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SCIENCE MOVING PEOPLE MOVING SCIENCE

ESHRE UPDATE

4th issue - August 2012

ESHRE IN THE FIELD

Annual Meeting

The international press celebrates the 5 million IVF babies

Among the studies presented during the scientific programme of the 28th annual meeting of the ESHRE in Istanbul, 10 were selected for the press programme.

The press releases were widely reported and covered by the major media in the world.

Among the stories attracting great attention was our opening press release reporting the announcement of 5 million IVF babies born since Louise Brown in 1978.

Also widely reported were results of a Danish study showing the impact of coffee consumption on ART treatments.

The studies presented to the media are a showcase of the scientific programme made accessible to the wider public. The media activities give public reassurance to the activities covered by the members of our society, and the important coverage ESHRE had this year reflects the growing public interest in reproductive medicine.

You can find the latest media monitoring document here.

ESHRE campus and educational activities

ESHRE Campus

7 September 2012
Basic genetics for ART practitioners
Rome, Italy
ADD THIS EVENT IN YOUR AGENDA
REGISTER FOR THIS COURSE

14-15 September 2012
Regulation of quality and safety in ART – the EU Tissues and Cells Directive perspective
Dublin, Ireland
ADD THIS EVENT IN YOUR AGENDA
REGISTER FOR THIS COURSE

28 september 2012
GnRH-antagonists in ovarian stimulation
Hamburg, Germany
ADD THIS EVENT IN YOUR AGENDA
REGISTER FOR THIS COURSE

6-7 October 2012
The best sperm for the best oocyte
Athens, Greece
ADD THIS EVENT IN YOUR AGENDA
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Highlight of the month

ESHRE's journals increase their impact factors

The latest impact factors based on citations for 2011 for the ESHRE journals were released in June.

The three ESHRE journals, *Human Reproduction, Human Reproduction Update* and *Molecular Human Reproduction* all increased their impact factors over 2010 - *Human Reproduction* to 4.475, *Human Reproduction Update* to 9.234 and *Molecular Human Reproduction* to 3.852. In 2011 *Human Reproduction's* papers were cited 25 706 times.

All three journals are ranked in the fields of Reproductive Biology, with *Human Reproduction* and *Human Reproduction Update* also classified among journals in Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Human Reproduction Update and *Human Reproduction* occupied the top two spots in Reproductive Biology journals, while *Human Reproduction Update* had by far the highest impact factor in both categories.

The figures reflect the high quality of ESHRE journals in both specialties and their leadership of ESHRE in the fields of reproductive science and medicine.

READ MORE

ESHRE journals

Human Reproduction : "ESHRE pages"

Assisted reproductive technology in Europe, 2008: results generated from European registers by ESHRE

This 12th European IVF-monitoring (EIM) report presents the results of treatments involving assisted reproductive technology (ART) initiated in Europe during 2008.

READ MORE

Human Reproduction Update

Anti-angiogenic treatment strategies for the therapy of endometriosis

Angiogenesis, i.e. the development of new blood vessels from pre-existing ones, represents an integral part in the pathogenesis of endometriosis. During the last decade, an increasing number of studies have therefore focused on the anti-angiogenic treatment of the disease. The present review provides a systematic overview of these studies and critically discusses the future role of anti-angiogenic therapy in the multimodal management of endometriosis.

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Basic courses for certification

4-7 September 2012
Basic Semen Analysis Course in Greek Language
Athens, Greece

Theodosia Zeginiadou
zeginiadou@yahoo.gr

18-21 September 2012
Basic Semen Analysis Course in Spanish language
Galdakano, Spain
Hospital Galdakao-Usansolo

Carmen Mar
mariadelcarmen.marmedina@osakidetza.net

8-11 October 2012
Basic Semen Analysis Course in Italian language
FertiClinic, Rome, Italy

Rocío Peña Cotarelo
rochepi@gmail.com

9-12 October 2012
Basic Semen Analysis Course in Dutch language
Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Alex Wetzels
ESHREcursus@obgyn.umcn.nl

NEWS IN REPRODUCTIVE MEDICINE, RESEARCH AND SCIENCE

News in Reproductive science

The whole genome of a human sperm sequenced

For the first time, a California group has succeeded in sequencing the entire genome of a human sperm. For the study, 91 single sperm cells of a 40 year old man were isolated. The genome of each individual sperm was then amplified and sequenced.

