

9th Yazd International Congress and Student Award on Reproductive Medicine with 4th Congress of Reproductive Genetics

Key Lectures

K-80

Azoospermia

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Infertility affects 15% of couples, and male factors are implicated as a cause in 50% of patients. Azoospermia is considered the most severe form of male factor causes and is defined as the absence of sperm in the semen sample. It can be further categorized into obstructive and non-obstructive azoospermia. Non-obstructive azoospermia may be due to testicular (primary testicular

failure) or pre-testicular (secondary testicular failure) causes. Obstructive azoospermia could be due to congenital and/or acquired etiologies. Genetic factors may play an important role in both types of azoospermia. Before the advent of intra-cytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) azoospermic men considered sterile and were in need of sperm or fetus donation. In the era of new assisted reproductive technique, these male patients could have their own child. Since ICSI could surpass be natural selection, the genetic abnormalities could easily transmitted to the offspring. Therefore genetic counseling should be considered before ART.