

Corrigenda

The IJRM Publisher has been informed of an unexpected error that occurred in the supplement of the 20th congress of infertility and reproduction in which six abstracts were missed for publication. On behalf of the staff, the congress secretariat wishes to apologize for this error.

Oral Clinical outcome of frozen thawed embryo transfer in three different cycle regimens

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Introduction: Many studies have been carried out to understand the effect of endometrial thickness on the reproductive outcome while the factors affecting the pattern itself are still unknown.

Materials and Methods: This study was conducted as a single blind randomized clinical trial study on 180 infertile women considered for IVF. Endometrial thickness measurement was done in each group (natural, letrozole, and agonist, 60 patients in each group). Correlation between endometrial thickness and factors such as clinical pregnancy, FHR, β HCG and pregnancy rate were assessed. Data analyses, including parametric and nonparametric tests were undertaken using the SPSS 16 software. $P < 0.05$ was regarded as statistically significant.

Results: The mean endometrial thickness was 8.46 ± 1.35 mm, and 8.13 ± 1.15 , 7.99 ± 1.06 , and 8.89 ± 1.35 in natural, Letrozole, and agonist group respectively, there was a significant difference among groups ($p < 0.001$). There were no significant differences among groups in β HCG, FHR, median transfer fetus and clinical pregnancy ($p > 0.05$).

Conclusion: We did not find any correlation between endometrial preparation methods and FHR, β HCG, and clinical pregnancy.

Key words: Endometrial thickness, IVF, Letrozole, FHR.

Oral Effect of psychological stress on seminal quality in male partners of infertile couples

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Introduction: Male infertility is relatively less explored. About 30% of infertility is purely due to male causes, and in another 20% cases, both partners are detected to have abnormalities. Thus, a male factor plays a significant role in about 50% of infertile couples. The present study evaluated the effect of psychological stress on seminal quality in male partner of infertile couples.

Materials and Methods: In our study, 30 male partners of infertile couples were randomly selected. They were evaluated for level of psychological stress using Depression Anxiety and Stress Scale (DASS) questionnaire. The DASS is a 42-item questionnaire which includes three self-report scales designed to measure the negative emotional states of depression,

anxiety and stress. Seminal analysis was performed as WHO guidelines (WHO, 2010).

Results: The age range of the population was 26-42 years, and they were suffering from infertility for more than 2 years. Eight (27%) of them had abnormal DASS score. Sperm count, motility and morphologically normal spermatozoa were lower in persons having abnormal DASS.

Conclusion: Male infertility has been attributed to number of factors such as anatomical defects, endocrinopathies, immunological problems, gene mutation, radiation exposure, chemotherapy, ejaculatory failures and environmental exposures. Psychological stress alters seminal quality. Stress management is warranted for male infertility cases.

Key words: Male infertility, Psychological stress, Sperm characteristics.

Oral The qualitative needs assessment of fertility and infertility needs between women and men

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Introduction: The reproductive needs in every age group and society are different and specialized, therefore it's necessary to know about these health needs and use them in curriculum planning. The current research studied reproductive health needs in their view.

Materials and Methods: The study was qualitative research. It did in selected clinics in Isfahan. Sampling was goal based. Data gathering method for women was focus group and for men was semi structured interview 16 women and 10 men participated in this study. Interviews were recorded after getting consent, then the records were written and extracted reproductive health needs and their requests and then categorized.

Results: After searching the people views, we extracted 56 problems and 43 requests and categorized them in 5 groups such as, infertility, family planning, legal issues, and disease. The extracted items were problems like not using of different methods of family planning, psychology disorders depended to reproductive health, sexual disorders, no reference to solve the problems, no adequate knowledge and getting wrong information and requests like consults and education in sexual or marriage issues.

Conclusion: The results of research and study on current situation and good situation in people opinion showed that they complained of no knowledge, no consults and no specialized reference to be referred. The need for education about sexual issues was more dominant than other needs between fertile or infertile couples, and it was approved by other researches like researches that did in Tehran and Qom about a tragedy in marriage life of couple who wanted to divorce.

Key words: Needs assessment, Fertility and infertility needs, Reproductive health.

