

동결보존 배아이식에서 분비기 자궁내막 유도시 프로게스테론 투여 방법에 따른 착상율과 임신율의 비교

성균관대학교 의과대학 삼성제일병원 산부인과¹, 생식내분비 및 불임 연구실²

1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1
1. 1. 2. 2. 1. 1

Implantation Rate and Clinical Pregnancy Rate According to Dosage and Timing of Progesterone Administration for Secretory Endometrial Preparation in Frozen-Thawed Embryo Transfer Cycles

Chan Woo Park¹, Kuol Hur¹, Moon Young Kim¹, Hyun Jung Song¹, Hye Ok Kim¹,
Kwang Moon Yang¹, Jin Yeong Kim¹, In Ok Song¹, Keun Jae Yoo¹, Kang Woo Cheon²,
Hye Kyung Byun², Mi Kyoung Koong¹, Inn Soo Kang¹

¹Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology,

²Laboratory of Reproductive Biology and Infertility, Samsung Cheil Hospital and
Women's Healthcare Center, Sungkyunkwan University School of Medicine, Seoul, Korea

Objective: To evaluate the difference of implantation rate (IR) and clinical pregnancy rate (CPR) between two protocols of endometrial preparation in women undergoing frozen-thawed embryo transfer (FET) cycles.

Methods: This study was performed during the different time periods: A retrospective study from January 2000 to June 2001 (phase I) and a prospective study from July 2001 to March 2002 (phase II). All the patients received estradiol valerate (6 mg p.o. daily) starting from day 1 or 2 of the menstrual cycle without pituitary down regulation. Progesterone was administered around day 14 after sonographic confirmation of endometrial thickness ≥ 7 mm and no growing follicle. In Group A (n=88, 99 cycles) of phase I, progesterone was administered i.m. at a dose of 50 mg daily from one day prior to thawing of pronuclear (PN) stage frozen embryo or three days prior to thawing of 6-8 cell stage frozen embryo and then each stage embryos were transferred 2 days or 1 day later after thawing. In Group B (n=246, 299 cycles) of phase I, patients received progesterone 100 mg i.m. from one day earlier than group A; two days prior to PN embryo thawing, four days prior to 6-8 cell embryo thawing.

During the phase II, to exclude any differences in embryo transfer procedures, in Group 1 (n=23, 28 cycles) of phase II embryo was transferred by one who have used the progesterone protocol since the phase I. In Group 2 (n=122, 139 cycles) of phase II embryo was transferred by one who use the progesterone protocol from the phase II.

Results: When compared across the phase and group, there were no significant differences in the

characteristics. During the phase I, there were significant increase in IR (14.4% vs 5.9%, p=0.001) and CPR (28.3% vs 14.5%, p=0.000) in group A. During the phases II, IR (11.8% vs 10.6%) and CPR (27.6% vs 27.3%) show no differences between two groups.

Conclusions: In FET cycles, IR and CPR are increased significantly by the change of dosage and timing of progesterone administration. And the timing is considered to be more important factor because the dosage of progesterone did not affect implantation window in previous studies. Therefore, we suggest that progesterone administration in FET cycle should begin from one day prior to PN stage embryo thawing and three days prior to 6-8 cell stage embryo thawing.

Key Words: Progesterone, Frozen-thawed embryo transfer, Implantation rate, Clinical pregnancy rate

가

가

Phase I

60%

가

(frozen-thawed embryo)

(cumulative pregnancy rate)

(natural cycle)

(hormonal replacement cycle)

gonadotrophin-releasing hormone agonist (GnRH-a)

down regulation

1 2

80%

15~25%

6-8

(endometrial-embryo asynchrony)가

(proliferative phase)

(secretory phase)

가

Phase I

(implantation rate)

(clinical pregnancy rate)

Phase II

가

Phase I

1.

