

## Ethics of Artificial Insemination: Can a Sperm Donor 'Contact' his Children?

Hatta Tarmizi

Sabah Women's and Children's Hospital

### ABSTRACT

**Objectives:** To comment if a child conceived using donated sperm has the right to access identifying information regarding their biological father, does the donor have any corresponding rights? **Methods:** In the UK, legislation protects an unknown donor from being treated as the legal father of the child (HFEA 2008, ss. 38(1) & 41(1)). However in a very recent interesting case of *Re Z (A Child) [2013] EWHC 134 (Fam)*, two gay men, who were biological fathers to 2 children (of 2 lesbian couples) applied leave for (under the Children Act 1989 section 8) for contact and residence orders. Conversely, the lesbian couples contended that it was the intention of Parliament to protect same sex families who had conceived with sperm donors and their status as parents should be exclusive and absolute. Yet, the sperm donors argued that the HFEA 2008 Act did not eradicate their status as genetic parents who might be allowed by the court to play a role in the life of the child. **Results:** The court opined that the men had a good arguable case for contact orders and they were granted leave to make applications for contact orders in respect of the 2 children. **Conclusions:** To allow sperm donors access to their children information would begin a slippery slope towards not only corresponding information rights of the children but also donors' 'parental' interests and subsequent duties.

## Mosaicism Rate of Blastocyst is not affected by the Number of Trophectoderm Cells Biopsied for Preimplantation Genetic Testing for Aneuploidy (PGT-A) using High Resolution Next Generation System (hr-NGS)

Yap WY, Chan CW

Alpha International Women's Specialists Sdn Bhd, 31, Level 2, Jalan PJU 5/6, Dataran Sunway, Kota Damansara, 47810, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia

### ABSTRACT

**Objectives:** This is a retrospective study to compare the mosaicism rate of blastocysts based on the number of trophectoderm cells biopsied for PGT-A using hr-NGS in Alpha Fertility Centre, Malaysia from August 2017 to January 2018. **Methods:** A total of 1361 blastocysts from 391 patients (age ranged 18 – 47) which were at least fair graded (Gardner's grading system) had trophectoderm biopsy and screened for aneuploidy using hr-NGS (Ion Torrent, USA) according to the manufacturer's specifications. Of which, 398 blastocysts had 1-4 trophectoderm cells biopsied (Group A) and 963 blastocysts had 4-8 trophectoderm cells biopsied (Group B). The mean age of patients from Group A and B were 31.3 and 30.6 ( $p > 0.05$ ). Chromosomal mosaicism analysis was done using ReproSeq Mosaic PGS v1.1 workflow (Ion Reporter version 5.4). Trophectoderm biopsies which were tested to have 20% - 80% of aneuploid cells are reported as mosaic blastocysts (PGDIS, 2016). **Results:** The mosaicism rate of blastocysts from Group A and Group B were 17.3% and 15.3% respectively. There was no statistical significance found in mosaicism rate between both groups ( $p = 0.370$ ). **Conclusions:** This study shows no statistical significance in mosaicism rate based on the number of trophectoderm cells biopsied. Until such understanding is confirmed, we would still practice to obtain at least 5 cells at biopsy.