hyaluron acid for PICSI

Time-lapse imaging

Preimplantation genetic screening

Mitochondria DNA load
measurement

Assisted hatching

Endometrial scratching

Hyaluronic acid selected sperm for PICSI



(A) Hydak slide showing twin chambers



(B) PICSI plate showing channels (arrows) into which sperm suspensions are introduced.



(C) Photomicrograph from time-lapse recording showing a single PICSI hyaluronan dot.



Physiological, hyaluronan-selected intracytoplasmic sperm injection for infertility treatment (HABSelect): a parallel, two-group, randomised trial



David Miller, Susan Pavitt, Vinay Sharma, Gordon Forbes, Richard Hooper, Siladitya Bhattacharya, Jackson Kirkman-Brown, Arri Coomarasamy, Sheena Lewis, Rachel Cutting, Daniel Brison, Allan Pacey, Robert West, Kate Brian, Darren Griffin, Yakoub Khalaf

Summary

Background Sperm selection strategies aimed at improving success rates of intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) include binding to hyaluronic acid (herein termed hyaluronan). Hyaluronan-selected sperm have reduced levels of DNA damage and aneuploidy. Use of hyaluronan-based sperm selection for ICSI (so-called physiological ICSI [PICSI]) is reported to reduce the proportion of pregnancies that end in miscarriage. However, the effect of PICSI on livebirth rates is uncertain. We aimed to investigate the efficacy of PICSI versus standard ICSI for improving livebirth rates among couples undergoing fertility treatment.

Methods This parallel, two-group, randomised trial included couples undergoing an ICSI procedure with fresh embryo transfer at 16 assisted conception units in the UK. Eligible women (aged 18–43 years) had a body-mass index of 19–35 kg/m² and a follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH) concentration of 3.0–20.0 mIU/mL or, if no FSH measurement was available, an anti-müllerian hormone concentration of at least 1.5 pmol/L. Eligible men (aged 18–55 years) had not had a vasovasostomy or been treated for cancer in the 24 months before recruitment and were able, after at least 3 days of sexual abstinence, to produce freshly ejaculated sperm for the treatment cycle. Couples were randomly assigned (1:1) with an online system to receive either PICSI or a standard ICSI procedure. The primary outcome was full-term (≥37 weeks' gestational age) livebirth, which was assessed in all eligible couples who completed follow-up. This trial is registered, number ISRCTN99214271.

Findings Between Feb 1, 2014, and Aug 31, 2016, 2772 couples were randomly assigned to receive PICSI (n=1387) or ICSI (n=1385), of whom 2752 (1381 in the PICSI group and 1371 in the ICSI group) were included in the primary analysis. The term livebirth rate did not differ significantly between PICSI (27.4% [379/1381]) and ICSI (25.2% [346/1371]) groups (odds ratio 1.12, 95% CI 0.95–1.34; p=0.18). There were 56 serious adverse events in total, including 31 in the PICSI group and 25 in the ICSI group; most were congenital abnormalities and none were attributed to treatment.

Interpretation Compared with ICSI, PICSI does not significantly improve term livebirth rates. The wider use of PICSI, therefore, is not recommended at present.

Lancet 2019; 393: 416–22

See Comment page 380

Leeds Institute of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine, University of Leeds Laboratories (D Miller PhD), Dental Translational and Clinical Research Unit, Leeds National Institute for Health Research Clinical Research Facility (Prof S Pavitt PhD), and Leeds Institute of Health Sciences (Prof R West PhD), University of Leeds, Leeds, UK; The Leeds Centre for Reproductive Medicine, Seacroft Hospital, Leeds, UK (Prof V Sharma PhD); Pragmatic Clinical Trials Unit, Centre for Primary Care and Public Health, Queen Mary University of London, London, UK (G Forbes MSc, R Hooper PhD); School of Medicine, College of Biomedical and Life Sciences, Cardiff University, Cardiff, UK (Prof S Bhattacharya MD); Institute of Metabolism and Systems Research, College of Medical & Dental Sciences, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK

Add-ons

Adjunct	Evidence
Sperm DNA fragmentation tests	Moderate - no value for clinical practise
Hyaluron acid or MACS	Moderate - possible clinical value
Time-lapse imaging	
Preimplantation genetic screening	
Mitochondria DNA load measurement	
Assisted hatching	
Endometrial scratching	

Assisted hatching

LET



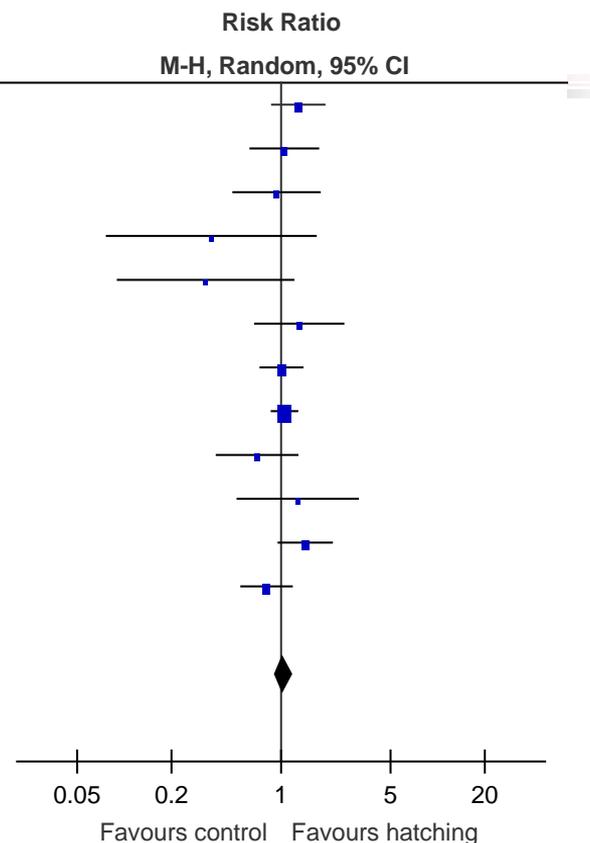
ME

OUT

Study or Subgroup	Assisted hatching		Control		Weight	Risk Ratio	
	Events	Total	Events	Total		M-H, Random, 95% CI	Year
Cohen 1992	34	69	26	68	10.6%	1.29 [0.88, 1.89]	1992
Hellebaut 1996	21	60	20	60	6.8%	1.05 [0.64, 1.73]	1996
Lanzendorf 1998	12	41	15	48	4.4%	0.94 [0.50, 1.77]	1998
Hurst 1998	2	13	3	7	0.8%	0.36 [0.08, 1.67]	1998
Germond 2004	3	84	8	74	1.1%	0.33 [0.09, 1.20]	2004
Petersen 2005	17	75	13	75	4.2%	1.31 [0.68, 2.50]	2005
Sagoskin 2007	55	121	37	82	15.0%	1.01 [0.74, 1.37]	2007
Ge 2008	156	487	144	473	28.2%	1.05 [0.87, 1.27]	2008
Balakier 2009	13	45	16	39	5.0%	0.70 [0.39, 1.27]	2009
Razi 2013	10	90	8	92	2.4%	1.28 [0.53, 3.09]	2013
Wan 2014	39	96	29	102	10.3%	1.43 [0.97, 2.11]	2014
Shi 2016	29	82	42	96	11.3%	0.81 [0.56, 1.17]	2016
Total (95% CI)		1263		1216	100.0%	1.04 [0.90, 1.19]	
Total events	391		361				

Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.01; Chi² = 12.90, df = 11 (P = 0.30); I² = 15%

Test for overall effect: Z = 0.49 (P = 0.63)



Add-ons

Adjunct	Evidence
Sperm DNA fragmentation tests	Moderate - no value for clinical practise
Hyaluron acid or MACS	Moderate - possible clinical value
Assisted hatching	Low to moderate – probably no clinical value
Mitochondria DNA load measurement	
Time-lapse imaging	
Endometrial scratching	

CARE map (time-lapse)

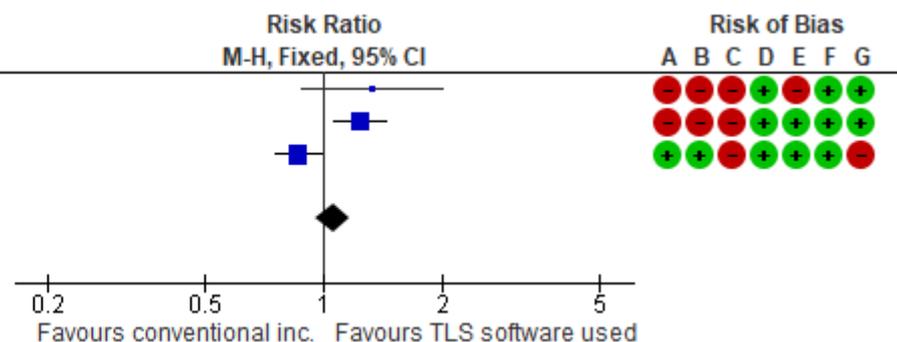
Success rates are significantly higher with CAREmaps

Age Range	Standard Incubation Birth Rates	CAREmaps® Birth Rates	Relative increase in birth rates with CAREmaps®
Below 35	42% (950 / 2262)	46% (270 / 587)	+11%
35 - 37	31% (296 / 958)	35% (116 / 333)	+12%
38 - 39	21% (127 / 605)	28% (66 / 236)	+35%
40 - 42	11% (53 / 483)	18% (33 / 186)	+64%
43 and 44	6% (5 / 79)	9% (3 / 35)	+35%
Over 39	10%	16%	+59%

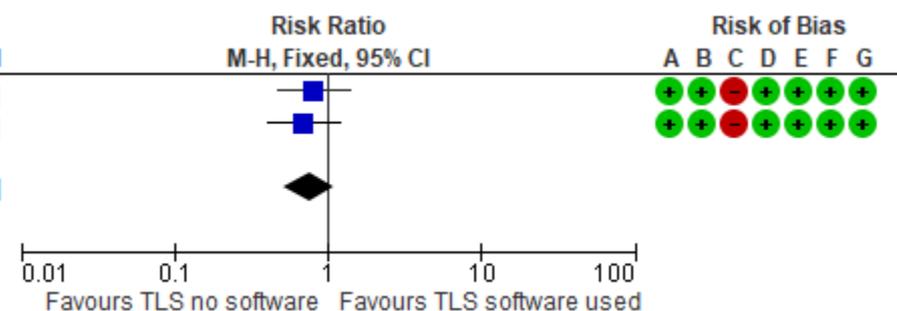
This table shows the birth rates per embryo transfer for different female age categories for treatment with own eggs between 1/5/11 and 28/2/14 with the number of births and embryo transfers for the review shown in brackets. It compares birth rates for standard practice at CARE with birth rates when using CAREmaps which is an embryo selection method unique to CARE. Birth rates are compared per transfer procedure as CAREmaps is used to select embryos, so applied at the time of transfer.