2000 1 2002 3

(endometrial preparation) (hormonal replacement therapy)

1 2

1) Phase I

2000 1 2001 6

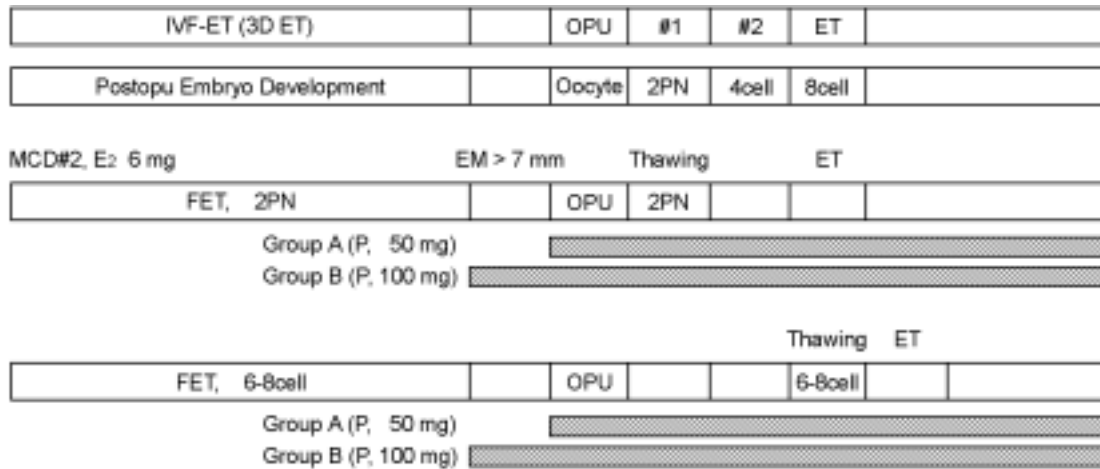


Figure 1. Scheme of protocols for secretory phase preparation during the Phase I.
 E₂: estradiol valerate 6 mg p.o. / P: progesterone in oil i.m. administration of progesterone

1
 (pronucleus, PN), 2 4 , 3 6-8 phase I
 group A
 가
 1 , 6-8 3 Group 1 (n=23, 28 cycle) group A
 phase I
 Group A progesterone in oil (Progest[®],) 50 mg , group B (n=122, 139 cycle) phase I phase II
 1 group A
 1
 6-8
 2 , 6-8 2.
 3 6-8 1)
 3 Gonadotropin releasing hormone-agonist (GnRH-a)
 1 (long protocol) (short protocol)
 (Figure 1). Human
 Group B progesterone in oil 100 mg chorionic gonadotropin (hCG)
 , group A 1 , 가 16 mm 가 3
 1 , hCG 34
 2 , 6-8
 4 (Figure 1). 4
 2) Phase II 8
 2001 7 2002 3 phase I 2)
 가 가
 가 Grade I, 가

20% Grade I-1, 가 37 , 5% CO2 incubator

20% Grade II, 가 20% 5) (endometrial preparation)

Grade II-1, 가 50% 1 2 estradiol valerate (Progynova®, Schering AG) 6 mg

Grade I-1 (good embryo) 3) 8 mg 가 7 mm 가 7 mm

6-8 20% SSS (serum substitute supplement)가 dPBS (phosphate buffered saline) 37 (warm plate) 6) 12

5 1.5 M PROH (propanediol), 20% SSS가 dPBS 10 12

1.5 M PROH, 0.1 M sucrose, 20% SSS가 dPBS 10 5 mIU/ml (clinical pregnancy)

0.25 ml straw

50 ul straw (Kryo-10, luteo- Planer or Cryo-Magic,) 7 -2 /min , straw placental shift가 10

가 -7 forcep (seeding) . -7 Student's t-test chi-square test , p<0.05

-30 0.3 /min ,

-30 -196 -30 /min

straw

4) (500 /min)

2

가 straw group , 40 , 37 , 가 , 가

1 (Table 1). 12 β-hCG

1.0 M PROH, 0.2 M sucrose, 20% SSS가 dPBS 5 . 0.5 5 mIU/ml group A group B 38 53

M PROH, 0.2 M sucrose, 20% SSS가 dPBS 0.2 M sucrose, group B (biochemical pregnancy) 9

