

Frozen Embryo Transfer VS Fresh Embryo Transfer - A Review

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ABSTRACT

Embryo transfer plays a pivotal role in vitro fertilization (IVF) procedures. This paper provides a comprehensive review of the assessment of frozen embryo transfer v/s fresh embryo transfer receptivity in IVF cycles, focusing on the emerging role of array analysis techniques. A prospective observational study was undertaken to investigate the frozen embryo transfer v/s fresh embryo transfer. The studies show advantage and disadvantage of Fresh Vs Frozen embryo transfer. Which type of problem can be face after pregnancy. It shows comparison Fresh ET vs Frozen ET. In this study frozen embryo transfer v/s fresh embryo transfer in some area it shows that Frozen ET is Good And In Some Area Its Shows Fresh ET is good. Meanwhile, there is no big difference in pregnancy rate in Frozen Embryo transfer vs Fresh Embryo Transfer. The primary purpose of embryo cryopreservation is to preserve extra embryos for use in future IVF cycles (i.e., to raise the cumulative pregnancy rate per cycle) following a fresh embryo transfer. There are other indicators such as the accumulation of embryos in patients who are not responding well and the cancellation of embryo transfers in order to prevent Ovarian hyper stimulation syndrome (OHSS).

Keywords: Assisted Reproductive Technology, Embryo Transfer, Ovarian hyper stimulation syndrome, Frozen Embryo Transfer.

INTRODUCTION

The assisted reproductive technology (ART) known as IVF (In Vitro Fertilization) was first used by Robert Edwards and Patrick Steptoe in the 1970s. (Choe, Shanks, and Archer, 2022). The information that is now available indicates that 186 million people and 48 million couples worldwide are infertile. The WHO Significant advances in the field have led to the development of numerous techniques to increase the likelihood of conception in couples undergoing ART. Experts assess and counsel infertile couples, urging them to select the most suitable assisted reproductive technology.

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines infertility as a disorder of the male or female reproductive system characterized by the inability to conceive after 12 months or longer of consistent, unprotected sexual activity. Experts recommend treating women 35 years of age or older after six months of unprotected sexual relations due to the known decline in a woman's fertility with age. About 10% of couples globally are infertile, and one in six couples will at some point in their reproductive lives experience subfertility ("Assisted reproductive technology in Europe, 2011: results generated from European registers by ESHRE," 2016). Primary infertility refers to the inability to conceive at all, while secondary infertility refers to the inability to conceive after a prior successful conception.

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The primary and furthestmost frequent reason of infertility, particularly in women but often in men, is advanced age. The likelihood of a woman becoming pregnant decreases with age since there is an inverse relationship between fertility and female age. Furthermore, sperm counts of western men decreased by 50% to 60% between 1973 and 2011, with an average annual decline of 1% to 2%, according to a 2017 study. Consequently, there is also a lower likelihood of becoming pregnant through natural sexual activity. (Carlsen et al., 1992)

In 1972, mouse embryos were successfully cryopreserved for the first time. A year later, the first calf born from a frozen and thawed embryo made headline news. (Whittingham, 1971). After the successful use of frozen embryos to create the first human pregnancy in 1983, freezing and thawing procedures have become commonplace in assisted reproductive technology (ART) and are being utilized more and more.

Cases of infertility preservation (ahead of surgery, chemotherapy, radiotherapy, or other major illnesses), as well as difficulties with sperm collection and donation, warrant sperm cryopreservation.

There are many uses for oocyte cryopreservation, including fertility preservation, the treatment of endometriosis and chronic inflammation in women, the preparation of a woman for chemotherapy or radiation, the preparation of a woman for ovarian surgery, and social reasons such as delaying parenthood. (Xu et al., 2015). Additional signs are limitations on embryo freezing imposed by law, ethics, or religion. Furthermore, When the day of oocyte retrieval arrives and no sperm are found and when oocyte donation occurs, oocyte cryopreservation is carried out.

