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Efficacy and Fertilizing ability of Frozen-thawed Testicular Spermatozoa and Spermatozoa Extracted from the Seminiferous Tubule with Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI)

**Yong-Seog Park¹, Jin Hyun Jun¹, Ho-Joon Lee¹, Jong Hyun Kim^{2,4}, Ju Tae Seo^{2,4},
You Sik Lee^{2,4}, and Inn Soo Kang^{3,4}**

Infertility Research Laboratory¹, Department of Urology², Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology⁴, Samsung Cheil Hospital & Women's Healthcare Center, Medical College, Sungkyunkwan University, Seoul, Korea

= Abstract =

The combination of testicular sperm extraction (TESE) with ICSI can achieve normal fertilization and pregnancy rate and is effective method in obstructive and non-obstructive azoospermic patients. But, when pregnancy was not occurred, repeated testicular biopsies are not evitable. Therefore in this study, we observed the survival rate of testicular spermatozoa and spermatozoa extracted from the seminiferous tubules after cryopreserved and subsequently used for next IVF cycle with ICSI. In 23 cases, obstructive azoospermia was 17 cases and non-obstructive azoospermia was 6 cases. In obstructive azoospermia, after thawing, motile spermatozoa was observed in 12 cases (70.6%). The fertilization rates with 2PN was 82.6% and 5 pregnancies were achieved 35.3%. In non-obstructive azoospermia, motile spermatozoa after thawing was observed in 2 case (33.3%). The fertilization rates with 2PN was 81.8% and 3 pregnancies (50%) were achieved. A comparison of the results of motile spermatozoa after thawed testicular spermatozoa and spermatozoa extracted from the thawed seminiferous tubule section were 3 cases (60%) and 12 cases (66.6%), respectively. The fertilization and pregnancy rates of thawed testicular spermatozoa and spermatozoa extracted from the thawed seminiferous tubule

section were 69.4% and 20%, 62.5% and 38.9%, respectively. Conclusively, thawed testicular spermatozoa and spermatozoa extracted from the thawed seminiferous tubule section can achieve normal fertilization and pregnancy rate and cryopreservation of testicular spermatozoa and seminiferous tubule may avoid repetition of testicular biopsies in azoospermic patients in whom the only source of spermatozoa is the testis.

Key words : cryopreservation, testicular spermatozoa, seminiferous tubule, TESE, ICSI,

(testicular sperm extraction; TESE, TESE) (intracytoplasmic sperm injection; ICSI, ICSI)

(Schoysman *et al.*, 1993; Devroey *et al.*, 1994, 1995; Bourne *et al.*, 1995; Craft&Tsirigotis, 1995; Nagy&Liu, 1995; Silber *et al.*, 1995a, b, 1996; , 1997).

TESE 3-5

가 가 가 가

TESE-ICSI

IVF

가

(spermatogenic cell)

가

TESE

(Gil-Salom *et al.*, 1996; Romero

et al., 1996), Allan&Cotman (1997)

-

3

가

(Oates *et al.*, 1997).

(TESE)
, ICSI

1.

(TESE) 23 -
(ICSI) . TESE
19 , 4 ,
5 , 18 .

2.

(TESE)
(tunica vaginalis) 3 cm (tunica
albuginea) 0.5 cm (seminiferous tubule) .

(multiple TESE)
0.4% BSA가 가 Ham's F-10-HEPES Petri dish
(squeezing)
200 가

3.

TESE 0.4% BSA가 가 Ham's
F-10-HEPES 0.4% BSA가 가 human semen preservation medium
(HSPM) 1:1 2 ml ampule . Ampule
(Kryo-10, Planar Biomed, UK) -0.5 / min 4
4 -90 -10 / min .

4. ampule 10
37 10 가

ICSI

5. FSH/hMG GnRH agonist ,
hCG 34 , 3-5 0.1% hyaluronidase
ICSI
1 가 2 ICSI

6. (ICSI)
1500 rpm 5
pellet 0.3-0.5 ml 가, 3-5
(Nikon, Diaphot 300) 1
(Narishige, NT-88) ICSI , holding pipette injection
pipette 15-20 μ m 4-5 μ m .
drop , 10% polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP)
drop , injection pipette
가 1 가 12
6 holding pipette injection pipette
3 9 .
injection pipette 가
ICSI 16-20 .

7. 72 4-8
, acid Tyrode's solution zona drilling assisted hatching

(AHA) (Cohen *et al.*, 1992; , 1995). AHA 3-5
 , 13 β-hCG
 (gestational sac) (clinical
 pregnancy) , ongoing pregnancy

8.