20% SSS가 dPBS 10 10 group B 1 가 ,

37 (warm plate) 10 23.2% (23/99) 11.7% (35/299)

Table 1. Cycle characteristics in two groups during the Phase I

Phase I	Group A	Group B	p-value
Patients	88	246	
Cycles	99	299	
Age (yrs)	33.7±3.9	32.2±3.6	NS
Infertility duration (mon)	47.7±42.5	39.7±32.4	NS
No. of embryo transferred	3.4±1.3	3.8±1.1	NS
No. of good embryo transferred	1.7±1.3	1.8±1.3	NS
Endometrial thickness (mm)	8.8±2.3	8.9±2.1	NS

Values: mean±SD, NS: not significant

Table 2. Pregnancy outcomes in two groups during the Phase I

Phase I	Group A	Group B	p-value
hCG > 5 mIU/ml	38	53	
Biochemical pregnancy	9	10	
Clinical abortion	5	6	
Therapeutic abortion	0	1	
2nd trimester loss	1	1	
Delivery	23	35	
Implantation rate	14.5% (49/338)	5.9% (66/1123)	0.000
Clinical pregnancy rate	28.3% (28/99)	14.4% (43/299)	0.001
Delivery rate	23.2% (23/99)	11.7% (35/299)	0.003

group A 14.5% 28.3% 23.2%
 group B 5.9% 14.4% 11.7%
 (Table 2).
 Phase I group A , Group 2 (heterotopic pregnancy) 1 21.4% (5/28) 23.0%
 phase II (26/139) (Table 4).
 2. Phase II phase II 가 phase I
 group , , phase I phase II
 , 가 phase I phase II
 가 (Table 3). , ,
 β-hCG group 1 가
 group 2 9 49 가 가

Table 3. Cycle characteristics in two groups during the Phase II

Phase II	Group 1	Group 2	p-value
Patients	23	122	
Cycles	28	139	
Mean age	32.2±3.0	31.9±4.7	NS
Infertility duration (mon)	46.4±31.9	46.3±35.1	NS
No. of embryo transferred	3.6±0.9	3.6±1.2	NS
No. of good embryo transferred	2.2±1.5	2.1±1.3	NS
Endometrial thickness (mm)	8.5±2.1	8.9±2.6	NS

Values: mean±SD, NS: not significant

Table 4. Pregnancy outcomes in two groups during the Phase II

Phase II	Group 1	Group 2	p-value
hCG > 5 mIU/ml	9	49	
Biochemical preg.	1	11	
Clinical abortion	2	5	
Heterotopic preg.	0	1	
Delivery	6	32	
Implantation rate	11.9% (12/102)	10.8% (53/499)	NS
Clinical pregnancy rate	28.6% (8/28)	27.3% (38/139)	NS
Delivery rate	21.4% (6/28)	23.0% (32/139)	NS

NS: not significant

가 (29.1% vs. 19.3%) (23.4% vs. 15.6%)
 1, 6-8 3 가
 가
 (hormonal replacement cycle)
 gonadotrophin-releasing hormone agonist (GnRH-a)
 2~
 3 가
 (premature LH surge)

6%⁶ ,² Queenan 6 mg
⁷⁻⁹ 1 2%
²⁰ LH
GnRH-a
2 mg GnRH-a
4 mg, 6 mg sequential and incremental vs 9%) (26.4% vs 21.1%) (9.5%
⁶⁻⁸ Serhal Craft LH 가
가 1 2
(estradiol valerate, 6 mg)
1 6 mg 1 25 mg
15 3~25 ng/ml
simple hormonal regimen , progesterone in oil 25 mg
, 100 mg
¹⁰
LH , 가 24~48
GnRH-a
down regulation 4
^{6,11-14} GnRH-a 가
down regulation 가
, LH , progesterone in oil 50 mg
100 mg
12 20
¹⁵ 가 down re-
gulation ,
Craft²⁴ 100 mg ²¹⁻²⁴ Serhal
down regulation 50 mg , Asch ²⁴
LH가 ,¹⁶ 1
가 LH 가
가 ¹⁷⁻¹⁹ 50 mg (Group
micronized 17β-oestradiol 2 mg A) 100 mg
2 3 7.4% (Group B)