Time-lapse - live birth

Study or Subgroup	TLS		Control		Weight	Risk Ratio	
	Events	Total	Events	Total		M-H, Fixed, 95% CI	
Kovacs 2019	34	80	26	81	6.8%	1.32	[0.88, 1.99]
Rubio 2014	216	444	162	412	44.0%	1.24	[1.06, 1.44]
Yang 2018 (1)	162	300	188	300	49.2%	0.86	[0.75, 0.99]
Total (95% CI)		824		793	100.0%	1.06	[0.96, 1.17]
Total events	412		376				
Heterogeneity: $\text{Chi}^2 = 13.90$, $\text{df} = 2$ ($P = 0.0010$); $I^2 = 86\%$							
Test for overall effect: $Z = 1.11$ ($P = 0.27$)							



Study or Subgroup	TLS		Control		Weight	Risk Ratio	
	Events	Total	Events	Total		M-H, Fixed, 95% CI	
Kaser 2017 (1)	21	56	12	26	48.6%	0.81	[0.48, 1.39]
Kaser 2017 (2)	18	54	13	27	51.4%	0.69	[0.40, 1.19]
Total (95% CI)		110		53	100.0%	0.75	[0.51, 1.10]
Total events	39		25				
Heterogeneity: $\text{Chi}^2 = 0.17$, $\text{df} = 1$ ($P = 0.68$); $I^2 = 0\%$							
Test for overall effect: $Z = 1.47$ ($P = 0.14$)							



Time-lapse – zinnige zorg

Add-on	Evidence
Sperm DNA fragmentation tests	Moderate - no value for clinical practise
Hyaluron acid or MACS	Moderate - possible clinical value
Assisted hatching	Low to moderate – probably no clinical value
Mitochondria DNA load measurement	
Time-lapse imaging	Low - unclear
Endometrial scratching	

Endometrial scratching

A Randomized Trial of Endometrial Scratching before In Vitro Fertilization

2m
m

STUDY POPULATION



1364 women
undergoing
in vitro fertilization
(IVF)

Randomization

INTERVENTION

Endometrial
scratch



Follow Up

Control

© 2 Minute Medicine, Inc.
www.2minutemedicine.com

OUTCOME

No differences
in live birth
rate



Endometrial scratch
associated with
pain and adverse
events



LIVE BIRTH RATE



SECONDARY OUTCOMES



No between-group
differences for:

Clinical pregnancy
Miscarriage
Ectopic pregnancy

No evidence that endometrial scratch
benefited women who failed 2+ IVF cycles

(interaction OR, 0.63; 95% CI, 0.35 to 1.15; P=0.14)

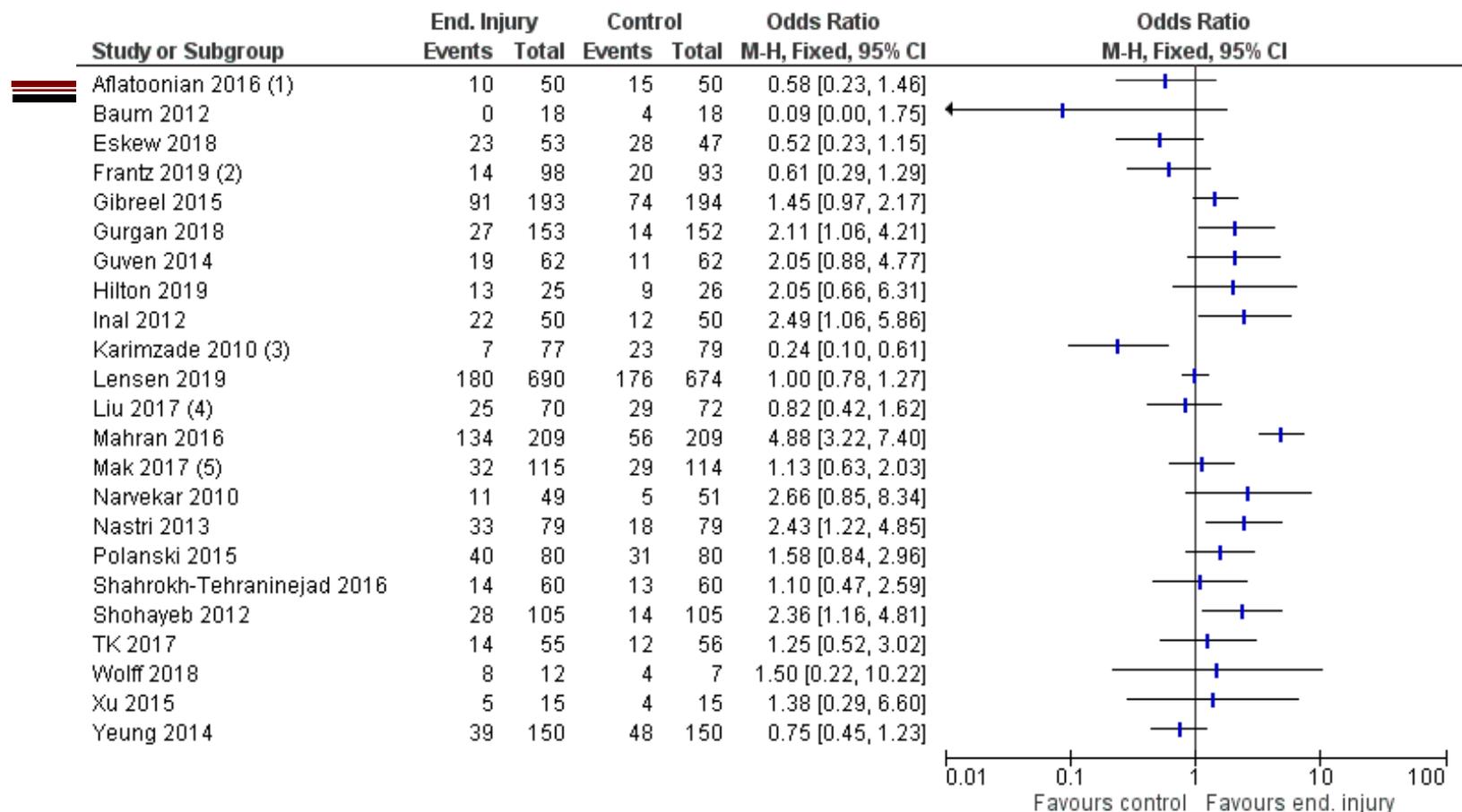
MEDIAN PAIN SCORE FOR ENDOMETRIAL SCRATCH:

3.5/10

(IQR 1.9 to 6.0)

ADVERSE EVENTS:

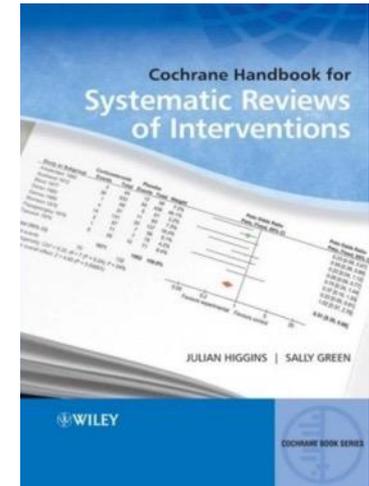
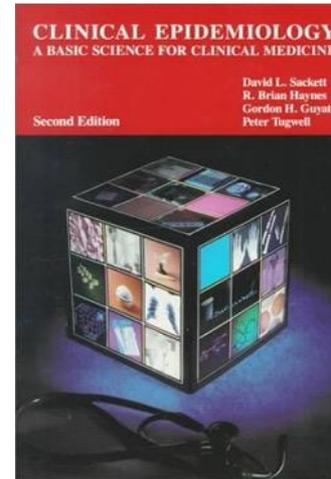
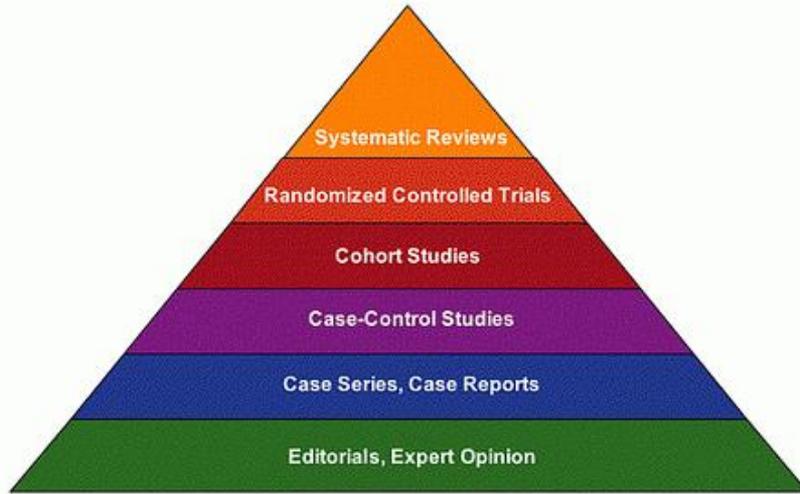
Excessive pain
Excessive bleeding
Dizziness/Nausea



What is technology?

- Something new?
 - There is something new every year at ESHRE
 - Developments go very rapidly
- Something cool?
 - Many things strike us with awe
 - And they also strike our patients
- Something better?
 - A true innovation has a true (proven!) positive impact on the care we provide to our patients everyday
 - Not necessarily cool or perhaps not even new....