χ^2 -test , p 0.05

23 - ICSI . 17 가
 6 가
 (hypospermatogenesis) . 15

Table 1. Results of TESE with ICSI after frozen-thawed testicular spermatozoa and spermatozoa extracted from the seminiferous tubule in obstructive and non-obstructive azoospermia

| | Total | Obstructive azoospermia (n=9) | Non-obstructive azoospermia (n=4) |
|---------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| No. Cycles | 23 | 17 | 6 |
| Motile sperm* | 15(65.2) | 13(76.5) | 2(33.3) |
| No. Oocytes | 238 | 172 | 66 |
| No. ICSI | 196(82.4) | 142(82.6) | 54(81.8) |
| No. 2PN | 125(63.8) | 96(67.6) | 29(53.7) |
| Transferred embryos | 71(56.8) | 51(53.1) | 20(68.9) |
| No. ET | 23 | 17 | 6 |
| Pregnancy | 10(43.5) | 7(41.2) | 3(50.0) |
| Clinical Preg. | 8(34.8) | 5(29.4) | 3(50.0) |

*Motile sperm ; motile spermatozoa present after thawing.
The values in parentheses are percentages.

(60.9%) , 13 (76.5%)
2 (33.3%) - .
가
238 196
ICSI (82.4%) 2 125
(63.8%) . 82.6%
81.8% 가 . 23
10 (43.5%), 7
(41.2%) 3 (50%)
, 8 (34.8%) 5 (62.5%)
3 (50%) (1).

Table 2. Survival and pregnancy rate of frozen-thawed testicular spermatozoa and spermatozoa extracted from the seminiferous tubule

| | Sperm (n=5) | S.T. ¹ (n=9) |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| No. Cycles | 5 | 18 |
| Motile sperm* | 3(60.0) | 12(66.6) |
| No. Oocytes | 41 | 197 |
| No. ICSI | 36(87.8) | 160(81.2) |
| No. 2PN | 25(69.4) | 100(62.5) |
| Transferred embryos | 13(52.0) | 58(58) |
| No. ET | 5 | 18 |
| Pregnancy | 3(60.0) | 7(38.8) |
| Clinical Preg. | 1(20.0) | 7(38.8) |

*Motile sperm ; motile spermatozoa present after thawing.
 S.T.¹ ; seminiferous tubule
 The values in parentheses are percentages.

| | | |
|-----------|------------|---------|
| TESE | - | . |
| 가 5 , | 가 18 | 가 |
| 3 (60%) | 12 (66.6%) | 가 |
| . | 69.4% | 62.5% |
| | | (5) |
| 가 4 | 1 , | 가 |
| , | 3 (60%) | 가 |
| 7 (38.8%) | | 1 (20%) |
| 7 (38.8%) | (2). | |

(TESE-ICSI)

(Schoysman *et al.*, 1993; Devroey *et al.*, 1994, 1995; Bourne *et al.*, 1995; Craft & Tsirigotis, 1995; Nagy & Liu, 1995; Silber *et al.*, 1995a, b, 1996; , 1997)

needle aspiration biopsy

testicular sperm aspiration (TESA)

(Craft *et al.*, 1995)

(Mallidis & Baker, 1994; Gottschalk - Sabag & Weiss, 1995;

Kessarlis & Wasserman, 1995)

가

needle

biopsy

(spermatogenic cell)

. TESE-ICSI

IVF

가

가

(

)가

ICSI

TESE

ICSI

(Silber *et al.*, 1995) , spermatid
 (spermatogenic cell), Sertoli cell, red blood cell, white blood cell,
 interstitial cell (Verheyen *et al.*, 1997). Fischer
 (1996) , ,

glycerol

가 (Verheyen *et al.*, 1993).
 Allan& Cotman (1997) testicular sperm aspiration (TESA)

, infection testicular atrophy complication
 , , 가
 46% . Salzbrunn (1996) 가
 62.5%

TESE

76.5%

33.3%

가

(hypospermatogenesis)

ICSI

가

4

가 1 ,

가 3

TESE

가

Allan&Cotman (1997)

. TESE

가

-

가

TESE

1

4 가

2

ICSI

가 가

- ICSI

, -
 ,

3-5

TESE

3

(spermatogenic cell)

가

(TESE)

, ICSI

1. 23 가
 6 가
 15 (60.9%) , 13 (76.5%) 2
 (33.3%)
 - ICSI 17 가
2. 238 196 ICSI (82.4%) 2
 125 (63.8%)
 82.6% 81.8%
 10
 (43.5%), 7 (41.2%) 3 (50%)
 가 8 (34.8%) 5
 (62.5%) 3 (50%)
3. TESE
 가 5 , 가 18 가
 3 (60%) 12 (66.6%) 가
4. 69.4% 62.5%
 (5) 가 가
 4 1 , 가

(60%) 7 (38.8%)
 1 (20%) 7 (38.8%)
 - TESE-ICSI

TESE ICSI ,

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