The primary purpose of embryo cryopreservation is to preserve extra embryos for use in future IVF cycles (i.e., to raise the cumulative pregnancy rate per cycle) following a fresh embryo transfer. In addition, there are other indicators such as the accumulation of embryos in patients who are not responding well and the cancellation of embryo transfers in order to prevent OHSS. Moreover, embryo cryopreservation can prevent PGT cases, oocyte donation cycles, and embryo transfers in less-than-ideal endometrial environments (Bedoschi and Oktay, 2013).

OBJECTIVE:

The objective is to discern the optimal approach—frozen embryo transfer (FET) versus fresh embryo transfer (ET)—in assisted reproductive technology. This involves evaluating efficacy, safety, and patient-centered outcomes to maximize pregnancy success while minimizing risks and healthcare resource utilization. Key aims include determining which method yields higher live birth rates, mitigates ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome risk, and maintains embryo viability post-transfer. Understanding patient preferences and treatment flexibility is crucial for delivering personalized care. By addressing these objectives, clinicians can tailor fertility treatments to individual needs, enhancing overall success rates and patient satisfaction.

STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

The comparative efficacy and safety of frozen embryo transfer (FET) versus fresh embryo transfer (ET) in assisted reproductive technology remain pivotal. While FET offers benefits like reduced ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome risk and improved embryo selection, concerns persist regarding embryo viability and implantation rates. ET presents risks of OHSS and potential suboptimal embryo quality due to timing constraints. Determining the optimal approach hinges on balancing success rates, patient safety, and treatment convenience. Resolving this issue requires comprehensive analysis of pregnancy outcomes, patient preferences, and healthcare resource utilization to guide informed decision-making in fertility treatment.

HYPOTHESIS:

The success rates, measured by live birth rates, will be comparable between frozen embryo transfer (FET) and fresh embryo transfer (fresh ET) in assisted reproductive technology (ART) cycles. The hypothesis is based on emerging evidence suggesting that frozen embryo transfer may offer certain advantages over fresh embryo transfer, such as improved endometrial receptivity and reduced risk of ovarian hyper stimulation syndrome (OHSS). By testing this hypothesis, researchers can contribute to our understanding of the optimal approach for embryo transfer in ART cycles and provide valuable insights for clinical practice.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

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Literature was reviewed by conducting a comprehensive search of relevant academic databases, including PubMed, MEDLINE, Embase, Scopus and Google scholar etc. Different key words like frozen embryo transfer, conception techniques, ART, hyper ovarian stimulation , fresh embryo transfer were used to search the relevant research articles.

Impact of Conception Technique on Postpartum Hemorrhage: IVF Comparison there was a difference between pregnancies that were created spontaneously, via “fresh embryo in vitro fertilization,” and through “frozen embryo transfer”. The influence of conception technique on the incidence of severe postpartum haemorrhage was examined. The research found that the major postpartum haemorrhage prevalence in normally conceived pregnancies was 0.74 percent (n = 1749), in fresh- in vitro fertilization pregnancies it was 1.92 percent (n = 34), and in frozen- in vitro fertilization pregnancies it was 3.30 percent (n = 29). The outcomes showed that frozen in vitro fertilization pregnancies had a greater risk of significant postpartum haemorrhage than either normally conceived pregnancies or fresh in vitro fertilization pregnancies. According to the results, in order to reduce the heightened risk of significant postpartum haemorrhage at birth, frozen-IVF pregnancies should be monitored more closely.

