

# NEW TECHNIQUE HELPS INFERTILE MALES

our country nearly 20 million couples suffer from infertility. Usually the male is responsible for 30-40% of the infertility. In male factor infertility there is either a low sperm count, decrease motility of sperm or abnormalities in sperm morphology. According to Dr. Nandita Palshetkar and Dr. Hrishikesh Pai, Infertility Consultants at Lilavati Hospital, & Fortis La Femme, New Delhi, these problems are commonly seen.

Dr. Nandita Palshetkar suggests that for couples who do not respond to treatment with IUI can have a better chance of undergoing ICSI (Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection) or popularly known as IVF. She goes on to



Embryologists at the IVF Center in Lilavati Hospital.



Embryo Transfer

at this procedure in which an embryo is created in the laboratory and then placed in the womb. The procedure is given hormonal support so that she can produce 10-15 eggs. These are then retrieved from the body by a small procedure called ovum pickup. It takes 15-20 minutes and is done under anesthesia. The patient goes home 4 hours later. In

(fertilized egg) is transferred back into the womb. A blood test (B-hcg) is done after 14 days which confirms the pregnancy. The success rate of this treatment varies from 30-50% per attempt in women under the age of 35. In patients with azoospermia (zero sperm count) the sperms can be obtained directly from the testes & then ICSI can be carried out.

Dr. Hrishikesh Pai adds that those patients with severe male infertility can now opt for IMSI (Intracytoplasmic Morphologically selected Sperm Injection).

This new technique is a modified form of ICSI which allows the

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embryologist to choose the best quality sperm by magnifying it 7200 times as compared to ICSI which is allows a magnification of up to

200 times.

"This machine has been introduced for the first time in India, which



ICSI

IMSI is particularly helpful to those with low sperm count or abnormal forms of sperms," says Dr. Nandita Palshetkar.

**Note** - whatever may be the cause of infertility, it is now possible to have a baby of your own genes with the help of artificial reproduction techniques (ART). So go and consult your physician as soon as you feel there is some problem! Do not waste time!

Do remember, it is very important not to "attach blame to yourself or your partner", if one of you is facing infertility, the above article shows that the scientific advancement in the infertility field is moving at a very fast pace, & hopefully their will soon be more success stories.