What is proof? – Evidence-based –



→ Grading the quality of evidence and the strength of recommendations

- <http://www.gradeworkinggroup.org/>

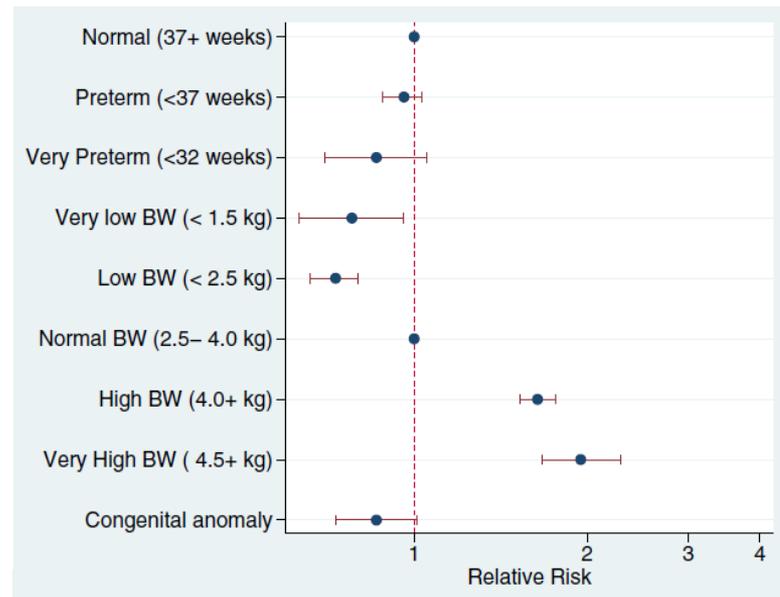
What is proof? – always RCTs? –

ORIGINAL ARTICLE: ASSISTED REPRODUCTION

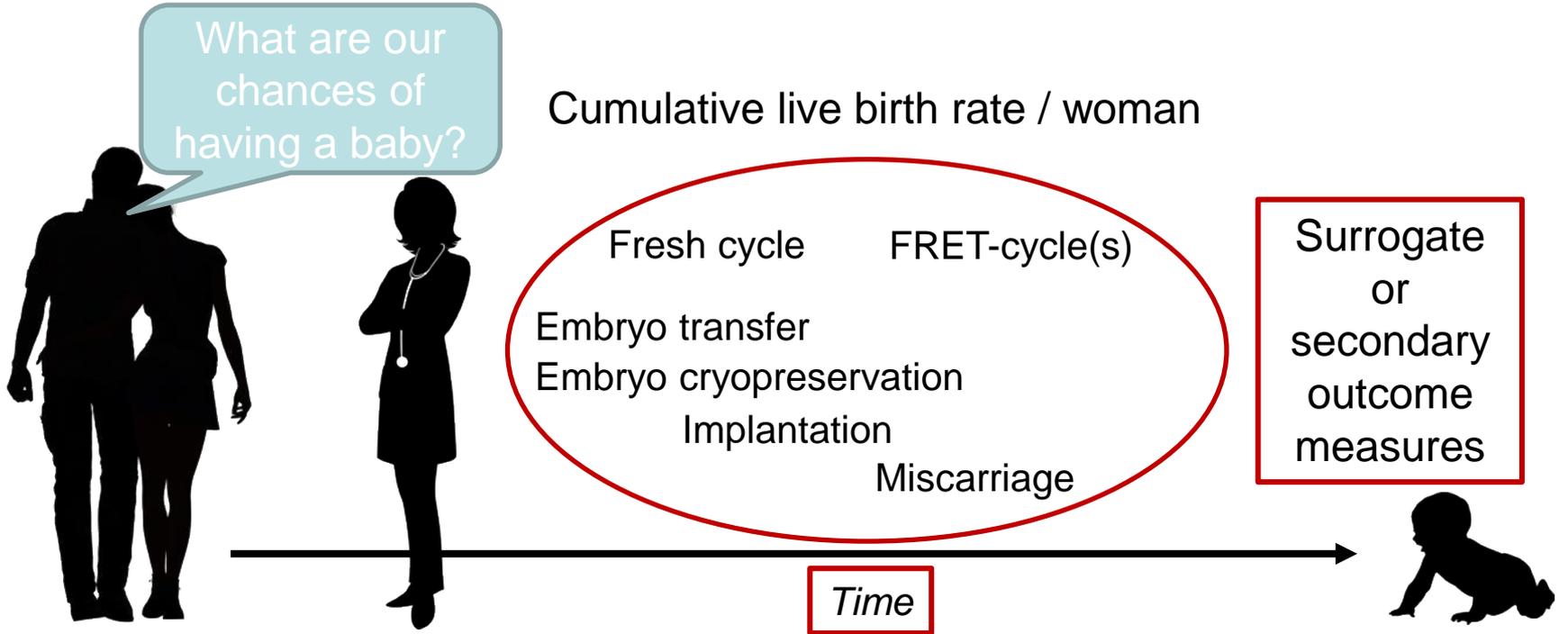
Obstetric and perinatal outcomes after either fresh or thawed frozen embryo transfer: an analysis of 112,432 singleton pregnancies recorded in the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority anonymized dataset

Abha Maheshwari, M.D.,^a Edwin Amalraj Raja, Ph.D.,^b and Siladitya Bhattacharya, M.D.^b

^a National Health Service Grampian; and ^b Institute of Applied Health Sciences, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, United Kingdom



What is proof? – Outcomes –



What is proof? – Outcomes –

Implantation rate - Rate per transfer



In Vitro Fertilization with Preimplantation Genetic Screening

Sebastiaan Mastenbroek, M.Sc., Moniek Twisk, M.D., Jannie van Echten-Arends, Ph.D., Birgit Sikkema-Raddatz, Ph.D., Johanna C. Korevaar, Ph.D., Harold R. Verhoeve, M.D., Niels E.A. Vogel, M.D., Eus G.J.M. Arts, Ph.D., Jan W.A. de Vries, Ph.D., Patrick M. Bossuyt, Ph.D., Charles H.C.M. Buys, Ph.D., Maas Jan Heineman, M.D., Ph.D., Sjoerd Repping, Ph.D., and Fulco van der Veen, M.D., Ph.D.

- Increased implantation rate
- Decreased live birth rate

Fertilization

human
reproduction

ORIGINAL ARTICLE *Embryology*

Influence of embryo culture medium (G5 and HTF) on pregnancy and perinatal outcome after IVF: a multicenter RCT

Sander H.M. Kleijkers^{1,†}, Eleni Mantikou^{2,†}, Els Slappendel³, Dimitri Consten⁴, Jannie van Echten-Arends⁵, Alex M. Wetzels⁶, Madelon van Wely², Luc J.M. Smits¹, Aafke P.A. van Montfoort¹, Sjoerd Repping², John C.M. Dumoulin^{1,†*}, and Sebastiaan Mastenbroek^{2,†*}

- Increased fertilization rate
- Decreased live birth rate

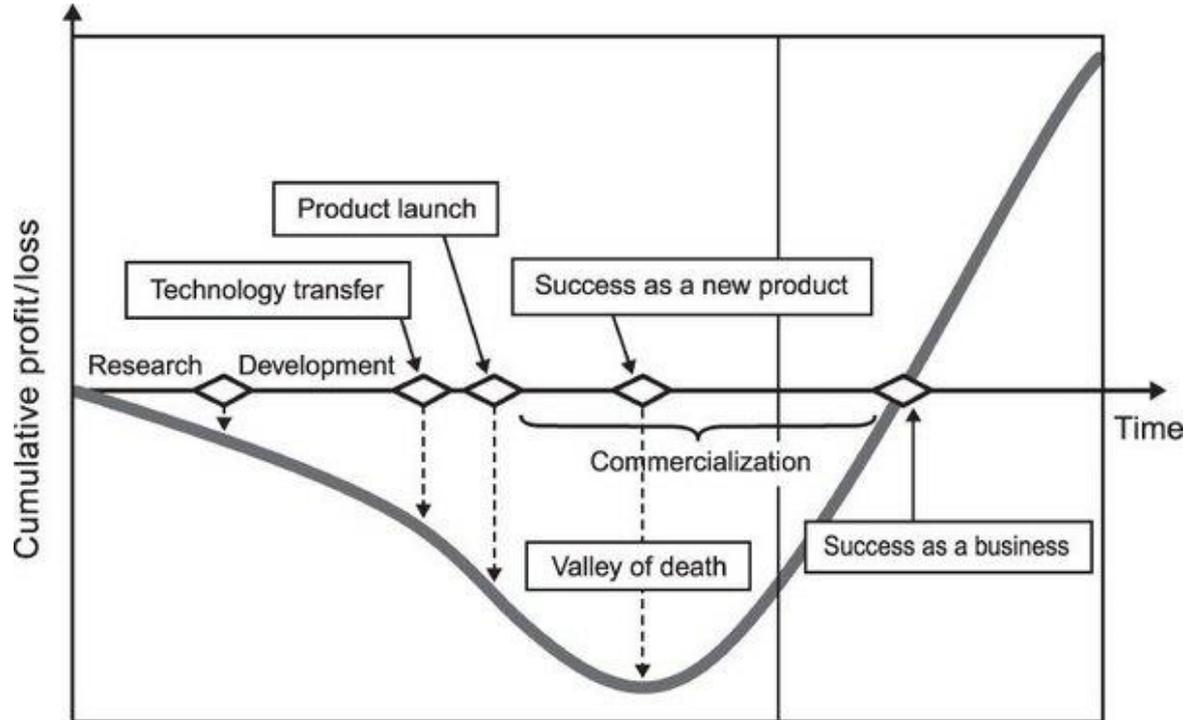
What is commercialization? – conflict of interest –

- To have or represent a financial interest in the use of treatments, diagnostics, add-ons, drugs
 - Unavoidable in a capitalist economy
 - Companies
 - Commercial private clinics
 - Or combinations (professors at private clinics)
- Not bad per se (drives innovation)
 - Should always be clearly presented
 - Conflict of interest slide, declaration
 - Should be taken into account when weighing the evidence



What is commercialization? – goal –

- To make a profit as fast and as large as possible



Example: PGS in the beginning...

FERTILITY AND STERILITY®
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Vol. 68, No. 6, December 1997
Printed on acid-free paper in U. S. A.

Preimplantation genetic diagnosis increases the implantation rate in human in vitro fertilization by avoiding the transfer of chromosomally abnormal embryos

Luca Gianaroli, M.D. Agnese Fiorentino, B.Sc.
M. Cristina Magli, M.Sc. John Garrisi, Ph.D.
Anna Pia Ferraretti, Ph.D. Santiago Munné, Ph.D.

