



Endometriosis and Infertility: Insights into the Causal Link and Management Strategies

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Message from the Guest Editor

Endometriosis is highly prevalent among women of reproductive age and is frequently associated to infertility. Several studies have demonstrated that anatomical changes may impair gametes and embryo transport along the fallopian tubes; per se, endometriosis could affect the ovarian reserve, peritoneal endometriosis may lead to a pro-oxidant peritoneal microenvironment and the peritoneal fluid may alter sperm function. The reduced endometrial receptivity could also play a role in infertility of women affected by endometriosis. Regarding the management strategies, different treatment options of endometriosis-related infertility include minimal invasive surgery as well as assisted reproductive technologies.

Even the presence of ovarian endometrioma is related to infertility in the majority of cases, the impact of deep endometriosis on infertility is less clear and the place of conservative versus radical rectal surgery has to be defined. Moreover, due to the effect of endometriosis on ovarian reserve as well as the impact of surgery of large endometriomas on the ovarian reserve, the oocytes cryopreservation could be considered as a new option to preserve future fertility.





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