

RBMO Digest December 2022

Welcome to our final RBMO Digest issue of the year, as we wrap up a hugely successful and significant twelve months at the journal.

Among our achievements, this year has seen us publish more articles than ever before, receive our highest Impact Factor in the journal's 22 year history, and usher in a change of editorship, as Prof Bart Fauser steps down, and Profs Nick Macklon and Juan García Velasco take his place, to lead us into the new year, onwards and upwards into the future of our journal and community of reproductive medicine specialists.

We look forward to unveiling even more developments next year, but to sign off the year, here is a new collection of Editor's Choice articles, Hot Topics, Reviews and Countercurrent Contributions from recent months, plus a Spotlight on our Female Reproductive Health And Fertility Section, with Section Editor, Andrea Weghofer.



Hot Topics

Our Editors Richard Anderson and Mina Alikani select their hot topic articles from recently accepted papers, highlighting developments and progress across reproductive biomedicine.

Impact of empathic physician contact on patient anxiety and distress during the waiting period after embryo transfer: a randomized controlled trial

Jaimin Shah, Laura Dodge, Denis Vaughan, Kristin Rooney, Alan Penzias, Alice Domar

This RCT examines the impact of a simple empathic phone call on anxiety and distress scores during the wait between embryo transfer and pregnancy test. The results are refreshingly positive and easy to achieve: might this encourage patients to continue with treatment after a failure?

An interpretable machine learning model for individualized gonadotropin starting dose selection during ovarian stimulation

Michael Fanton, Veronica Nutting, Arielle Rothman, Paxton Maeder-York, Eduardo Hariton, Oleksii Barash, Louis Weckstein, Denny Sakkas, Alan Copperman, Kevin Loewke

AI continues to be a hot topic: this report differs from many in that it both addresses an everyday issue, the best starting dose of FSH, and provides an understandable analysis. And it does seem that often, less is more. Plenty to learn from this approach.'

Sequential letrozole/gonadotropin versus letrozole alone for ovulation induction in infertile women with polycystic ovary syndrome: A randomized controlled trial

Xin Dai, Jingyi Li, Tian Fu, Xuefeng Long, Xiaoou Li, Ruiwen Weng, Yi Liu, Ling Zhang

Ovulation induction continues to be a key treatment for many patients, but there have been few developments to optimise this approach. This small RCT suggests that adding gonadotrophin stimulation to letrozole may have advantages. Perhaps also of relevance to FET IVF cycles in anovulatory women?

Does embryo categorization by existing artificial intelligence, morphokinetic or morphological embryo selection models correlate with blastocyst euploidy rates?

Keiichi Kato, Satoshi Ueno, Jørgen Berntsen, Mikkel Fly Kragh, Tadashi Okimura, Tomoko Kuroda

The ability of blastocyst assessment models to predict euploidy is debatable. In this interesting study with a twist, scores assigned to (biopsied) embryos using 3 different models were maternal-age-stratified and the performance of each model in predicting euploidy was estimated and compared to the others using ROC analysis. The findings are interesting and their practical implications are well worth consideration.

Editor's Choice

Papers selected by our Chief Editors as highlights from each of our recent issues.

Non-invasive embryo selection strategy for clinical in vitro fertilization to avoid wastage of potentially competent embryos

Li Chen, Wen Li, Yuxiu Liu, Zhihang Pang, Liyi Cai, Ningyuan Zhang, Juanjuan Xu, Liang Wang, Xiaoming Teng, Yaxin Yao, Yangyun Zou, Menglin Ma, Jianqiao Liu, Sijia Lu, Haixiang Sun, Bing Yao

Comparison of Machine Learning model with Cox regression for prediction of cumulative live birth rate after assisted reproductive techniques : an internal and external validation

Léna Bardet, Jean-Baptiste Excoffier, Noemie Salaun-Penquer, Matthieu Ortala, Maud Pasquier, Emmanuelle Mathieu d'Argent, Nathalie Massin

Similar fertilization rates and preimplantation embryo development among testosterone-treated transgender men and cisgender women

Tal Israeli, Livia Preisler, Yael Kalma, Nivin Samara, Sagi Levi, Asnat Groutz, Foad Azem, Hadar Amin

Does the hCG trigger dose used for final oocyte maturation in IVF impact luteal phase progesterone levels? - A randomized controlled trial

Louise Svenstrup, Sören Möller, Jens Fedder, Dorrit Elschner Pedersen, Karin Erb, Claus Yding Andersen, Peter Humaidan

Supporting first FSH dosage for ovarian stimulation with Machine Learning

Nuria Correa, Jesus Cerquides, Josep Lluís Arcos, Rita Vassena

Mildly Stimulated Cycle with Letrozole Compared with Natural Cycle and HRT Cycle in Patients undergoing FET with Normal Ovulation

Liqun Lou, Yisong Xu, Mu Lv, Juanjuan Yu, Qimeng Xiao, Peiqin Chen, Mingzhu Bai, Zhenbo Zhang

Countercurrent Contributions

The most recent papers published in our forum for alternative perspectives and positions.