"Comparing Fresh and Frozen-Thawed Euploid Blastocyst Transfer Protocols for Elderly Mothers: Implications for Implantation and Gestation Rates after Preimplantation Genetic Testing" “fresh and frozen-thawed euploid blastocyst transfer” protocols after preimplantation genetic testing on elderly mothers. The “frozen-thawed” group had a higher number of fertilized eggs, retrieved oocytes, and metaphase II oocytes. In comparison to the fresh group, the “frozen-thawed” group exhibited significantly higher rates of implantation (46.6 versus 62 percent), gestation 50 percent versus, ongoing gestation (38.4 percent versus 53.8 percent), and “live birth percentage” (37.0 versus 53.8 percent). Comparable gestation of euploid embryos (32% and 34.8%, respectively) were gestated in both groups. Abortion rates that were comparable in terms of biochemistry as well clinical features, however, did not differ much. Thus, frozen-thawed single euploid embryo transfer was associated with higher rates of implantation and gestation than fresh single euploid embryo transfer utilizing pre implantation genetic screening.

Age-Stratified Analysis Reveals Improved Outcomes for Women 25-35 Years Old evaluated the effects of gestation after both “frozen embryo transfer” and “fresh embryo transfer” among females using technology for assisted reproduction. For women under 25, there were no significant changes in the live birth and chemical gestation rates between the two groups. For women between the ages of 25 and 35, however, the “frozen embryo transfer group” demonstrated much higher live birth rates, clinical pregnancies, as well chemical gestation than the fresh embryo transfer group did. The frozen embryo transfer group showed a substantially “higher live birth rate” among women in the 35–40 age range, although the rates of chemical and clinical gestation remained the same. Furthermore, there was a reduced chance of miscarriage within the cohort that had frozen embryo transfers. These findings suggest that the frozen embryo transfer process is useful in raising the likelihood of a successful IVF or intracytoplasmic sperm injection, particularly for women in the 25–35 age range.

Comparing Clinical Outcomes of Fresh vs. Frozen Embryo Transfer examined the clinical results and neonatal results of individuals undergoing “fresh or frozen embryo transfer.” The study found that women who were part of the “frozen transfer group” had a higher likelihood of having solo caesarean procedures. There were no other notable distinctions between the two groups discovered by the investigation. Subgroup comparisons, however, revealed notable variations in the incidence of postpartum haemorrhage and gestational hypertension. Interestingly, they found no discernible variations in the offspring results between the two transfer techniques. There was no obvious winner when comparing transfers of fresh and frozen embryos. The research also demonstrated that advanced motherhood has a significant impact on pregnancy problems. According to these results, frozen embryo transfer was still a feasible alternative in certain clinical situations, even if it may not always be the best option.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, there has been a substantial surge in the utilization of elective frozen embryo transfer (FET) due to advancements in cryopreservation methods. Randomized controlled trials and observational studies

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have indicated that the endometrium is not optimally prepared for implantation during stimulated cycles; pregnancy rates have increased and the risk of ovarian hyper stimulation syndrome has decreased; and perinatal outcomes have been found to be less significantly impacted by FET. Nevertheless, the evidence is not conclusive, and recent randomized controlled trials raise doubts regarding the utility of elective FET for the IVF population as a whole. An analysis of pregnancy rates was conducted on a cohort of patients who underwent embryo transfers.

The findings indicated that there were no statistically significant disparities in the biochemical, clinical, continuing clinical pregnancy rates, and miscarriage rates between the equivalent groups of fresh and frozen embryo transfers, despite the fact that each of these rates were greater in the frozen embryo transfer group. The literature provides evidence of decreased endometrial receptivity in cycles involving controlled ovarian stimulation. It also confirms the clinical data that frozen embryo transfer (FET) decreases the likelihood of ovarian hyper stimulation syndrome (OHSS) and improves outcomes for both the mother and baby.

RECOMMENDATION

For optimal outcomes in assisted reproductive technology, consider patient health, embryo viability, and success rates. Frozen embryo transfer (FET) offers advantages such as reduced risk of ovarian hyper stimulation syndrome, optimal embryo selection, and flexibility in timing. Fresh embryo transfer (ET) may suit certain cases, yet carries risks like OHSS and potential embryo quality concerns. Discuss with a fertility specialist to tailor the approach to individual needs, balancing efficacy, safety, and patient preferences.

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