

Do endometriosis patients benefit from freeze all strategy with transfer in downregulated FET cycles?

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CONCLUSION:

Downregulating patients with endometriosis irrespective of the severity with GnRH agonist improves the pregnancy rates for frozen embryo transfer.

OBJECTIVES

To evaluate the effect of elective frozen embryo transfer compared with fresh cycles with down regulation in endometriosis patients.

DESIGN

Retrospective observational study done at CARE IVF Kolkata between Jan 2015 to Dec 2015.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Women with endometriosis of different stages, diagnosed on laparoscopy, undergoing IVF were evaluated. The patients whose P4 was <1.5ng/ml and suitable for embryo transfer were included in the study (n=65).

Group A consisted of 35 of them who underwent fresh embryo transfer immediately following controlled ovarian stimulation.

In 30 patients, Group B, all the embryos obtained were frozen on D3 and transferred in the subsequent cycle after down regulation with GnRH agonist 3.75mg for 3 months every 28 days.

RESULTS

There was no significant difference between Group A and Group B in the following parameters.

Age (29.8 vs 30.26 p=0.36)

total dose of gonadotropins for stimulation (p=0.53),

Endometrial thickness on day of transfer (9.3mm vs 10.1mm p=0.96),

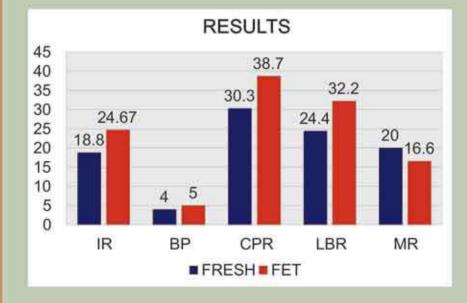
number of embryos transferred

(2.8 vs 2.56 p= 0.09)

number of high grade embryos (6-8 equal cells, <40% fragmentation)(p=0.27)

The implantation rate (18.8%) vs (24.67%) p=0.04** and the clinical pregnancy rates (30.3%) vs (38.7%) p=0.03** were significantly higher in Group B compared with Group A.

The Biochemical Pregnancy Rate, Miscarriage Rate And Live Birth Rate although showed a higher tendency in Group B compared to group A didn't reach clinical significance.



DISCUSSION

GnRH agonists seem to diminish the negative impact of endometriosis on the implantation potential irrespective of the grading of the embryo.

IR: Implantation Rate

BP: Biochemical Pregnancy Rate

CPR: Clinical Pregnancy Rate

LBR: Live Birth Rate MR: Miscarriage Rate

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