Preimplantation genetic diagnosis significantly reduces pregnancy loss in infertile couples: a multicenter study

Santiago Munné, Ph.D.,^a Jill Fischer, M.Sc.,^a Alison Warner, M.Sc.,^a Serena Chen, M.D.,^b
Christo Zouves, M.D.,^c Jacques Cohen, Ph.D.,^a and the Referring Centers PGD Group
Fertility and Sterility® Vol. 85, No. 2, February 2006

Improved implantation after preimplantation genetic diagnosis of aneuploidy

Authors: Santiago Munné¹; Mireia Sandalinas²; Tomas Escudero²; Esther Velilla²; Renee Walmsley²; Sasha Sadowy²; Jacques Cohen²; David Sable²
Source: [Reproductive BioMedicine Online](#), Volume 7, Number 1, July 2003, pp. 91-97(7)

Human Reproduction vol.14 no.9 pp.2191-2199, 1999

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION

Positive outcome after preimplantation diagnosis of aneuploidy in human embryos*

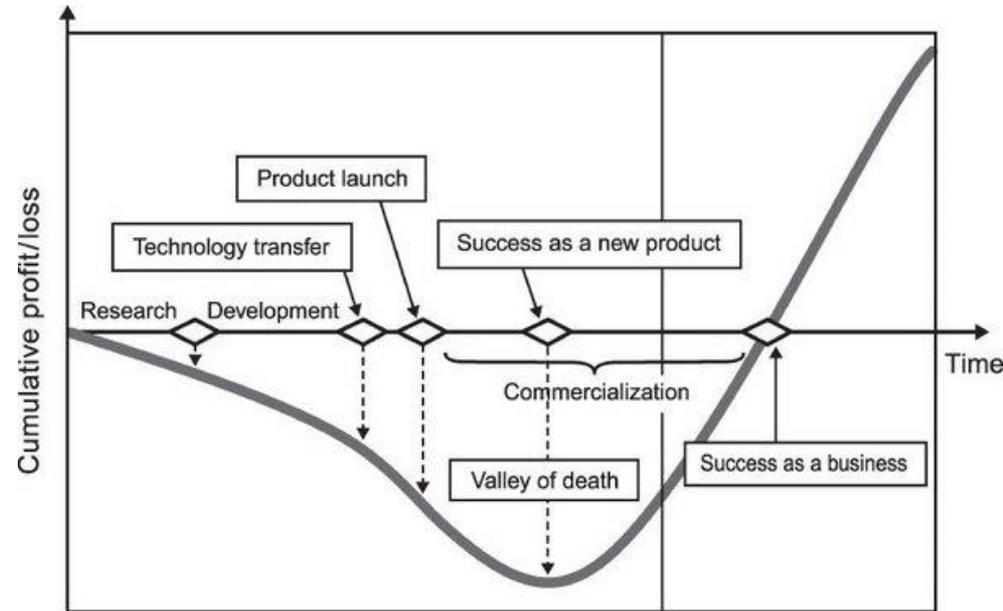
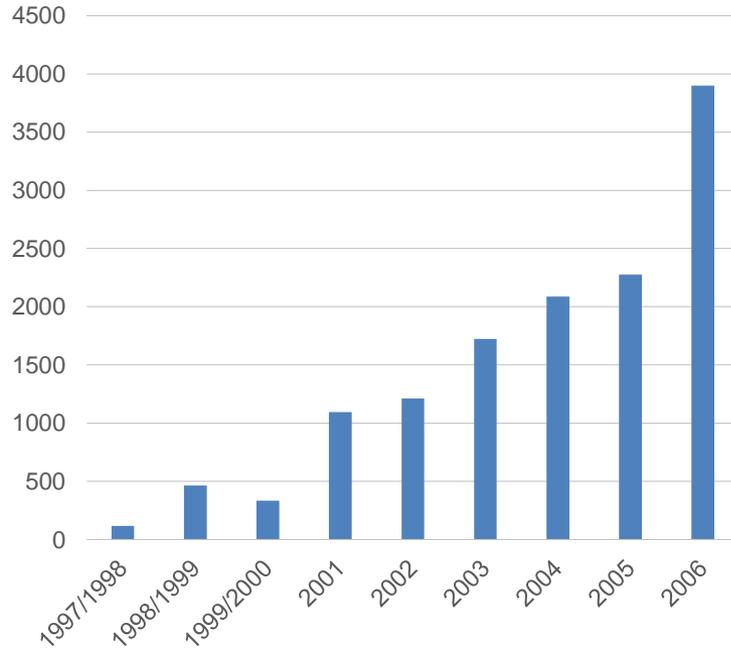
Santiago Munné^{1,4}, Cristina Magli², Jacques Cohen¹,
Paula Morton³, Sasha Sadowy¹, Luca Gianaroli²,
Michael Tucker³, Carmen Márquez¹, David Sable¹,
Anna Pia Ferraretti², Joe B.Massey³ and
Richard Scott¹

Human Reproduction vol.15 no.9 pp.2003-2007, 2000

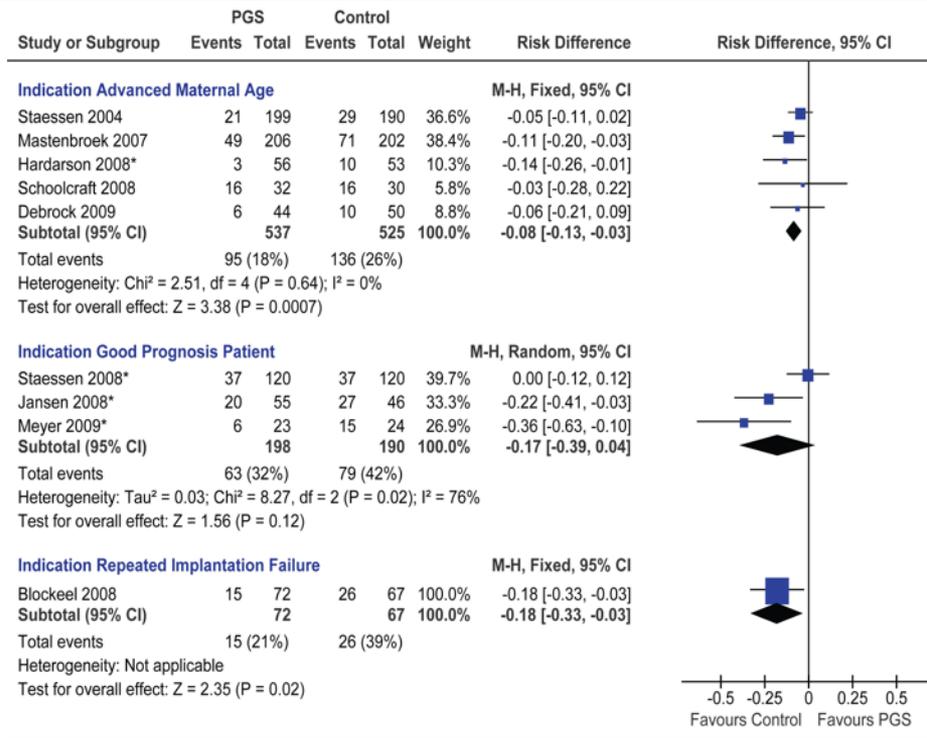
Healthy births and ongoing pregnancies obtained by preimplantation genetic diagnosis in patients with advanced maternal age and recurrent implantation failure

S.Kahraman^{1,4}, M.Bahçe², H. Şamlı³,
N.Imirzahoğlu², K.Yakışın¹, G.Cengiz¹ and
E.Dönmez¹

Use of PGS



Meta-analysis PGS 2011



* Trial was terminated prematurely.

PGS 2.0

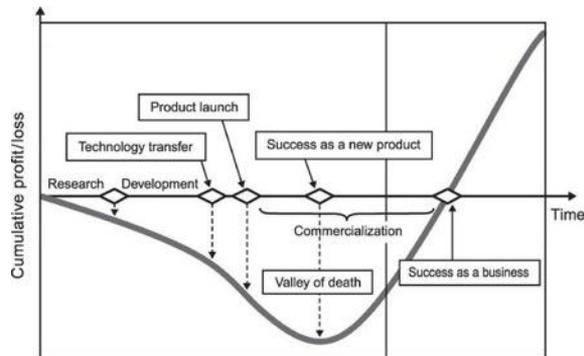


PGS 2.0

Blastocyst biopsy with comprehensive chromosome screening and fresh embryo transfer significantly increases in vitro fertilization implantation and delivery rates: a randomized controlled trial

Richard T. Scott Jr., M.D.,^{a,b} Kathleen M. Upham, B.S.,^a Eric J. Forman, M.D.,^b Kathleen H. Hong, M.D.,^b Katherine L. Scott, M.S.,^{a,c} Deanne Taylor, Ph.D.,^{a,b} Xin Tao, M.S.,^a and Nathan R. Treff, Ph.D.^{a,b}

^a Reproductive Medicine Associates of New Jersey, Morristown, New Jersey; ^b Division of Reproductive Endocrinology, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Science, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey; and ^c Atlantic Reproductive Medicine Specialists, Raleigh, North Carolina



In vitro fertilization with single euploid blastocyst transfer: a randomized controlled trial

Eric J. Forman, M.D.,^{a,b} Kathleen H. Hong, M.D.,^{a,b} Kathleen M. Ferry, B.Sc.,^a Xin Tao, M.Sc.,^a Deanne Taylor, Ph.D.,^a Brynn Levy, Ph.D.,^{a,c} Nathan R. Treff, Ph.D.,^{a,b} and Richard T. Scott Jr., M.D.^{a,b}

^a Reproductive Medicine Associates of New Jersey, Department of Reproductive Endocrinology, Basking Ridge, New Jersey; ^b UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences, New Brunswick, New Jersey; and ^c Department of Pathology, Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, New York

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access

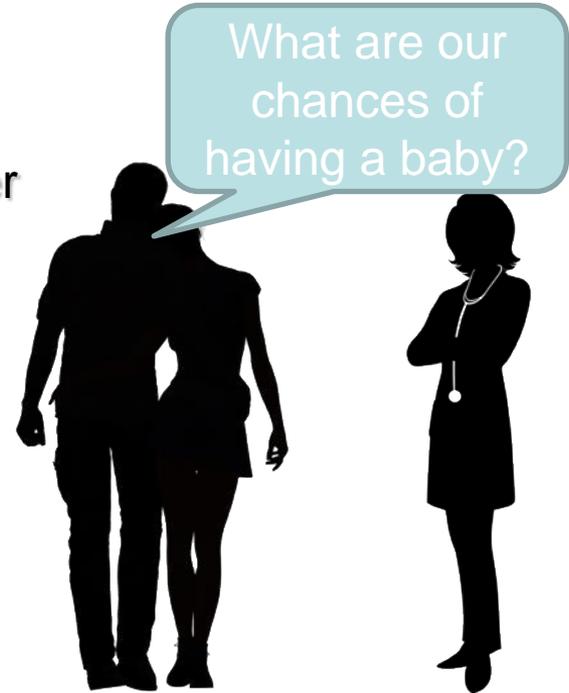


Randomized comparison of next-generation sequencing and array comparative genomic hybridization for preimplantation genetic screening: a pilot study