During the research, the sperms genetic variations were analysed at the finest scale. The interest of sequencing the sperm is to understand the genetic mutations during recombination and to learn how recombination differs between each sperm. An individual recombination map can be then generated.

The study could have a major impact for the research in reproductive science and medicine.

Indeed, the technique used in the study could significantly improve the ability to assess the sperm viability. The degree of genetic mixing and the analysis of genetic mutations at a very detailed level are now proved to be possible. The genetic mutation taking place during the recombination process can engender sperm missing portion or missing chromosome – making the gamete very unlikely to fertilise an oocyte.

Even if the sperm cells are destroyed during the sequencing process, the technique could be used to diagnose male reproductive disorder and for infertile couple to better assess their options.

The study also opens the way for a better understanding on how male fertility and sperm quality vary with ageing.

READ MORE

READ THE ARTICLE

Molecular Human Reproduction

Divergence of sperm and leukocyte age-dependent telomere dynamics: implications for male-driven evolution of telomere length in humans

Telomere length (TL) dynamics in vivo are defined by TL and its age-dependent change, brought about by cell replication. Leukocyte-TL (LTL), which reflects TL in hematopoietic stem cells (HSCs), becomes shorter with age. By contrast, sperm-TL, which reflects TL in the male germ cells, becomes longer with age. Moreover, offspring of older fathers display longer LTL. Thus far, no study has examined LTL and sperm-TL relations with age in the same individuals, nor considered their implications for the paternal age at conception (PAC) effect on offspring LTL.

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NEWS IN REPRODUCTIVE MEDICINE, RESEARCH AND SCIENCE

The EU connection

A liberalised law for ART in Croatia

Just one year before becoming a full member of the European Union, Croatia has adopted one of the most liberal laws in Europe on access to assisted reproduction treatments.

The new law was approved by the Croatian Parliament on the 13th July 2012. It allows embryo as well as gamete and oocyte freezing. Embryos can be thawed for 5 years and for an additional 5 years upon the couple's request.

A maximum of 12 oocytes can be fertilized and a maximum of 2 embryos can be transferred for implantation. A maximum of 6 transfer procedures is allowed.

The new law also allows the use of third party sperm and/ooctye donors as well as embryo donation. However the law favours fertilisation with sperm and oocytes from the couple. Parents will have to inform their children born through ART about their origin, including about the identity of the donor(s).

Lesbian couples cannot have access to fertility treatments and surrogate motherhood remains banned. Assistance can be provided to heterosexual couples – married and unmarried – as well as single women.

The new law replaces what used to be one of the most restrictive legislations in Europe for assisted reproduction, including a ban on frozen embryos and a limit of three oocytes for fertilization per cycle.

According to the Croatian Ministry of Health, one in six couples has fertility trouble in Croatia.

Sources : AFP and ANSA

ESHRE INSIDER

ESHRE Journals

Current and future Editors in Chief of ESHRE journals

The new Editors-in-Chief of the ESHRE journals were officially announced during the annual meeting in Istanbul.
Hans Evers succeeds André Van Streiteghem as Editor-in-Chief of *Human Reproduction*. Hans is Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Maastricht University (The Netherlands)

Felice Petraglia will replace John Collins as the Editor-in-Chief of *Human Reproduction Update*. Felice is Professor and Chairman of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Director of the Residency Program in Obstetrics and Gynecology and of PhD Program in Molecular Medicine at the University of Sienna.
The new Editor-in-Chief of *Molecular Human Reproduction*, replacing Stephen Hiller, is Chris Barratt, Professor of Reproductive Medicine and Head of the Reproductive and Developmental Biology Group at the University of Dundee (United Kingdom, Scotland).
The three upcoming Editors-in-Chief will start in their new positions as of the 1st January 2013.
André Van Streiteghem, John Collins and Stephen Hiller (picture) will remain in place until the end of the year.