



## **ESHRE PGD Consortium**

**Newsletter,  
July 2008**

Welcome to the 7th Consortium newsletter with an update of our activities.

### **BARCELONA**

#### **Consortium members meeting, Barcelona**

The minutes of this meeting are attached. This newsletter will summarise the main issues for those who do not want to read the minutes.

#### **ESHRE PGD Consortium session during the main meeting**

Slides for the main consortium talk presented on Tuesday during the main ESHRE meeting by Joyce Harper are available on the ESHRE web site.

#### **Update on membership**

Total number of members: 93

Full members: 57

Associate members: 36

Three types of associate membership is available

1. New PGD centres who have not yet started
2. IVF labs who are performing transport PGD with a centre who is registered with the consortium.
3. Active PGD centres who are unable to send in data for one year.

All associate centres who fall under 3 will be asked to send in a summary of all of their data for each indication with the same fields that are used for the data reports. On each report we will add a column 'total data from associate centres' which will give a more accurate view of the total PGD performed.

#### **Data collection**

The consortium now has data on almost 22,000 PGD cycles (see the slides from the Tuesday talk).

#### **Data VIII and IX**

The proofs for data VIII have been checked and this should be available on the ESHRE and Human Reproduction web site soon.

Data IX is almost complete. We received a record breaking number of cycles (almost 6000 cycles from 57 centres). The paper will be submitted soon and a copy will be sent to all participating centres.

### **Success rates per centre**

It was agreed that all centres who sent in data VIII will receive a graph of the pregnancy rates per centre for each indication. They can see where their centre falls in relation to other centres. For those centres who are consistently obtaining a low pregnancy/delivery rate, the consortium will try to offer help.

### **Working Groups Update**

#### **1. Accreditation – Chair: Katerina Vesela**

An important congress titled: **Quality Management and Accreditation process in PGD clinics and laboratories**

Date: October 23 - 24, 2008

Location: Brno, Czech republic

This will be a very important workshop for everyone involved in PGD. You will be able to register in the next few weeks on the ESHRE web site.

The accreditation working group are also preparing a document on 'A beginners guide to accrediting a PGD laboratory'.

#### **2. PGS – Chair: Sjoerd Repping**

Sjoerd has performed a regression analysis of all the consortium PGS data and this is being prepared for publication.

#### **3. Misdiagnosis – Chair: Joanne Traeger-Synodinos**

A paper has been submitted to Human Reproduction titled: **The causes of misdiagnosis and adverse outcomes in PGD**, Wilton, L, Thornhill, A, Traeger-Synodinos, J, Sermon, KD, Harper, JC. As soon as it has been accepted for publication it will be sent to all consortium members.

Two questionnaires have been sent out regarding misdiagnosis. The first related to misdiagnosis identified in a pregnancy or at delivery and the second related to the analysis of untransferred embryos. Details can be found in the minutes of the Consortium meeting.

It is important for all centres to periodically confirm the biopsy diagnosis in untransferred embryos as part of quality assessment which is vital for accreditation.

#### **4. Database – Celine Moutou**

A new database is being developed to study the results of the paediatric follow-up. If it works well it will be developed for all the data collection.

#### **Paediatric follow up – Alison Lashwood**

Sixteen centres are taking part in this study but there has been a slight delay as UK ethics approval is still being sought.

**External Quality Assessment for PGD FISH testing: Ros Hastings, Alan Thornhill, Sjoerd Repping, Joyce Harper**

This has been launched and more than 10 centres have registered. If there are problems to register, please send an email to [veerle@eshre.com](mailto:veerle@eshre.com), she will contact Ros Hastings.

**External Quality Assessment for PGD PCR testing – Sioban SenGupta in collaboration with Zandra Deans and others**

Please see the minutes for the full details. The scheme is being launched with DNA and single cells carrying cystic fibrosis but will be extended to other disorders.

**PGD Guidelines**

Draft guidelines were sent to all members prior to ESHRE. Comments are welcome until 15<sup>th</sup> August. However these will have to be redrafted to conform to the new ESHRE guidelines regulations.

**Web site**

The consortium web site will be updated to fit in with the new ESHRE site.

**Freezing biopsied embryos**

At the consortium meeting it was reported that some groups are using vitrification for biopsied and non biopsied embryos but some groups are still using slow freezing. Vitrification shows a lower survival for biopsied compared to non biopsied embryos but when there are embryos to transfer the pregnancy rates are comparable. We will try to include a new table in the data collection reporting frozen/thawed cycles of biopsied embryos.

**Change of steering committee**

Stephane Viville has stepped down from the steering committee and we would like to thank him for all of his help over the years. The steering committee are updating the statutes and will put these on the web site when they are agreed.

**Steering Committee**

The members of the steering committee are:

Chair, Joyce Harper, Past Chair, Karen Sermon, Deputy Chair, Alan Thornhill. Christine deDie (Netherlands), Paul Scriven (UK), Gary Harton (USA), Celine Moutou (France), Alison Lashwood (UK), Sioban SenGupta (UK), Sjoerd Repping (Netherlands), Joanne Traeger-Synodinos (Greece), Katerina Vesela (Czech Republic), Tugce Pehlivan (Spain) and Francesco Fiorentino (Italy), Maartje Van Rij (Netherlands).

**Email list**

If there is anyone at your clinic who would like to receive this newsletter, please send their email address to [veerle@eshre.com](mailto:veerle@eshre.com) quoting your centre number.

**Further information**

If you would like to make any comments, suggestions or need any further information about the consortium please email [veerle@eshre.com](mailto:veerle@eshre.com)