

pected scrotal pathology. None of the patients had a testicular tumor without a palpable mass. Moreover, no patient with testicular microlithiasis had a testicular malignancy during followup. Interestingly, microlithiasis spontaneously resolved in 1 testis. Based on this study and others, it appears that the finding of testicular microlithiasis suggests prior testicular damage, which may or may not put the testis at increased risk for a malignancy. Yet, a cause-and-effect relationship between testicular microlithiasis and tumors was not established. However, because of the known association between testicular microlithiasis and cancer, I agree with the authors that regular followup with testicular self-examination and possibly scrotal ultrasonography is justified.

Jonathan P. Jarow, M.D.

The Effects of Coital Lubricants on Sperm Motility In Vitro

L. ANDERSON, S. E. M. LEWIS AND N. MCCLURE, *Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Queen's University of Belfast, Institute of Clinical Science, Belfast, United Kingdom*

Hum. Reprod., 13: 3351-3356, 1998

Permission to Publish Abstract Not Granted

Editorial Comment: Inquiries regarding use of coital lubricants is a standard part of the sexual history of the infertile couple, since multiple prior studies have shown that all lubricants adversely affect sperm quality. Couples who require coital lubricants for satisfactory sexual intercourse have few choices but intrauterine inseminations to conceive. This prospective longitudinal study is the first to identify a suitable alternative for these couples. Baby oil did not have any adverse effect on sperm motility, whereas saliva, olive oil and hydrogel all had an adverse effect. Inadequate vaginal lubrication is a relatively common form of female sexual dysfunction that may be treatable with pharmacotherapy in the future.

Jonathan P. Jarow, M.D.

Paternal Origin of Trisomy 21 Following Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI)

I. BARTELS, M. SCHLÖSSER, U. G. BARTZ AND H.-U. PAUER, *Institute of Human Genetics, University Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany*

Hum. Reprod., 13: 3345-3346, 1998

Permission to Publish Abstract Not Granted

Editorial Comment: In this disturbing case report the authors identify paternal origin of trisomy 21 from an intracytoplasmic sperm injection in vitro fertilization cycle. Both partners had normal peripheral blood karyotypes, and the husband had an abnormal semen analysis demonstrating asthenic teratospermia. The majority of trisomies are due to maternal aneuploidy but several studies have documented that the aneuploidy rate of sperm from infertile men is higher than that of the general population. The natural selection process is lost when intracytoplasmic sperm injection is performed and the theoretical risk of fetal abnormalities is increased. Yet, most series to date have not documented a major increase in fetal abnormalities in couples using intracytoplasmic sperm injection for conception. Clearly, further scrutiny of the results of this technology is indicated, in addition to offering genetic counseling to couples undergoing intracytoplasmic sperm injection.

Jonathan P. Jarow, M.D.

SEXUAL FUNCTION AND DYSFUNCTION

Differential Alterations of Prostacyclin, Cyclic AMP and Cyclic GMP formation in the Corpus Cavernosum of the Diabetic Rabbit

M. SULLIVAN, C. S. THOMPSON, D. P. MIKHAILIDIS, R. J. MORGAN, G. D. ANGELINI AND J. Y. JEREMY, *Department of Urology and Chemical Pathology, Royal Free Hospital and School of Medicine, London and Bristol Heart Institute, Bristol Royal Infirmary, University of Bristol, Bristol, United Kingdom*

Brit. J. Urol., 82: 578-584, 1998

Objective To investigate the effect of alloxan-induced diabetes mellitus (DM, a major risk factor for erectile dysfunction and associated with impaired endothelial function) on the formation of nitric oxide (NO), prostacyclin (PGI₂), cGMP and cAMP in the corpus cavernosum of rabbits.

Materials and methods Rabbits were rendered diabetic (hyperglycaemic, nonketotic) with alloxan; after