

Assisted Reproductive Techniques for HIV seropositive women

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Introduction

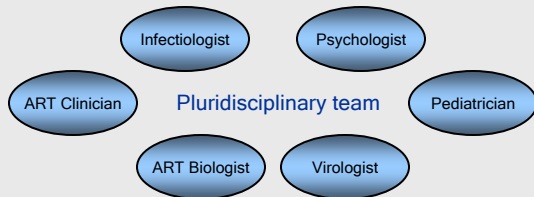
To prevent HIV infection of the partner and to treat infertility for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infected women, Assisted Reproductive Techniques (ART) have been legal in France since 2001. Our report here is based on a 3 year experience.

Methods

According to French law, HIV positive couples are eligible for ART if:

- stable couple practising safe sex
- CD4 > 200/mm³
- stable viral load (no increase > 0.5 log on 2 successive samples during the 4 months before start of ART)
- antiretroviral therapy compatible with pregnancy or no antiretroviral therapy
- specific written consent form obtained

For each request, these criteria are reviewed by a pluridisciplinary team.



The most appropriate ART are then proposed:

- IUI: Intrauterine Insemination
- IVF: In Vitro Fertilization
- ICSI: Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection
- FET: Frozen-thawed Embryo Transfer

ART are performed in a viral risk area geographically separated from the general laboratory space

Population

Requests: 71 couples

Ineligible couples: 5

- malignant hypertension: 1
- very poor sperm: 2
- unstable couple: 2

Under review: 16

Accepted couples: 50

Women:	• median age (years):	36 [24-43]
	• median FSH (IU/L):	7,0 [0,1-14,5]
	• co-infection of HVC:	3
	• co-infection of HBV:	1
	• HIV-2 infected:	1
	• antiretroviral therapy:	32 (64 %)
	• median CD4/mm ³ :	497 [203-2144]
	• Viral Load < 50 copies/ml:	24 (48%)
	• Viral Load > 50 copies/ml:	26 (52%) with median viral load 2 413 copies/ml [59-41 458]
Men:	• HIV infected:	6 (inclusion criteria respected for them too - see Poster N° 540 - Abstract Y-103)

Indications of ART:

• self-insemination failures:	18 (36%)
• tubal occlusion:	16 (32%)
• male infertility:	5 (10%)
• hypothalamic amenorrhea:	4 (8%)
• cervical pathologies:	3 (6%)
• mixed infertility:	3 (6%)
• prenatal genetic diagnosis : (for hemophilia)	1 (2%)

Results

ART attempts already performed: 82 (36 couples)

62 IVF-ICSI and 10 FET

8 cycles cancelled

8.4 ± 5.1 oocytes/retrieval
4.1 ± 3.2 day 2 embryos/retrieval

46 ET

6 FET

13 pregnancies

23.9 % P/ET

10 IUI

2 cycles cancelled

No pregnancy

13 pregnancies

36.1 % P/couple

Outcome of pregnancies:

4 miscarriages
8 cesarean sections, 8 babies
 1 ongoing pregnancy

Take home baby rate: 22.2%

After a median of 2.0 [1-6] attempts per couple

No contamination of offsprings

Conclusion

As previously demonstrated for HIV seropositive men, our results show that assisted reproductive techniques are feasible and safe for HIV seropositive women. ART is efficient to avoid contamination of the partner while fathering a child. ART, and especially ICSI, treat also a possible associated infertility with acceptable results in a population whose ovarian reserve may be impaired.