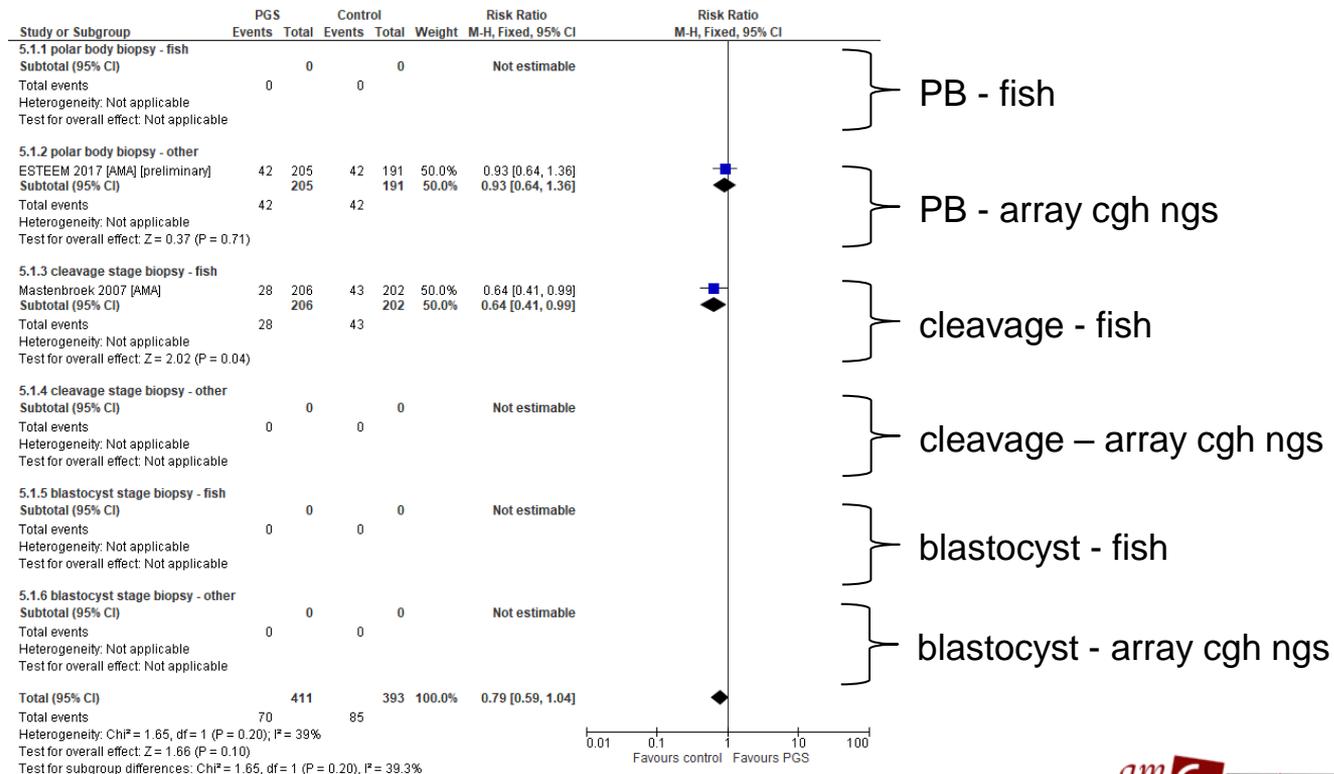
Zhifeng Yang^{1,2,5*}, James Lin², John Zhang³, Wai Ieng Fong⁴, Pei Li⁵, Rong Zhao⁵, Xiaohong Liu⁵, William Podevin⁶, Yanping Kuang⁷ and Jiaen Liu⁵

Cumulative live birth rate per woman

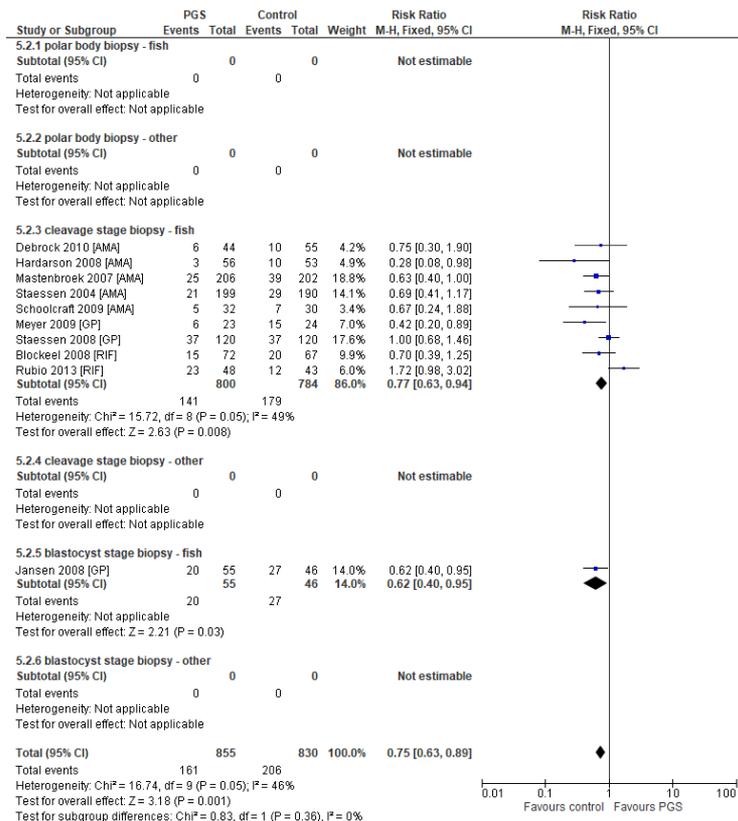
- Exclusion of studies that
 - do not report on outcome of FRET-cycles
 - only report on patients who received a transfer
- What is the chance of a live birth per woman per cycle started?
 - Exclusion of studies that report on PGS with multiple OPUs for single ET



Cumulative live birth rate (one OPU per IVF)

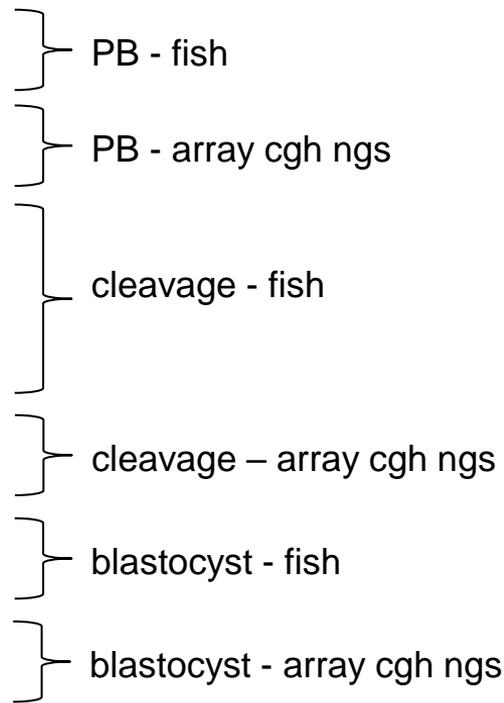
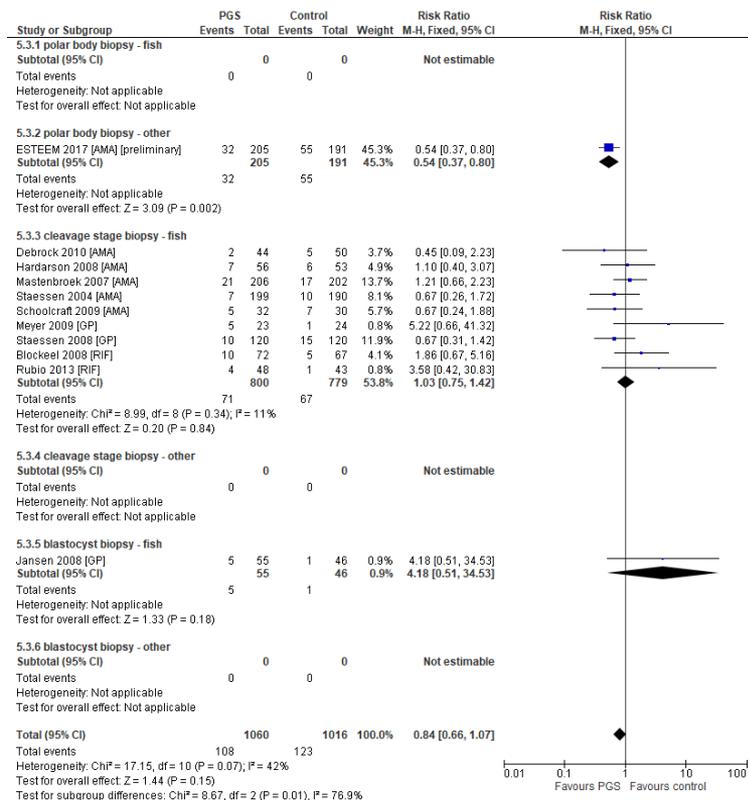


Live birth rate per first transfer (one OPU per IVF)



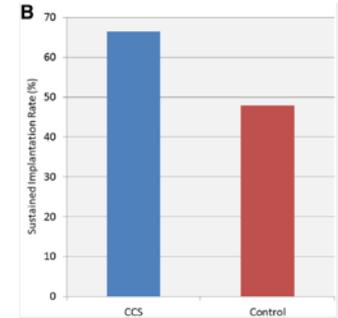
PB - fish
 PB - array cgh ngs
 cleavage - fish
 cleavage - array cgh ngs
 blastocyst - fish
 blastocyst - array cgh ngs

Miscarriage rate (one OPU per IVF)



Secondary outcomes: implantation rate

- Implantation rate is higher in PGS cycles
 - Scott 80% vs 63%
 - Yang 69% vs 42%
 - Mastenbroek^a 17% vs 15%
 - Staessen 17% vs 12%
 - Rubio 53% vs 28%
 - ESTEEM^b 18% vs 11%



