

辅助生殖技术相关母婴风险研究进展

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摘要

近年来, 辅助生殖技术(assisted reproductive technology, ART)蓬勃发展并日益成熟, 成为治疗不孕症的主要手段。过去, 生殖领域专家关注如何提高临床妊娠率和累计活产率。但ART过程中一些非生理性的干预, 如超生理剂量的激素类药物使用, 可能会对母婴结局造成不利影响。这些不良结局似乎与多胎妊娠率高有关, 单胚胎移植可最大限度降低风险。目前, ART相关并发症发生率与ART有关还是与不孕症本身有关尚存争议。本文的目的是综述近年来辅助生殖技术相关妊娠期并发症和新生儿出生结局相关文献。

关键词

辅助生殖技术, 体外受精, 胚胎移植, 并发症, 子代健康

Advances in the Study of Maternal and Infant Risks Associated with Assisted Reproductive Technologies

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Abstract

In recent years, assisted reproductive technology (ART) has flourished and become increasingly

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sophisticated as a primary treatment for infertility. In the past, specialists in the field of reproduction have focused on improving clinical pregnancy rates and cumulative live birth rates. However, some non-physiological interventions during ART, such as the use of super physiological doses hormone drugs, may adversely affect maternal and infant outcomes. These adverse outcomes appear to be associated with high rates of multiple pregnancies, with single embryo transfer minimizing the risk. It is controversial whether the rate of ART-related complications is related to ART or to infertility itself. The purpose of this article is to review the literature related to pregnancy complications and neonatal birth outcomes associated with assisted reproductive technologies in recent years.

Keywords

Assisted Reproductive Techniques, *In Vitro* Fertilization, Embryo Transfer, Complications, Offspring Health

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1. 引言

不孕症是全球性的健康问题, 约占育龄期夫妇的 20% [1]。越来越多的不孕夫妇求助于辅助生殖技术 (assisted reproductive technology, ART), 如体外受精 - 胚胎移植 (*in vitro* fertilization-embryo transfer, IVF-ET)、胞浆内单精子注射 (intracytoplasmic sperm injection, ICSI)。迅速发展的辅助生殖技术给众多不孕症家庭带来了希望。如今, 全球约有 700 万试管婴儿 [2]。但 IVF-ET/ICSI 技术带来的相关并发症及不良围产结局风险, 也引起了重视 [3]。更多证据指出, 与自然妊娠相比, ART 增加了不良围产结局和妊娠期并发症的发生率, 如异位妊娠、出生缺陷、低体重儿及子痫前期、妊娠期糖尿病等 [4]。目前, 造成这些不良母婴结局可能的原因尚有争议, 可能是复杂的不孕症及其病因或 ART 程序。本文对近年来辅助生殖技术相关妊娠期并发症和新生儿出生结局相关文献进行综述, 旨在为改善辅助生殖受孕的母婴结局提供有意义的参考。

2. 妊娠并发症

2.1. 异位妊娠

异位妊娠是指子宫腔以外部位的妊娠, 是妇产科常见的急腹症, 发生率 2%~3% [5]。IVF-ET 等技术使异位妊娠风险增加 2 倍 [6]。输卵管炎症和既往输卵管损伤是异位妊娠的潜在病理机制 [7]。输卵管性不孕是女性不孕症最常见的病因, IVF-ET 技术最初是将胚胎放置到子宫腔来克服输卵管因素不孕。然而, 输卵管性不孕也可能增加 IVF-ET 过程中发生异位妊娠的概率 [7]。此外, 不孕症病史本身也增加了异位妊娠的风险 [8]。不孕症与异位妊娠之间的关系很复杂, 两者可能互为因果。

与新鲜周期胚胎移植相比, 冻融周期胚胎移植 (frozen-thawed embryo transfer, FET) 可降低异位妊娠率 [9]。新鲜周期经过了控制性超促排卵, 卵巢刺激导致超生理激素的环境, 这可能会增加异位妊娠的风险。而 FET 是在自然周期或激素替代周期移植胚胎, 更接近自然妊娠。有研究表明, 卵裂期冻融胚胎移植的异位妊娠率高于囊胚期冻融胚胎移植的异位妊娠率 [10] [11]。生理情况下, 处于输卵管部位的卵裂期胚胎发育成囊胚, 并穿过子宫输卵管间质部到达宫腔。囊胚的移植更接近自然状态, 且子宫内膜容受性好。

随着辅助生殖技术的广泛应用,异位妊娠的早期诊断和治疗显得尤为重要。宫内外复合妊娠的异位妊娠更难诊断。复合妊娠在自然妊娠中罕见,但在辅助生殖技术的应用升高了复合妊娠的发生率[7]。复合妊娠的孕产妇死亡率是输卵管异位妊娠发生率的8倍[12]。复合妊娠的高危因素有既往异位妊娠、多次流产史、输卵管因素不孕以及多胚胎移植[7]。为了降低复合妊娠发病率,单胚胎移植已被接受[7]。阴道超声和 β -HCG联合诊断异位妊娠特异性强。但宫内妊娠和卵巢过度刺激增加了诊断难度,对于移植多个胚胎的患者,即使宫内可见妊娠囊,也应密切随访。HCG倍增差的患者应建议缩短超声检查间期,以便更早发现异位妊娠。如何降低辅助生殖技术后异位妊娠的发病率也有待进一步研究。

