Cumulative ongoing pregnancy rates after IUI and investigation of factors affecting drop-out

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INTRODUCTION

IUI:
- frequently and widely used ART technique
- easily offered, no stringent laboratory requirements
- highly accepted
- success expressed as (ongoing) pregnancy rate per cycle
AIMS

1. to investigate the treatment from the patients’ point of view

2. to investigate the factors and reasons for drop-out
MATERIALS AND METHODS

1. 724 patients starting IUI treatment during a ten year period (1999 – 2008) data retrospectively retrieved from database subjected to survival analysis (Kaplan-Meier)

2. cross-sectional study with a semi-structured questionnaire sent to patients who stopped all treatment for longer than 6 months (1/3/2007 – 1/2/2008)
RESULTS: Number of inseminations per cycle

Cycle 1: 724 inseminations (100%) 81 pregnant, 12 miscarriage.

Cycle 3: 370 inseminations (49%) 35 pregnant, 6 miscarriage.

Cycle 6: 36 inseminations (5%) 2 pregnant, 1 miscarriage.
RESULTS: Cumulative ongoing pregnancy rate
RESULTS: Cumulative ongoing pregnancy rate for first and second child
RESULTS: Factors and reasons for drop-out

- 39 patients stopped every type of treatment
- Response rate = 50%
- Mean age: 31 years
RESULTS: Reasons for drop-out (N = 19):

- perceived poor prognosis: 9
- negative emotional reactions: 7
- lack of support: 6
- financial reasons: 6
- spontaneous pregnancy: 4
- adverse physical reactions: 1
CONCLUSIONS

1. 59% of patients starting IUI treatment had an ongoing pregnancy after 6 cycles

2. Although generally perceived as a treatment with minimal effort and side effects, half of the patients who dropped out of all treatment experienced negative reactions and emotions
Results: Cumulative ongoing pregnancy rate after one year