

Breastfeeding following in vitro fertilization – Does mode of conception affect breastfeeding practices?

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: As a result of assisted reproductive technology (ART), an increasing number of infants are born representing 1.5 to 5.9% of all births. Breastfeeding becomes part of a woman's identity as she enters the journey into motherhood. IVF and breastfeeding outcomes are another aspect that had been under represented in reproductive medicine. It is unclear whether and to what degree assisted reproductive technologies (ART) affects breastfeeding outcomes. **Objective:** To determine the association between assisted pregnancy and breastfeeding practices. **Methods:** One hundred and sixty four of women with singleton baby, more than 36 weeks pregnant who had conceived through ART (ARTC) or spontaneously (SC) from the year 2010 to 2019, in three age groups ≤ 30 , 31–35 and ≥ 36 years were recruited. This two groups were matched by maternal age, parity, mode of delivery and gestational age. Data were obtained via telephone interviews. Socio-demographic characteristics, reproductive health, birth outcomes and breastfeeding practices were assessed by study-specific questions. Main outcomes were initiation of breastfeeding, exclusivity and continuation of breastfeeding. **Results:** Of 110 eligible ARTC women, 82 mothers (75%) were contactable and agreed to participate. Breastfeeding initiation was 100% in both groups. No significance association was observed in EBF and continuity of BF at 12 months with regards to mode of conceptions. Exclusive breastfeeding was lower in ARTC compared to SC (52% vs 54%), however the difference was not statistically significant. Multivariate ordinal logistic regression analysis showed that women with ARTC pregnancy had a lower odds of exclusive breastfeeding at 6 months after delivery compared with SC group but higher odds for continuity of breastfeeding for 12 months and above after delivery. **Conclusions:** Breastfeeding was positively accepted regardless of the mode of conception. However, mode of conception does effect the breast feeding practices with a low odd ratios was seen at EBF, even though the continuity of BF at 12 months and above were better. Further study should be done to investigate factors that contribute to this outcomes. Special breastfeeding programme and continuous support from health professionals should be provided along their journey to motherhood to ensure they benefit from this miracle fluid.

Keywords: Assisted Reproductive Technology Conception (ARTC), in vitro fertilization, breastfeeding, assisted pregnancy, exclusive breastfeeding, Spontaneous Conception (SC)

Improved outcome in early removal of ovarian teratoma associated with anti-NMDAR encephalitis

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Anti-N-methyl-D-Aspartate receptor (Anti-NMDAR) encephalitis is a progressive neurological disorder potentially life-threatening disease. 60% of patients with anti-NMDA receptor encephalitis have the presence of tumour most commonly pelvic teratoma. Diagnosis is often delayed since majority of them presented with neuropsychiatric symptoms. **Case Description:** We report a case of anti-N-Methyl D-Aspartate Receptor (anti-NMDAR) encephalitis with ovarian teratoma successfully treated with laparoscopic cystectomy of pelvic teratoma and immunotherapy. A 17-year-old, single, adolescent girl with good academic performance presented with abnormal behaviour and incoherent speech for 3 days. She was admitted to the ward and treated as meningoencephalitis. However, CT brain was normal and CSF finding was not suggestive of infection. Patient's condition worsened with decreased consciousness and hypoventilation that required prolong intubation and ICU admission. After 2 months in the hospital, the patient underwent CT Abdomen & Pelvis in view of suspected intestinal obstruction. CT scan revealed an incidental finding of ovarian teratoma. Laparoscopic cystectomy was performed. Post-operatively, patient was able to be weaned off oxygen, and she slowly regained consciousness. She was discharged well after 2 weeks post-operation and fully recovered after 2 months. **Discussion:** Ovarian teratoma associated with Anti-NMDAR encephalitis should be suspected in adolescent girl presented with neuropsychiatric symptom. Early identification and removal of tumour is associated with better outcome.