



## Updates in Male Infertility

Guest Editor:

**Prof. Dr. Panagiotis  
Drakopoulos**

1. Centre for Reproductive Medicine, Universitair Ziekenhuis Brussel, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels, Belgium
2. Department of Surgical and Clinical Science, Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels, Belgium

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Infertility affects approximately one to six couples and is partly or completely attributable to a male factor in approximately 50% of the cases. Despite this, male infertility is underrecognized and underrepresented as a disease. This is mainly due to the varying definitions of infertility that are commonly used and to the fact that fertility in men is not always evaluated. Males with sperm parameters below the WHO normal values are considered to have a male factor of infertility. Although semen analysis remains the cornerstone to investigate male infertility, this method has limitations, and new biomarkers have recently arisen. If we further take into consideration that several studies have shown a substantial overall decline of sperm values in men in the last decades and the growing body of evidence suggesting that male infertility may be associated with an increased risk of oncologic, metabolic, cardiovascular, and autoimmune diseases, it becomes clear that male infertility is an alarming global health issue that has not been adequately studied.





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*Journal of Clinical Medicine* Editorial  
Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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