^a excluding transfers of unknown embryos

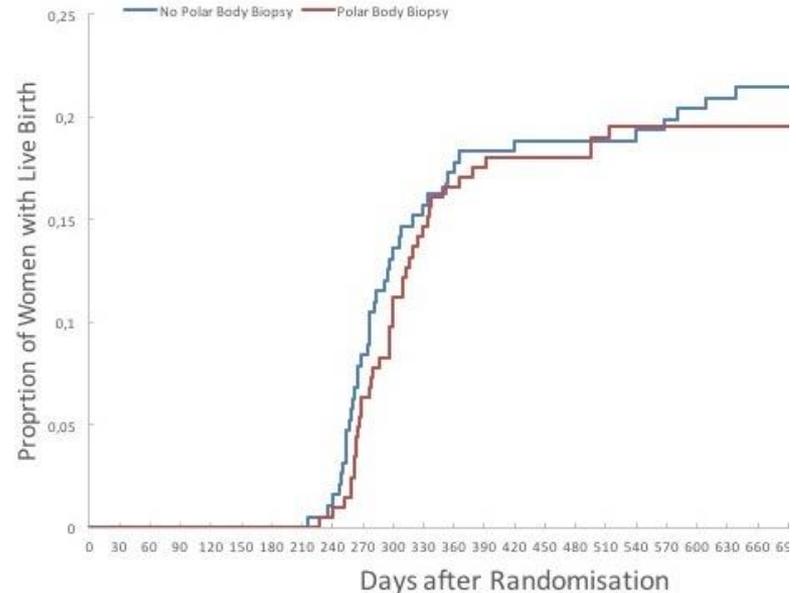
^b aggregate of fresh and frozen embryos

Secondary outcomes: time to pregnancy

- No effect on time to pregnancy (limited data!)

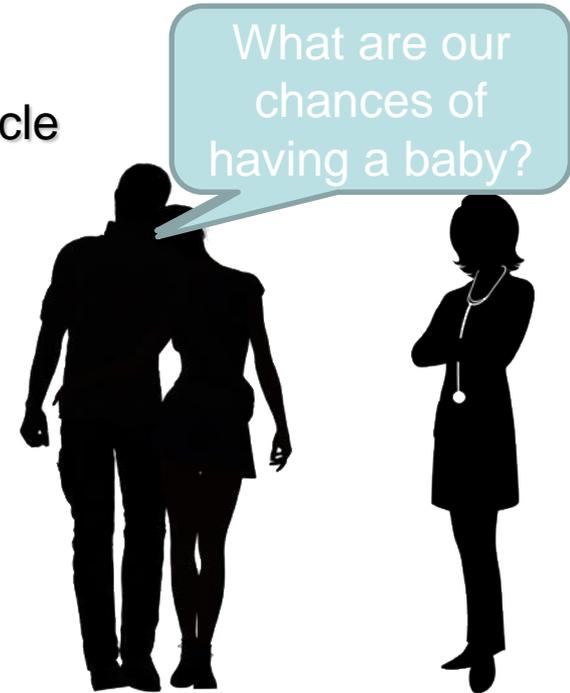
Supplemental Table 4: Number of transfers and time to pregnancy for a healthy baby at home.

	PGD-A	Non PGD-A	<i>p-value</i>
Number of pregnancies at the first attempt	36	23	---
Number pregnancies after transfer of cryopreserved embryos	1	10	---
Mean time to ongoing pregnancy (SD, weeks)	4.5 (4.1)	5.8 (4.5)	<i>NS</i>
Mean number of transfer attempts (SD)	1.0 (0.2)	1.3 (0.4)	<i><0.0001</i>



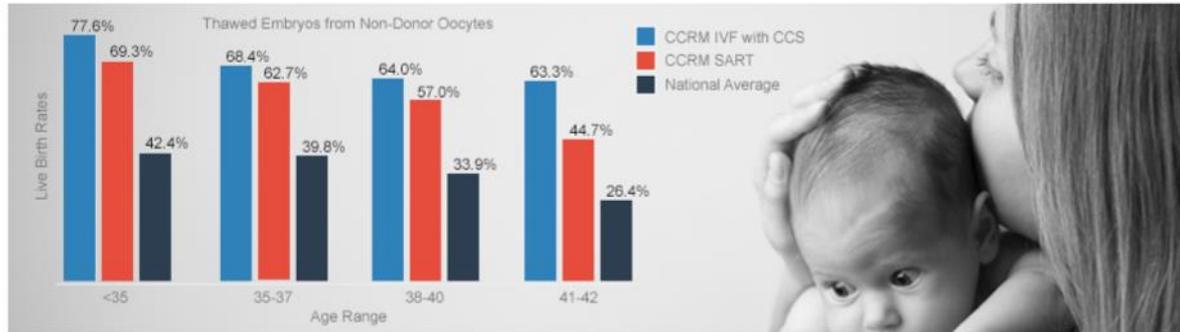
How should we inform patients?

- No increase in chances of having a baby
 - PGS 1.0 will decrease LBR per started cycle
 - PGS 2.0 almost no data, no increase
- Secondary outcomes
 - More no transfer, less transfers
 - Less embryos cryopreserved
 - Higher implantation rate per embryo
 - Perhaps fewer miscarriages
 - No effect on time to pregnancy
- High costs, invasive procedure.....



How do we inform patients?

ABOUT US > SUCCESS RATES > 2012 STATISTICS



Increasing pregnancy rates and decreasing risks

With PGS, it's now possible to improve IVF success rates by detecting and selecting embryos that have the right number of chromosomes (euploid embryos). There are currently two equally effective tests for PGS, 24Sure and VeriSeq PGS, both from Illumina.



Higher Rate of Pregnancy with PGS

Pregnancy rate indicated is as of 20 weeks after IVF cycle. PGS using 24sure arrays to select euploid embryos was performed on fresh day 5 embryos. Data from Yang Z et al. (2012)⁸

How do we inform patients?

- First: the baby!
- Then the famous trustworthy professor
- Then the (wrong) numbers
- Who can resist?



How do we inform patients?

❖ Improve your reproductive success with the specific selection of chromosomally normal embryos

Increase in implantation rate:

Some embryos that are chromosomally abnormal will fail to implant into a woman's uterus. Therefore, by transferring chromosomally normal embryos, PGS using an array can increase the implantation rate.

Reduction in miscarriage rate: In the general population, 20% of all clinical pregnancies miscarry and about half are chromosomally abnormal. Since PGS evaluates numerical changes in chromosome numbers and large chromosome imbalances, embryo with chromosome abnormalities will not be transferred. Therefore, especially, in high-risk groups, PGS reduces the risk of miscarriage.

Increase in the chance of delivering a healthy baby: Some pregnancies with chromosome abnormalities will result in the birth of a child with multiple serious anomalies. Therefore, PGS can increase the chance of delivering a healthy baby by assisting physicians in identifying chromosomally healthy embryos for transfer. These conditions can also be detected by chorionic villus sampling (CVS) or amniocentesis later during the pregnancy.

Decrease in time to achieve a pregnancy: With this approach, the time to achieve healthy live-born decreases compared to a regular IVF cycle, avoiding multiple frozen embryo transfers before the transfer of the implanting embryo.

PGS 24 Chromosomes

Have a successful pregnancy and a healthy baby by selecting chromosomally normal embryos

Employing PGS for aneuploidy screening in IVF can double ongoing pregnancy rates.

Data summary of cycles performed at IVI Group 2011-2012 (with and without PGS). Cycles# AMA 880, IF 187, RM 204, MF 116. Pregnancy of 12 weeks gestation or more.

2.5x higher

Advanced maternal age

2.3x higher

Implantation failure

1.7x higher

Recurrent miscarriage

1.6x higher

Male factor

How do we inform customers?

- We try everything to make them buy our products
“No worries! You can trust us!”



Commercialization....

- The benefits

- In Vitro Fertilization (IVF)

IVF Package Fees	Price
CCRM IVF Package (Starts at Lupron consult and ends after first pregnancy test)	\$ 7,975
Fertility Laboratories of Colorado (FLC)	\$ 5,105
South Denver Anesthesia Services	\$ 430
Medications (Paid directly to the pharmacy of your choice)	\$ 3,500 to 6,500 (approximate)
Total Estimated Cost of IVF Cycle	\$ 17,010 to 20,010

- IVF with Comprehensive Chromosome Screening (CCS)

IVF With CCS Package Fees	Price
CCRM IVF Package (Starts at Lupron consult and ends after first pregnancy test)	\$ 7,975
Fertility Laboratories of Colorado (FLC)	\$ 14,080
*CCS and ICSI Included	
South Denver Anesthesia Services	\$ 430
Medications (Paid directly to the pharmacy of your choice)	\$ 4,300 to 8,500 (approximate)
Total Estimated Cost of IVF Cycle with CCS	\$ 27,285 to 31,485

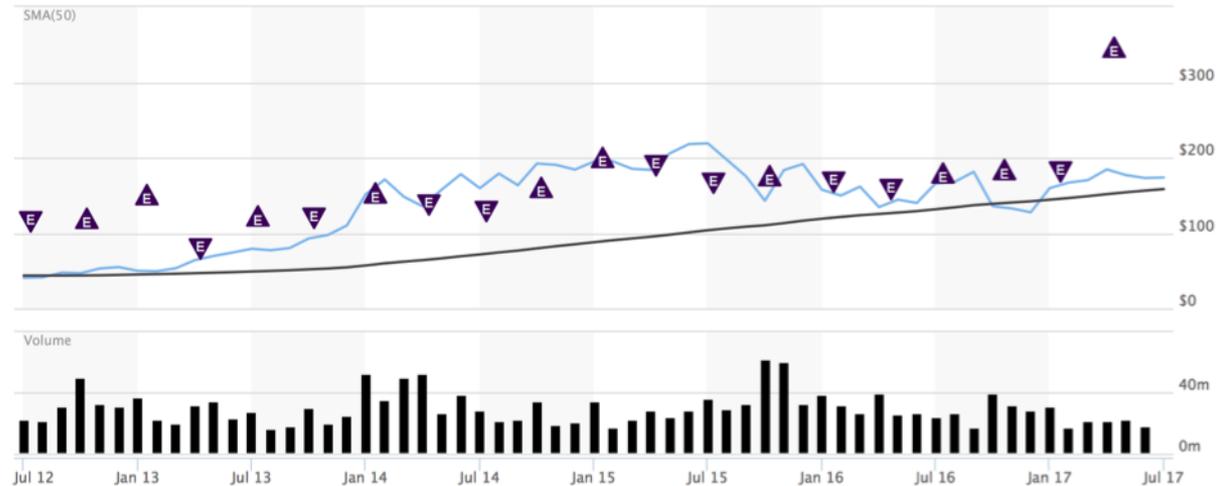
\$ 8975

- PGS/CCS at CCRM in 2013

- 3309 cycles * 0.85 (cycles with CCS) * \$ 8975 = \$ 25,246,675

Who benefits from PGS?