2.2. 子痫前期

子痫前期是危害母婴健康的严重并发症。子痫前期可引起母体多器官、多系统受累,也增加了子代不良结局,包括胎儿生长受限、剖宫产、胎盘早剥、早产、小于胎龄儿、产后5分钟新生儿窒息率[13]。其发生的主要原因是全身小血管痉挛和内皮细胞损伤及局部缺血[5]。既往研究中,可溶性Fms样酪氨酸激酶-1(soluble Fms-like kinase-1, sFlt-1)可以拮抗血管内皮生成因子(vascular endothelial factor, VEGF)和胎盘生长因子(placental growth factor, PLGH),造成广泛的血管内皮功能障碍,阻碍子宫螺旋小动脉重铸而导致胎盘缺氧应激,发生子痫前期[14]。这些血管因子的改变常常先于子痫前期的发生,且与疾病的严重程度呈正相关[15]。研究表明,辅助生殖技术受孕的孕妇发生子痫前期的风险高于自然受孕[16]。但此研究缺乏妊娠类型(单胎/双胎妊娠)对于子痫前期的影响。子痫前期在双胎妊娠中的发病率是单胎妊娠的2~3倍[17],且发病快、进展快、表现严重且常为隐匿性。一项中国的回顾性研究表明,在双胎妊娠合并子痫前期的情况下,分娩孕周小于34周和新生儿娩出后5分钟窒息率增加[18]。ART增加了双胎妊娠孕妇产子痫前期的风险,单胚胎移植政策是减少辅助生殖技术不良妊娠结局的一种方法。

相比于新鲜周期胚胎移植,FET增加了子痫前期的风险[19]。FET与子痫前期发生率增加的相关机制尚不清楚,可能与FET子宫内膜准备方案的选择有关。FET子宫内膜准备可在自然、促排卵或激素替代周期中进行。激素替代周期中外源性雌、孕激素人工制备子宫内膜,垂体-卵巢轴被抑制,没有优势卵泡发育,也没有排卵发生,导致黄体的缺失。黄体可分泌血管活性激素,如松弛素。血管松弛素是一种血管扩张剂,有助于正常妊娠中母体全身和肾血管扩张。激素替代周期中,血管活性激素的缺失降低了母体心血管系统对妊娠的适应,致使子痫前期风险增加[20]。而在正常妊娠中,孕妇对的心血管适应包括全身总外周阻力减少、心输出量增加和全身动脉顺应性增加。FET周期中子宫内膜准备方案并不是随机的,临床医生根据病人的情况选择方案,这可能会影响研究结果。自然周期、促排卵周期应作为首选方案。对于多囊卵巢综合征患者或排卵失败患者,促排卵周期发生卵巢过度刺激综合征的风险高,选择激素替代周期准备子宫内膜时,应进行严密的妊娠期监测。对生殖医师来说,确定FET制备子宫内膜周期的方案时,不仅要考虑临床妊娠率和活产率,还要考虑子痫前期等妊娠期并发症,最终改善母婴结局。此外,早期识别高血压的高危人群有很高的临床价值。

2.3. 妊娠期糖尿病

妊娠期糖尿病(gestational diabetes mellitus, GDM)是妊娠期常见的内分泌疾病。GDM与母婴并发症增加有关,此外,患者远期可能会发展为II型糖尿病。

多囊卵巢综合征(polycystic ovary syndrome, PCOS)多见于育龄期妇女,发病率为5%~10%,占不孕症病因的30%~60%[21][22]。主要特征为不排卵或稀发排卵。与不患PCOS的女性相比,患PCOS的女性GDM发生率是非PCOS女性的8倍[23]。PCOS可能是母体发生GDM、子痫前期的潜在危险因素。ART助孕的女性孕期应早期发现GDM,以免造成不良的母婴结局。

辅助生殖技术妊娠相比于自然妊娠发生 GDM 的风险增高[24], 机制尚不清楚。可能与辅助生殖技术助孕后, 妊娠期间使用黄体酮的进行黄体支持治疗有关[25]。黄体酮对糖尿病的影响主要是由于葡萄糖转运蛋白 4 的表达减少, 导致胰岛素抵抗增加, 尤其是骨骼肌和脂肪组织的胰岛素抵抗增加[25]。

新鲜移植周期 GDM 发生风险高于冻融周期, 可能与新鲜移植后卵巢刺激对子宫内膜的不良影响有关。新鲜移植周期超生理的激素水平导致异常子宫内膜血管生成和异常胎盘形成, 胎盘基因调控的改变与 GDM 的发生有关[26]。与自然周期相比, 冻融周期子宫内膜准备中, 激素替代周期子宫内膜准备发生 GDM 的风险更高[27]。因此, 子宫内膜质量也可能与 GDM 发生率相关。

