EDITORIAL

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It is my pleasure to bring to you the next issue of International Journal of Infertility and Fetal Medicine.

Despite the significant contribution of the male factor to the infertile state, relatively little has been done to increase our knowledge in this field. It was only in the 1990s, with the reports of decline in sperm quality over the last few decades that there has been a resurgence of interest in factors that may affect male infertility. The first article in this issue throws light on the incidence of male infertility amongst couples attending a fertility clinic in south India. This retrospective study has shown alarmingly high rate of oligozoospermia (31%). Rate of male infertility was recorded as 62% amongst infertile couples. The article clearly outlines a need for further studies on this topic.

We all know the significance of consanguineous marriage and its association with some genetic problems. Consanguinity is considered a significant factor in autosomal recessive diseases and has also been associated with congenital anomalies such as hydrocephalus, polydactilia and cleft lip and palate. The risk of congenital conditions is higher in subjects born of first-degree consanguineous parents compared with those of nonconsanguineous ones. The second article shows the association of inbreeding with lethal congenital hydrocephalus. Consanguinity is a risk factor for the appearance of lethal congenital hydrocephalus and its increase in association with other risk factors which should be taken into consideration while observing such pregnancies.

The third article compares exogenous luteinizing hormone (LH) surge [human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) trigger] with endogenous LH surge for timing of intrauterine insemination in unexplained infertility. It shows slightly higher pregnancy rate in endogenous LH monitored group compared to exogenous hCG group. Definitely more studies with larger number of patients will throw more light on this.

A case report on coarctation of cord as a cause of fetal demise signifies this rare but unrecognized cause of fetal death and need for careful examination of umbilical cord especially in cases of unexplained intrauterine demise.

I do hope you find this issue as interesting as I did bringing it to you.

Wishing all a successful and fullfilling year ahead!

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