- The companies!
 - 1/1/2013: \$50.63
 - 7/1/2017: \$174.13
 - 344%



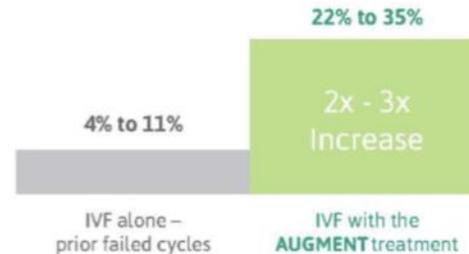
AUGMENTATION

The AUGMENTSM Treatment 3x Improvement vs. Patients' Previous IVF History

Women with a poor prognosis who tried IVF alone had a 4%-11% clinical pregnancy rate. **For these same women who failed at least one prior IVF cycle and used the AUGMENT treatment, the clinical pregnancy rate was 22%-35%.** That's a 2-3 fold improvement over their historic rates.¹

Ask your doctor if the **AUGMENT** treatment is right for you.

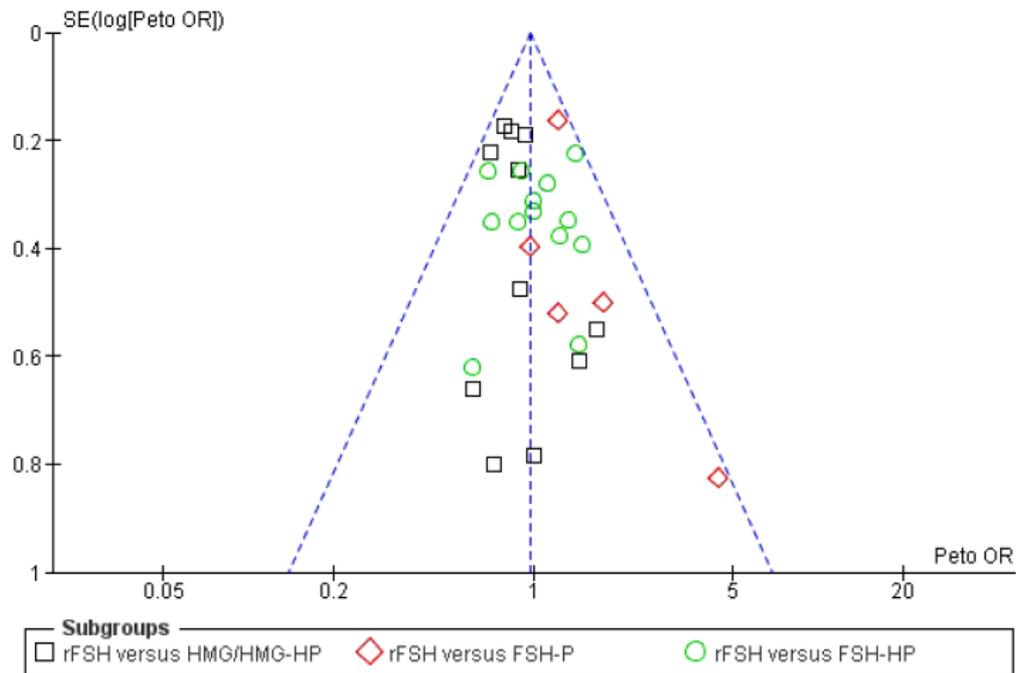
... AUGMENT Treatment Pregnancy Rates ...



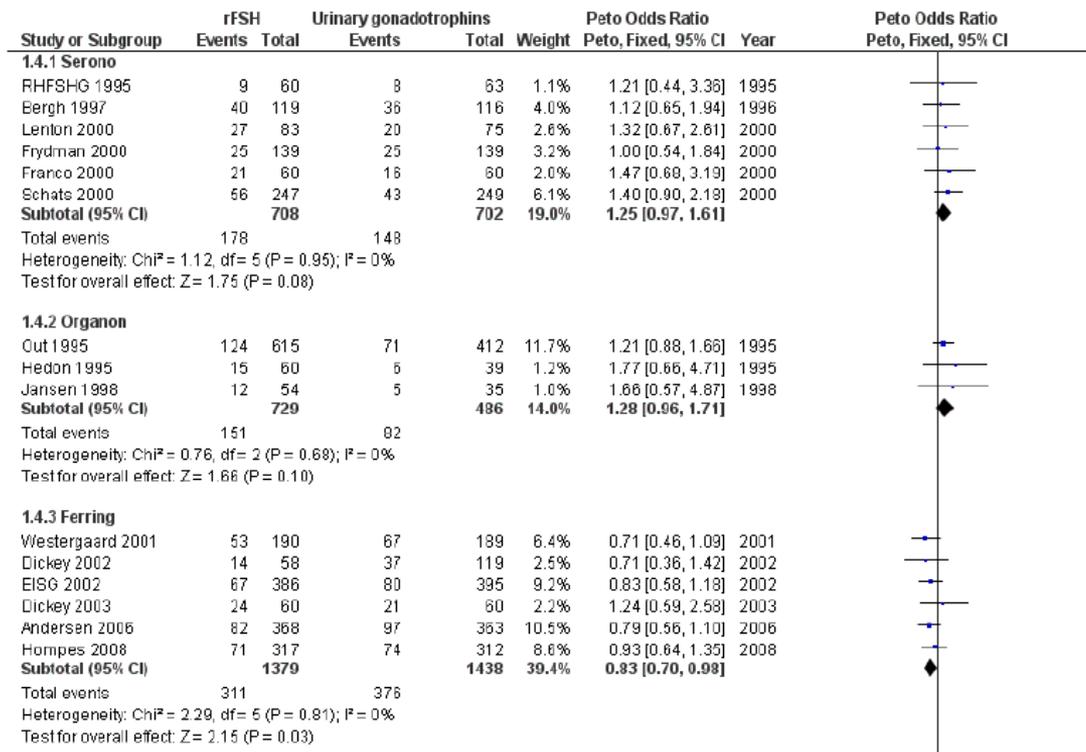
n = 93 patients and 328 cycles from Fakh IVF and TCART

Recombinant FSH vs Urinary FSH

Figure 3. Funnel plot of comparison: 1 rFSH versus urinary gonadotrophins, outcome: 1.1 Live birth (or pregnancy ongoing beyond 20 weeks).



Recombinant FSH vs Urinary FSH



Recombinant FSH vs Urinary FSH

1.4.5 None

Hugues 2001	7	56	6	32	0.8%	0.61 [0.18, 2.07]	2001
Ng 2001	4	20	4	20	0.5%	1.00 [0.22, 4.62]	2001
Gordon 2001	9	39	11	59	1.2%	1.31 [0.48, 3.56]	2001
Selman 2002	41	134	52	133	4.7%	0.69 [0.42, 1.14]	2002
Balasz 2003	8	30	6	30	0.8%	1.44 [0.44, 4.73]	2003
Kilani 2003	11	50	12	50	1.4%	0.89 [0.35, 2.26]	2003
Meden-Vrtovec 2003	18	70	16	61	2.0%	0.97 [0.45, 2.12]	2003
Cheon 2004	50	131	50	123	4.7%	0.90 [0.55, 1.49]	2004
Rashidi 2005	3	30	4	30	0.5%	0.73 [0.15, 3.47]	2005
Mohamed 2006	18	129	20	128	2.5%	0.88 [0.44, 1.74]	2006
Bosch 2008	44	140	48	140	4.8%	0.88 [0.53, 1.45]	2008
Subtotal (95% CI)		829		806	23.9%	0.87 [0.70, 1.09]	

Total events 213 229
 Heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.68, df = 10 (P = 0.99); I² = 0%
 Test for overall effect: Z = 1.22 (P = 0.22)

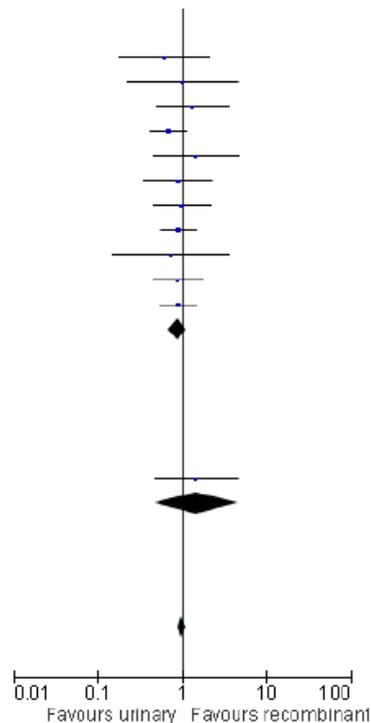
1.4.6 Unknown

Nardo 2000	12	75	4	35	0.9%	1.44 [0.46, 4.47]	2000
Subtotal (95% CI)		75		35	0.9%	1.44 [0.46, 4.47]	

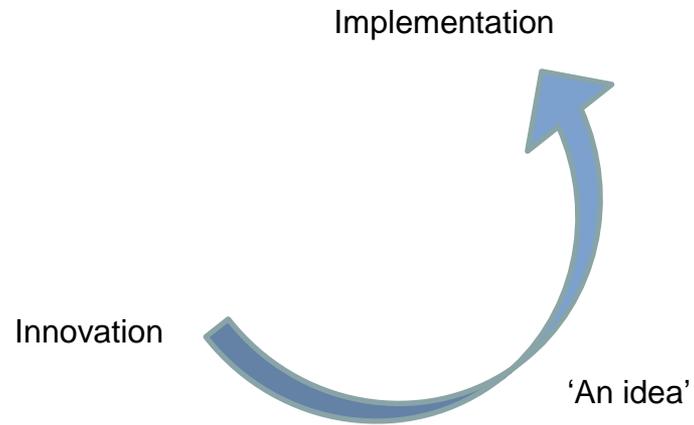
Total events 12 4
 Heterogeneity: Not applicable
 Test for overall effect: Z = 0.63 (P = 0.53)

Total (95% CI) 3796 3543 100.0% 0.97 [0.87, 1.08]