IVF-ET 技术发生 GDM 的风险高于 ICSI 技术[28]。这可能与不孕女性基础情况不仅与不孕症有关, 如 PCOS、肥胖、高龄、糖尿病家族史等。在 ICSI 助孕夫妇中, 导致不孕的主要原因是男方因素, 故发生 GDM 发生率较 IVF 助孕组低。

与自然受孕的双胎妊娠相比, IVF/ICSI 受孕的双胎母亲发生 GDM 的风险显著增加[29]。生殖科医师应限制胚胎移植数量, 以降低多胎妊娠发生率。

3. 围产期并发症与出生结局

3.1. 出生缺陷

辅助生殖技术是否会增加出生缺陷受到广泛关注。与自然妊娠组相比, 辅助生殖技术妊娠组单胎婴儿发生非染色体缺陷风险增加, 包括心脏、中枢神经系统、唇腭裂、消化系统及泌尿生殖系统缺陷[30]。多项 Meta 分析也得出了一致的结论[31] [32]。但也有学者得出不同结论。Davies 等[33]认为, 调整了母亲年龄、胎次、父母职业、母亲怀孕期间吸烟等因素后, 试管婴儿与出生缺陷之间的联系不再显著。虽然不排除残留混杂因素的可能, 但经过调整后, ICSI 发生出生缺陷的风险仍然增加。此研究还表明, 新鲜 ICSI 周期发生出生缺陷的风险高于新鲜 IVF 周期。但此观点尚存争议。另有研究表明, ART 助孕出生缺陷发生率高与双胎妊娠有关[34], 但也有研究者得出相反的结论[35]。因此, 需要建立多中心、大样本、长期随访的观察和研究来更好的评价辅助生殖技术与出生缺陷的关系。

3.2. 早产和低体重儿

早产是造成围产儿死亡的重要原因之一, 早产儿各器官发育不成熟, 先天畸形、脑瘫等发生率高于足月儿。与自然受孕相比, 辅助生殖技术受孕与不良围产儿结局有关[36]。提倡单囊胚移植后, 多胎出生率下降降低了不良围产儿结局的风险[37]。大多数研究表明, 辅助生殖技术妊娠单胎的早产风险、极早产风险、低出生体重及小于胎龄儿风险、死产风险均高于自然妊娠单胎[38]。

与新鲜周期胚胎移植相比, 冻融周期胚胎移植的围产儿结局更好, 早产和低出生体重风险降低。但大于胎龄儿和巨大儿发生风险增高[39]。可能是因为高质量的胚胎在胚胎冷冻和解冻过程对高质量胚胎进行选择。也可能与 FET 的子宫内膜环境更接近自然受孕状态, 而且新鲜移植周期存在卵巢刺激。

ICSI 技术最初被用于治疗男性因素不孕症, 今天这项技术也被用于不明原因不孕症、常规受精失败等情况。ICSI 操作是一种侵入性技术, 人为选择 1 条精子注入卵母细胞细胞质, 该操作会对卵母细胞产生损伤。因其侵袭性、精子的选择性及父母因素, ICSI 助孕的围产儿结局也引起了关注。与 IVF 单胎子代相比, ICSI 单胎子代低出生体重、早产及围生儿死亡率的风险相似或更低[40]。可能是因为 ICSI 技术应用时, 大多数母体生殖系统是健康的, 这可能会给围产儿带来更有利的结局。

试管婴儿的不良出生结局高于自然妊娠与试管婴儿技术有关还是与低生育状态本身有关尚有争议。一项回顾性队列研究比较了 1246 名生育力正常妇女和 461 名不孕的健康妇女, 结果表明不论是否接受促排卵或 IVF 助孕, 不孕妇女的婴儿出生体重较小, 并得出结论, 不孕症本身对胎儿生长的影响比不孕症

治疗本身更大[41]。芬兰的一项研究也得出了相似的结论,认为生育力低下、心理压力大等导致辅助生殖技术增加了早产的风险[42]。不少研究将同一母亲所生的兄弟姐妹进行比较,结果显示相似的早产儿率[26]。但 Pinborg 等[40]的研究得出了相反的结论:试管婴儿早产的风险增加, aOR 为 1.27 (95% CI 1.08, 1.49)。

迄今为止的研究表明,辅助生殖技术是一种相对安全的技术,但其带来的挑战与风险也不容忽视,它增加了多胎妊娠、异位妊娠、围产期并发症和出生缺陷。单胚胎移植能显著降低妊娠期并发症和不良围产结局,故临床上推荐单胚胎移植。在进行选择性单囊胚移植时,高质量的囊胚降低了早产和低出生体重的发生率。冻融胚胎移植时子宫内膜和胚胎发育阶段相对同步,更接近生理状态,降低了早产的发生率,但增加了子痫前期、巨大儿、大于胎龄儿的危险。选择冻融胚胎移植子宫内膜准备方案时,需综合考虑风险因素,个体化选择。与 IVF-ET 技术相比,ICSI 技术的侵入性操作可能会增加不良围产结局,生殖中心医师应严格把控 ICSI 指征。妊娠期并发症和不良出生结局与低生育状态有关还是与辅助生殖技术有关仍需要更深入的研究。

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