Why PGT-A, most likely, improves IVF success

Darren K. Griffin

Patient-tailored infertility care is the way forward

Ernesto Bosch

Hysterosalpingography is obsolete: hysterosalpingo-contrast foam sonography should be the alternative

Julia Ramos, Nuria Pellicer, Manuel Fernández-Sánchez

Reviews

All Review articles published in RBMO are made free to read on publication, to support access to current knowledge and enhance the skills of researchers, clinicians and reproductive biomedical

Strategies to safely use cryopreserved ovarian tissue to restore fertility after cancer: a systematic review

Lotte Eijkenboom, Emma Saedt, Carlijn Zietse, Didi Braat, Catharina Beerendonk, Ronald Peek

A paradigmatic shift in the care of male factor infertility: how can the recommendations for basic semen examination in the 6th edition of the WHO manual and the ISO 23162:2021 standard help?

Lars Björndahl

Experiences of surrogates and intended parents of surrogacy arrangements: a systematic review

Ezra Kneebone, Kiri Beilby, Karin Hammarberg

Single embryo transfer infers quality of care in reproductive medicine

Diane De Neubourg, Eline Dancet, Anja Pinborg

Evolving clinical challenges in uterus transplantation

Jean Marc Ayoubi, Marie Carbonnel, Catherine Racowsky, Dominique de Ziegler, Antonio Gargiulo, Niclas Kvarnström, Pernilla Dahm-Kähler, Mats Brännström

The quality of parenting in reproductive donation families: A meta-analysis and systematic review

Liviana Zanchettin, Maria Anna Tallandini, Giorgio Gronchi, Gabriella Zito, Giuseppe Ricci, Lucia Roberta Russo

The case for mild stimulation for IVF: ISMAAR recommendations

Geeta Nargund, Adrija Kumar Datta, Stuart Campbell, Pasquale Patrizio, Ri-Cheng Chian, Willem Ombelet, Michael Von Wolff, Svend Lindenberg, Rene Frydman, Bart CJM Fauser

Featured Section

Female Reproductive Health And Fertility

Section Editor: Andrea Weghofer

Medical University Vienna, Austria

“Serving as section editor for RBMOnline gives me the unique opportunity to present our readers with a broad spectrum of innovative research on female reproductive health and fertility. The focus is set on a better understanding of how patient characteristics, endocrinology, molecular, environmental and genetic aspects affect a woman’s fertility potential.”



Recent highlights from our **Female Reproductive Health And Fertility** section:

Novel bi-allelic variants in DNAH2 cause severe asthenoteratozoospermia with multiple morphological abnormalities of the flagella

Gao et al.

Clinical outcomes and utilization from over a decade of planned oocyte cryopreservation

Leung et al.

Safety of oil-based contrast medium for hysterosalpingography: a systematic review

Roest et al.

Fibroids and natural fertility: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Somigliana et al.

Impact of chronic endometritis in infertility: a SWOT analysis

Espinos et al.

IVF in women aged 43 years and older: a 20-year experience

Fernandez et al.

IVF impact on the risk of recurrence of endometrial adenocarcinoma after fertility-sparing management

Vaugon et al.

Uterine fibroid vascularization: from morphological evidence to clinical implications

Ciarmela et al.

A novel homozygous loss-of-function mutation in CCDC39 causes multiple morphological abnormalities of the sperm flagella in a primary ciliary dyskinesia patient

Chen et al.

Psychosocial counselling in donor sperm treatment: unmet needs and mental health among heterosexual, lesbian and single women

Schrijvers et al.

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A section of RBMO focussing on general infertility including diagnostic/screening procedures, anovulation, ovulation induction, PCOS, endometriosis, fibroids, adenomyosis, abnormal uterine bleeding, tubal and vaginal disorders, infection, and reproductive surgical interventions.

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