, Group A Elder Dale 80%

28%

Group A 28.3%

Navot (initiation) 2~4

2 4 .¹ 28

Prapas 28 18 19 96~120 (morula)

15 18 (blastocyst) 가 ,

19 4-8 가 ,²⁵

Navot ,²⁶ Rosen- 2 4 , 3 6-8

waks 17 19 3

Group A 4 , 6-8

5 , Group B (endometrial-embryo asynchrony)가 ,^{22,28}

5 , 6 3

가 가 6-8 , 6-8

가 가 Group A

가 가

가 가 Phase I 가 가 Group A

가 가 가가 phase II

가 가 ,²⁸

가 가 ²⁹ Group B 가

group A 100 mg 50 mg 가 ,

가 (endometrial-embryo synchrony)

25 mg 100 mg progesterone in oil i.m.

1. Elder K, Dale B. In vitro fertilization. In: Cryopreservation. 2nd ed. Cambridge University Press; 2002. p.192-227.
2. Pattinson AH, Greene CA, Fleetham J, Anderson-Sykes SJ. Exogenous control of the cycle simplifies thawed embryo transfer and results in pregnancy rate similar to that of natural cycles. *Fertil Steril* 1992; 58: 627-9.
3. Society for Assisted Reproductive Technology American Society for Reproductive Medicine. Assisted reproductive technology in the United States and Canada: 1994 results generated from the American Society for Reproductive Medicine/Society for Assisted Reproductive Technology Registry. *Fertil Steril* 1996; 66: 697-705.
4. Miles RA, Paulson RJ, Lobo RA, Press MF, Dahmouh L, Sauer MV. Pharmacokinetics and endometrial tissue levels of progesterone after administration by intramuscular and vaginal routes: a comparative study. *Fertil Steril* 1994; 62: 485-90.
5. Rosenwaks Z, Veeck LL, Liu HC. Pregnancy following transfer of in vitro fertilized donated oocytes. *Fertil Steril* 1986; 45: 417-20.
6. Sathanandan M, Macnamee MC, Rainsbury P, Wick K, Brinsden P, Edwards RG. Replacement of frozen-thawed embryos in artificial and natural cycles: a prospective semi-randomized study. *Hum Reprod* 1991; 6: 685-7.
7. Cohen J, Decane GW, Elsner CW, Kort HI, Massey JB, Norbury SE. Cryopreserved zygotes and embryos and endocrinologic factors in the replacement cycle. *Fertil Steril* 1988; 50: 61-7.
8. Testart J, Lassle B, Belaisch-Allart J, Forman R, Hazout A, Fries N, Frydman R. Human embryo freezing. *Ann N Y Acad Sci* 1988; 541: 532-40.
9. Muasher SJ, Kruthoff C, Simonetti S, Oehninger S, Acosta AA, Jones GS. Controlled preparation of the endometrium with exogenous steroids for the transfer of frozen-thawed pre-embryos in patients with anovulatory or irregular cycle. *Hum Reprod* 1991; 6: 443-5.
10. Serhal PF, Craft IL. Ovum donation - a simplified approach. *Fertil Steril* 1987; 48: 265-9.
11. Schmidt CL, de Ziegler D, Galiardi CL, Mellon RW, Taney FH, Kuhar MJ, Colon JM, Weiss G. Transfer of cryopreserved-thawed embryo: the natural cycle versus controlled preparation of the endometrium with gonadotropin-releasing hormone agonist and exogenous estradiol and progesterone (GEEP). *Fertil Steril* 1989; 52: 609-16.
12. Muasher SJ, Kruthoff C, Simonetti S, Oehninger S, Acosta AA, Jones GS. Controlled preparation of the endometrium with exogenous steroids for the transfer of frozen-thawed pre-embryos in patients with anovulatory or irregular cycle. *Hum Reprod* 1991; 6: 443-5.
13. Al-Shawaf T, Yang D, Al-Magid Y, Seaton A, Iketubosin F, Craft I. Ultrasonic monitoring during replacement of frozen/thawed embryo in natural and hormone replacement cycle. *Hum Reprod* 1993; 8: 2067-70.
14. Queenan J, Veeck LL, Seltman H, Muasher S. Transfer of cryopreserved-thawed pre-embryos in a natural cycle or a programmed cycle with exogenous hormonal replacement yields similar pregnancy results. *Fertil Steril* 1994; 62: 545-50.
15. Younis JS, Mordel N, Lewin A. Artificial endometrial preparation for oocyte donation: the effect of estrogen stimulation on clinical outcome. *J Assist Reprod Genet* 1992; 9: 222-7.
16. Remohi J, Vidal A, Pellicer A. Oocyte donation in low responders to conventional ovarian stimulation for in vitro fertilization. *Fertil Steril* 1993; 59: 1208-15.
17. Nezhat C, Kapas AE, Greenblatt RB, Mahesh VB. Estradiol implants for conception control. *Am J Obstet Gynecol* 1980; 138: 1151-6.
18. Godman RL, Bittman EL, Foster DL, Karsch FJ. The endocrine basis of the synergistic suppression

