

Recommendations for clinics before getting started with time-lapse technology in IVF

- 01** Clearly identify the reasons to introduce a time-lapse technology (TLT) system

- 02** Assess pros and cons of acquiring a TLT system, both financially and operatively

- 03** Identify whether morphokinetic parameters will be used in selection / deselection / ranking of embryos

- 04** Identify (from scientific literature) the morphokinetic parameters of interest and assess how to monitor and use them

- 05** Find the suitable system based on considerations of culture conditions / systems and other costs, including hardware maintenance and software upgrades

- 06** Evaluate technical / customer support available, including accessibility, the level of embryologist support and the expertise the manufacturer will provide to your team

- 07** Seek appropriate installation and training from the manufacturer / distributor

- 08** Develop an internal checklist, based on a user requirement specification for the system, identifying and matching what the clinic / laboratory wants in a system e.g. type of gas, humidity, footprint, capacity, type of dish, software, cost, supply chain and manufacturer support.

- 09** Once introduced in the lab, find the appropriate system settings

- 10** Identify and train one or more embryologists (depending on the size of the laboratory) who will develop the role of “TLT referent”; the designated person(s) will be responsible for the annotation of morphokinetic variables (to avoid initially interoperator variations with other members of staff) and for the implementation of quality control programs

- 11** Educate clinic staff on the current evidence behind TLT in order to counsel patients alongside offering the technology.

These recommendations are extracted from a paper “Good practice recommendations for the use of time-lapse technology” developed by the ESHRE working group on Time-lapse technology. The paper further includes information on the significance of TLT, training and teaching, quality control, implications of TLT, how to introduce the technology and future perspectives. More information is available on www.eshre.eu/guideline/timelapse

