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A retrospective study on the prevalence of empty follicle syndrome at a single fertility center

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Empy follicle syndrome (EFS) is a condition in which no oocytes are retrieved after an apparently adequate ovarian response to stimulation and meticulous follicular aspiration. EFS can be classified into 'genuine' and 'false' types according to hCG levels. It is a rare condition of obscure etiology. The existence of genuine EFS has been questioned and is still controversial. Management of patients with EFS is a challenge to physicians. No single treatment is known to be universally effective. However, patients should be adequately informed regarding the importance of correct hCG administration because improper hCG administration is a common and preventable cause of EFS. EFS is a syndrome that deserves additional study because such investigation could lead to a further understanding of ovarian biology and infertility.

Objective: To describe the prevalence of empty follicle syndrome (EFS) at assisted reproductive technology (ART)

Design: Retrospective study Setting: Large private fertility center

Patients: A total of 580 patients who underwent ART between 2007 and 2017, August

Intervention: None

Main Outcome Measure: The failure to recover an oocyte during oocyte retrieval at assisted reproductive technology (ART)

Result: Three cases of EFS were identified in the cohort examined. The prevalence of EFS was 0.52%.

Conclusion: EFS is a rare occurrence. Because this syndrome tends to recur with dismal pregnancy rates at ART, continued identification and further investigation of the syndrome are needed.

Biography

Mailyn T. Panganiban has completed her Doctor of Medicine at the age of 25 from FEU- NRMF Institute of Medicine. She had her Residency Training in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Armed Forces of the Philippines Medical Center. She further subspecialized in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility in the REI Consortium FEU- NRMF and JRRMMC. She is now the Training Officer in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, AFP Medical Center. At present, she is a FELLOW and DIPLOMATE in Philippine Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology as well as Philippine Society of Reproductive Medicine.

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