- of luteinizing hormone by estradiol and progesterone. *Endocrinology* 1981; 109: 1414-7.
19. Yaron Y, Amit A, Mani A, Yovel I, Kogosowski A, Peyser MR, David MP, Lessing JB. Uterine preparation with estrogen for oocyte donation: assessing the effect of treatment duration on pregnancy rates. *Fertil Steril* 1995; 63: 1284-6.
 20. Queenan JT Jr, Ramey JW, Seltman HJ, Eure L, Veeck LL, Muasher SJ. Transfer of cryopreserved-thawed pre-embryos in cycle using exogenous steroids without prior gonadotrophin-releasing hormone agonist suppression yields favourable pregnancy results. *Hum Reprod* 1997; 12: 1176-80.
 21. Navot D, Laufer N, Koplovic J, Rabinowitz R, Birkenfeld A, Lewin A, Granat M, Margalioth EJ, Schenker JG. Artificially induced endometrial cycles and establishment of pregnancies in the absence of the ovaries. *N Engl J Med* 1986; 314: 806-11.
 22. Rosenwaks Z, Veeck LL, Liu HC. Pregnancy following transfer of in vitro fertilized donated oocytes. *Fertil Steril* 1986; 45: 417-20.
 23. Serhal PF, Craft IL. Ovum donation - a simplified approach. *Fertil Steril* 1987; 48: 265-9.
 24. Asch R, Balmaceda J, Ord T. Oocyte donation and gamete intrafallopian transfer as treatment for premature ovarian failure. *Lancet* 1987; I: 687-8.
 25. Navot D, Scott RT, Droesch K, Veeck LL, Liu HC, Rosenwaks Z. The window of embryo transfer and the efficiency of human conception in vitro. *Fertil Steril* 1991; 55: 114-8.
 26. Prapas Y, Prapas N, Jones EE. The window for embryo transfer in oocyte donation cycles depends on the duration of progesterone therapy. *Hum Reprod* 1998; 13: 1720-3.
 27. Rosenwaks Z. Donor eggs: their application in modern reproductive technologies. *Fertil Steril* 1987; 47: 895-909.
 28. Graf MJ, Reyniak JV, Battle-Mutter P, Laufer N. Histologic evaluation of the luteal phase in women following follicle aspiration for oocyte retrieval. *Fertil Steril* 1988; 49: 616-9.
 29. Ben-Nun I, Siegal A, Ghetler Y, Kneti H, Jaffe R, Fejgin R. Effect of preovulatory progesterone administration on the endometrial maturation and implantation rate after in vitro fertilization and embryo transfer. *Fertil Steril* 1990; 53: 276-81.
-