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IS USE OF DONOR SPERM ASSOCIATED WITH OOCYTE CRYOPRESERVATION (OC) OUTCOMES AMONG PATIENTS WHO CRYOPRESERVED AT AGE 35 YEARS AND OLDER?

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Title:

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Preferred Presentation Type:

Oral or Poster

Study Type:

Retrospective Cohort Study (includes comparator groups)

Category - Subcategory(ies):

Patient Centered Care: Education & Information

Funding:

N/A

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Nothing to disclose. No off-label or otherwise non-approved product use.

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This abstract has been approved by a local Institutional Review Board (IRB) or equivalent.

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Trainee: Yes

Abstract Category:

All Other Categories

Applied for the In-Training Award for Research

Abstract Text:

OBJECTIVE: One of the main reasons that patients – particularly older patients – pursue OC is to allow more time to find a reproductive partner. Prior research has shown that approximately one third of patients who return to thaw cryopreserved oocytes use donor sperm (DS). The goal of this study is to evaluate whether sperm source is associated with clinical outcomes in OC patients who cryopreserved at age 35 years and older.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: This is a retrospective cohort study of patients who underwent OC at age 35 years and older across a large fertility network and returned for thaw. Oocytes were vitrified and warmed from January 2013 to October 2024. Patients who used a gestational carrier were excluded. Patients were grouped by use of DS or partner sperm (PS). The primary outcome was the odds of achieving at least one live birth (LB). Patients with remaining oocytes or usable embryos but no LB were excluded from this outcome. Secondary outcomes were number of embryos available for transfer or biopsy, number of euploid embryos, LB per embryo transfer (ET), and spontaneous abortion (SAB) per clinical pregnancy. Statistics included chi square analysis, Wilcoxon rank sum test, logistic regression and generalized linear model with generalized estimating equation.

RESULTS: 1,185 patients were included in the study; 806 (68.1%) used PS and 382 (31.9%) used DS. Patients using DS were slightly older than patients using PS (median age 38.3 years in DS group vs. 37.7 years in PS group, $p = 0.04$). Median number of oocytes thawed, embryos available for transfer or biopsy, and euploid embryos did not differ between PS and DS groups (Table 1). The percentage of patients who achieved at least one LB also did not differ by sperm source. After adjusting for age at first OC cycle, AMH and BMI, there was no association between use of DS and odds of having at least one LB (OR 1.1; 95% CI [0.8-1.7]). Use of DS was also not associated with LB per ET (OR 0.97; 95% CI [0.7-1.4]) or SAB per clinical pregnancy (OR 1.1; 95% CI [0.6-1.9]).

CONCLUSIONS: Patients who underwent OC at age 35 years and older and returned for thaw had similar odds of achieving LB and comparable SABs per clinical pregnancy, regardless of whether they used partner or donor sperm.

IMPACT STATEMENT: This large, multicenter study can be used to reassure patients that the reproductive potential of their cryopreserved oocytes will not be impacted by the use of donor sperm.

Table 1: Study outcomes

Sperm source	Median # oocytes thawed (IQR)	Median # embryos (IQR)	Median # euploid embryos (IQR)	% patients with at least one LB (n)	% LB per ET (n)	% SAB per pregnancy (n)
PS (n =806)	12 (8, 20)	3 (1, 5)	2 (1, 3)	28.4 (229)	44.6 (304)	17.9 (83)
DS (n=379)	13 (8, 19)	3 (1, 5)	2 (0, 3)	24.0 (91)	43.8 (155)	18.8 (42)
P-value	0.54	0.19	0.97	0.11	0.60	0.49

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Within the past 2 years, have you or your spouse/partner had any potential COI?
No
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Reproductive Science Center

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Yes

Organization Name	Relationship Type	Who has this Relationship?
Alife	Paid Consultant Relationship Began - Monday, April 8, 2024 Relationship Ended -	Self
Ferring Pharmaceutical	Speaker's Bureau Relationship Began - Saturday, March 1, 2025 Relationship Ended -	Self
Lovu Health	Direct Stockholder Relationship Began - Saturday, June 1, 2024 Relationship Ended -	Self
U. S. Fertility	Direct Stockholder Relationship Began - Saturday, August 1, 2020 Relationship Ended -	Self

Organization Name	Relationship Type	Who has this Relationship?	
USF Pharmaceutical Contracting Alliance	Direct Stockholder Relationship Began - Wednesday, January 1, 2020 Relationship Ended -	Self	

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Biographical Sketch Early success, marked by his first publication in CELL at Harvard Medical School, inspired Joseph to continue his research endeavors in reproductive endocrinology and infertility. Joseph has been with Reproductive Medicine Associates of New York since 2011. Joseph has authored over 400 peer-reviewed abstracts & manuscripts. Passionate about development, he cultivates relationship with investors & entrepreneurs to advance reproductive endocrinology & infertility care.

Within the past 2 years, have you or your spouse/partner had any potential COI?

No

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Organization Name	Relationship Type	Who has this Relationship?
Progyny	Company Officer Relationship Began - Friday, August 25, 2017 Relationship Ended - Thursday, June 1, 2023 Paid Consultant Relationship Began - Relationship Ended - Direct Stockholder Relationship Began - Friday, August 25, 2017 Relationship Ended - Friday, November 1, 2024	Self

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CV Upload: [Alan B. Copperman M.D. - CV \(March 2024\).docx](#)Ninth Author

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Biographical Sketch Phillip Romanski, M.D., M.Sc., is a Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility physician at RMA of New York in Manhattan and is a faculty member at the National Institutes of Health. He is an expert in family-building including the evaluation and management of female and male infertility, third-party reproduction, and fertility preservation. Dr. Romanski completed his residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Harvard Medical School (Brigham and Women's Hospital/Massachusetts General Hospital) and his fellowship in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility at the Weill Cornell Medical Center/NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Romanski additionally serves as the Associate Research Director for US Fertility and has authored over 60 peer-reviewed research publications with a particular interest in patients with a history of unsuccessful treatment and patients with diminished ovarian reserve. In recognition of his research contributions, he has received multiple national awards and has subsequently been invited to speak at both national and international conferences to present his work.

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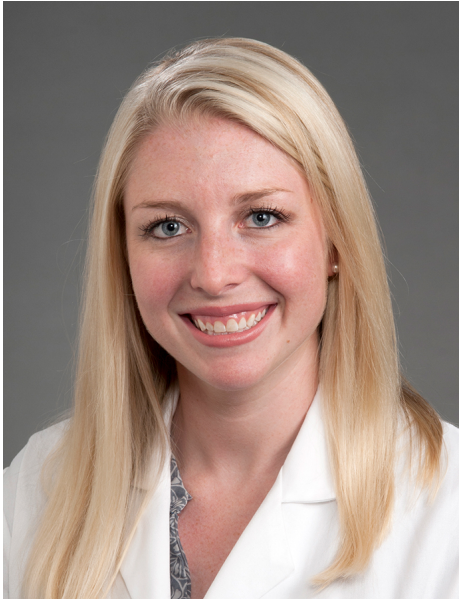
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