Poster

Effects of mouse testicular tissue vitrification and short-term culture on apoptosis genes expression

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Introduction: Evaluation of apoptosis incidence after testicular tissue cryopreservation is crucial factor for fertility research. Therefore, the aim of this study was to evaluate the apoptosis incident after short-term culture of mouse testicular tissue vitrification

Materials and Methods: Real-time PCR, Flow cytometry and light microscopy were used respectively for evaluation of apoptosis genes expression, apoptosis incident and morphological changes after 0, 3 and 20 hours of post-thawing of vitrification cultures.

Results: While the times of culture led to increase tissue degeneration, higher significant percentage of late apoptosis was observed in time of 0 and 3 hr compare to control. However, it significantly reduced at 20 hr ($p < 0.05$). Although a similar trend of Bax and Caspase 3 expression was detected at all of the time of culture, a higher significant of Bax expression was happened at 0 hr compare to other groups ($p < 0.05$). A lower significant of Bcl2 expression was observed at all of the time of culture compare to similar non-vitrified groups ($p < 0.05$). For Fas expression, while no significant change was observed in 0 hr compare to control, it significantly increased at 3 hr and decreased at 20 hr of culture ($p < 0.05$). While expression of P53 and Fas ligand were similar at 3 hr of culture compare to control, the higher expression of Fas ligand was happen at 0 and 20 hr of culture rather than control and lower expression of P53 at 0 hr was observed compare to 3 and 20 hr ($p < 0.05$).

Conclusion: External pathway of apoptosis has significant role in degeneration in short-term of culture after vitrification.

Key words: Vitrification, Apoptosis, Testicular tissue.

Poster

A comparative study of scientific production in the field of reproductive medicine in Iran and Middle East countries within the years 1996-2012

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Introduction: Preparation and publication of academic articles in scientific journals is one of the most important indicators in progress of research in a country. The science of studying and analyzing science of bibliographic databases is called scientometrics. One of the best approaches to monitor the research productivities is scientometrics that is concerned by sciences' policy makers in the last few decades. In this

study, the scientific productions of Iran and Middle East countries in the field of reproductive medicine, those indexed in the Scopus database up to 2012, are analyzed and compared with together.

Materials and Methods: The present descriptive study uses Scopus international SCImago bibliographical database for analyzing research publications in field of reproductive medicine from Iran and other countries up to 2012.

Results: Iran's research publications in the areas of reproductive medicine (660 articles) ranked 11 in the World up to 2012 and between the Middle East countries ranked first. H-Index of scientific production in the field of reproductive medicine was calculated 14 and between the Middle East countries and Iran ranking in this regard is 4. Around the world, there are 24 journals in the field of reproductive medicine which have indexed in Scopus, and 4 journals belong to Iran.

Discussion: Iranian research products in this field have been progressed during last years. Iranian H-index indicates that scientific production in the field had influence. In considering "the 20-Year Perspective Document for Iran" reproductive medicine area is developing.

Key words: Science production, Reproductive, Middle East, Scientometrics, H-index, Iran

Poster

The role of phytotherapy in the treatment of male infertility

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Introduction: Infertility is defined as the inability to achieve a pregnancy after one year of unprotected intercourse. The causes of infertility can be male and/or female factors. 20-40% of infertility is only related to male factors. Male factors can include anatomical abnormalities (such as varicoceles and ductal obstructions), ejaculatory disorders or cases such as low sperm count or motility, sperm antibodies, prostatitis and genito-urinary infections. 40-90% of cases of male infertility are due to deficient sperm production of unidentifiable origin. According to cost and side effects of chemical drugs effective in the treatment of male infertility, this paper reviews the beneficial role of medicinal herbs in male fertility.

Materials and Methods: Online scientific sources were used to adjust this paper. These resources include Google Scholar, Advanced Search of Google, Science Direct, Scopus, en.bookfi.org and also Books of Herbal Medicine.

Results: Numerous studies have reported that medicinal herbs can significantly improve the quality and quantity of sperm (improvement of spermatogenesis and motility). The authors suggest that improvement in sperm concentrations after herbal treatment may be due to a correction in Leydig cell dysfunction. Some studies have confirmed the improvement in serum FSH, LH, testosterone, corticosterone levels and pregnancy rate after herbal treatment, indicating that the herbs had multiple actions on the pituitary axis.

Conclusion: A considerable number of infertile men show abnormal semen parameters without specific etiologies. Since there was no satisfactory management of male infertility of idiopathic causes with the conventional treatments, phytotherapy can be considered as an alternative therapeutic strategy.

Key words: Male Infertility, Phytotherapy, Medicinal herbs.