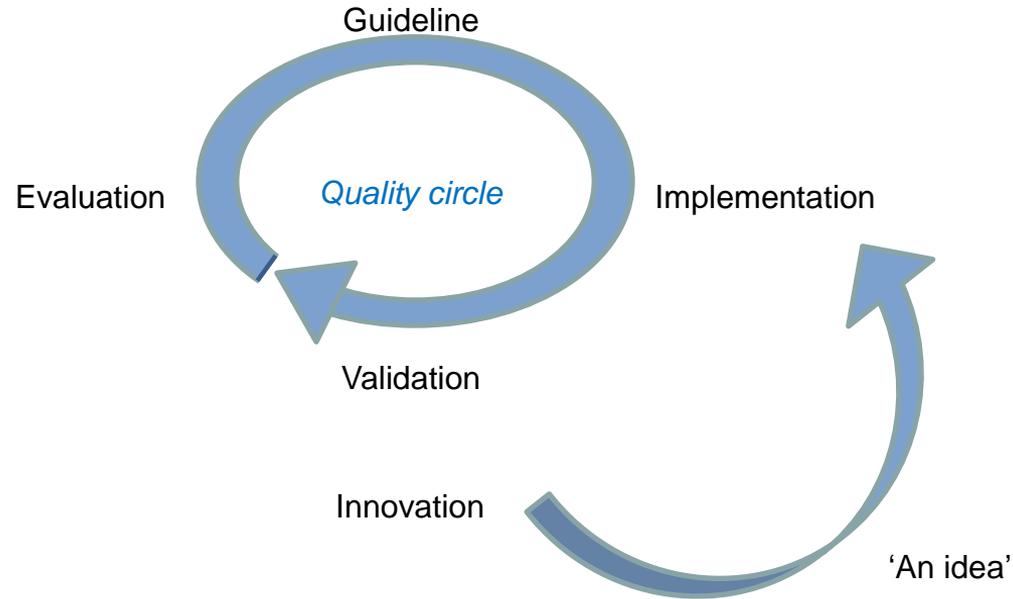
Total events 894 868
 Heterogeneity: Chi² = 18.93, df = 27 (P = 0.87); I² = 0%
 Test for overall effect: Z = 0.50 (P = 0.62)
 Test for subgroup differences: Chi² = 12.07, df = 5 (P = 0.03), I² = 58.6%



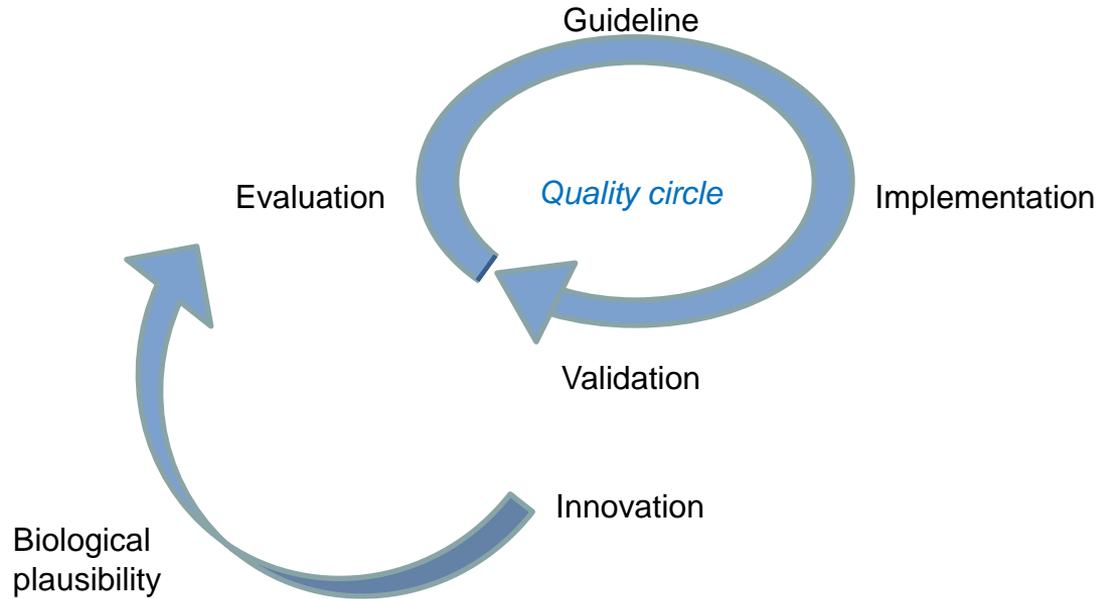
The route of innovation



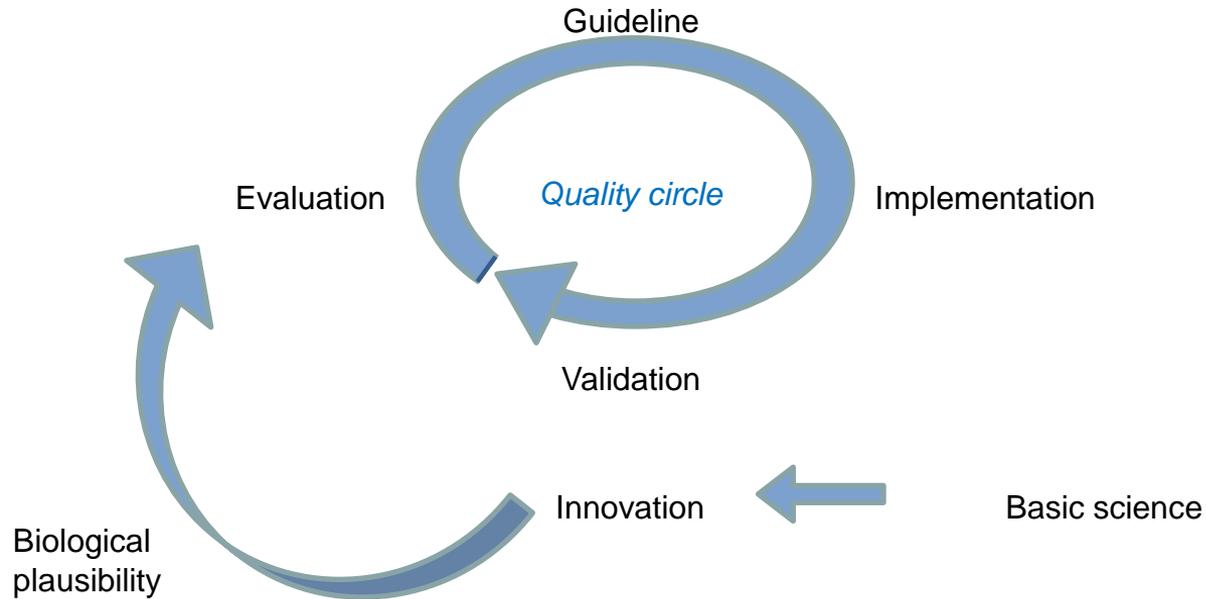
The route of innovation



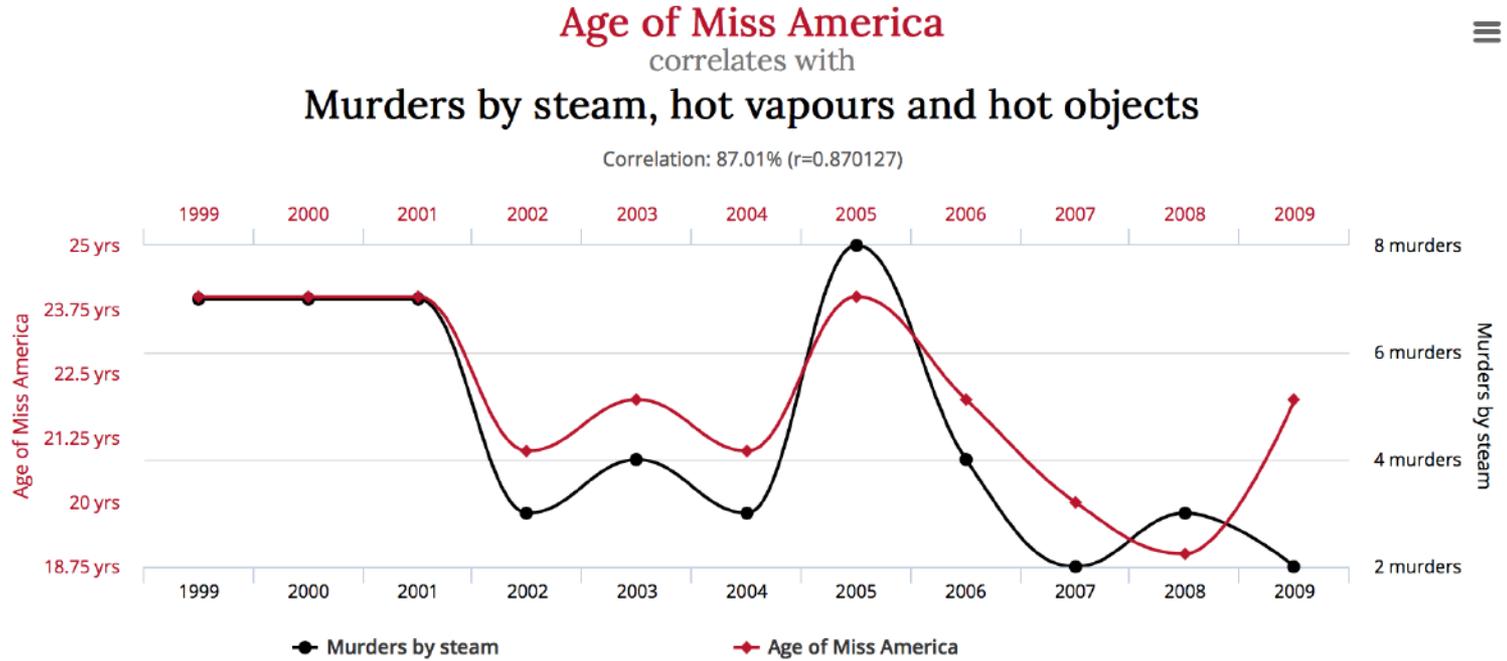
The route of innovation



The route of innovation



Biological plausibility...



Data sources: Wikipedia and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

tylervigen.com

Moral obligation

Responsible innovation requires making potentially risky reproductive technologies the subject of research, ideally proceeding through the steps of preclinical investigations, clinical trials and (long-term) follow-up studies.

The liability in this is often left to the patient by means of 'informed consent'. But it is simply too easy to just hide behind the demand of the patient. The problem here is that a patient could agree with being treated with a technique of unknown effectiveness, but the clinician still remains responsible for what he or she does.