The Complete Guide to Male Fertility Preservation

Ahmad Majzoub Ashok Agarwal *Editors*



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This Springer imprint is published by Springer Nature The registered company is Springer International Publishing AG The registered company address is: Gewerbestrasse 11, 6330 Cham, Switzerland We dedicate our book to Young Patients with Cancer seeking fertility preservation services before treatment of their disease. It is an honor to serve these brave men.

Foreword



With the dramatic increase in cancer rates in reproductive-age men, the rapidly emerging understanding of the genetics of infertility, and important advances in assisted reproductive technologies, our field has been waiting for a unifying treatise on the preservation of male fertility. Drs. Majzoub and Agarwal are to be congratulated for providing a stateof-the-art guide that focuses on critical techniques for fertility preservation, from the management of ejaculatory dysfunction to the use of microsurgical tech-

niques for refractory nonobstructive azoospermia. They address complex developing topics including the role of postmortem sperm retrieval as well as cryopreservation issues in special populations such as adolescents and transgender patients. Careful focus is placed on the technical and compliance issues of maintaining a high quality sperm bank. The book closes with an important nod to the future, reviewing potential for developments in fertility preservation including germ and stem cell transplantation as well as induction of neospermatogenesis.

This text represents a *tour de force* in the field of fertility preservation. It will be an invaluable resource for urologists, medical oncologists, andrologists, reproductive endocrinologists, pediatricians, and a myriad of other health professionals who participate in the care of men in their reproductive years. These authors deserve great praise for providing an understandable, evidence-based review of fertility preservation options. The issue of preserving the ability to conceive is of paramount importance to our patients and deserves equal attention by health care professionals.

Cleveland, OH, USA

Edmund Sabanegh Jr.

Preface

Fertility preservation has witnessed major advancements in the last decade along with other aspects of male reproduction. It is considered as an essential service in medical field due to societal changes leading to delays in parenthood coupled with rapid pace of scientific discoveries propelled by technological breakthroughs in cancer treatment and cryobiology. Cancer is well accepted as a significant circumstance where fertility preservation is an essential procedure. Global demographic and epidemiologic data signal a continuous increase in cancer prevalence, with over 20 million new cancer cases expected annually by 2025. Though finding a cure remains our utmost and paramount goal, nevertheless we are faced with a challenging outcome to treatment as a growing number of patients face quality of life issues resulting from the presence of malignancy as well as the subsequent treatment. Fertility remains the leading quality of life concern in young cancer survivors. As such, the need for fertility preservation strategies is crucial now as there is an increased long-term cancer survival rate. Recent evidence indicates that the 5-year relative survival rate for all cancers combined is now approaching 70% among adults and >80% among children. The focus on fertility preservation is currently limited to cancer patients during their reproductive age, yet its clinical relevance may well be expanded to noncancer patients. Consequently, much broader applications are expected in the near future.

Our book is unique in being a complete guide to male fertility preservation. Experts from various parts of the world have contributed to make this book an important reference and an extensive guide to the multidisciplinary approach which is favored in fertility preservation. The book is divided into 4 parts. Part I provides the reader with a thoughtful and comprehensive overview of the pathophysiologic processes interrelating cancer and its treatment with infertility. It also discusses different methods of sperm preservation and fertility outcomes in cancer patients. Part I explores male fertility preservation in various noncancerous conditions such as immunosuppressed, hypogonadal, and transgender patients. The manuscript reviews in its third part the fundamental principles of cryobiology and sperm optimization and more importantly offers essential building blocks for scientists to develop a sperm banking service and implement high standards of practice. Finally, the last

part offers an understanding of the current practices of male fertility preservation along with its psychological impact on patients and extends beyond to present a glimpse of future innovative methods (tissue preservation, xenografting and artificial gametes) being implemented in this field.

We are confident that our book will be a useful guide for scientists, embryologists, and other healthcare workers practicing reproductive medicine and oncology. In addition, it will be a valuable resource for students and researchers wishing to learn more about this subject. We are highly thankful to a large number of experts who worked hard to contribute the latest, well-written and well-researched articles; without their active support, this book would not be possible. We wish to express our deep gratitude to the superb organizational and management skills of Michael D. Sova, Development Editor, and the overall support and supervision of this project by Kristopher Spring, Editor at Springer. This book is dedicated to our parents, families, mentors, and patients.

Doha, Qatar Cleveland, OH, USA Ahmad Majzoub, MD Ashok Agarwal, PhD

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Ashok Agarwal, PhD, HCLD (ABB), ELD (ACE) Ashok Agarwal is the Director of the Andrology Center and Reproductive Tissue Bank, and the Director of Research at the American Center for Reproductive Medicine since 1993. He holds these positions at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, where he is a Professor at the Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University and holds a Full Staff position in Urology, with secondary appointments in Ob-Gyn, Immunology, and Anatomical Pathology. Ashok received his PhD in 1983 and did his postdoctoral training in Reproductive Biology under a fellowship from the Rockefeller Foundation at

Harvard Medical School, Boston, from 1984 to 1986. He was an Instructor in Surgery and then an Assistant Professor of Urology at Harvard Medical School from 1988 to 1993. Ashok has over 25 years of experience in directing busy male infertility diagnostic facilities and fertility preservation services. He is very well published and has over 600 scientific papers and reviews in scientific journals and over 200 chapters in medical textbooks. He is ranked in Scopus as the #1 author in the world in the fields of Male Infertility/ Andrology and Human Assisted Reproduction. This recognition is based on the number of peer-reviewed publications (575), citation scores (22,640), and Hirsch index (82). He is currently an editor of 34 medical textbooks/manuals related to male infertility, ART, fertility preservation, DNA damage, and antioxidants. He is active in basic and clinical research and his laboratory has trained over 1000 scientists, clinicians, graduate and undergraduate students from the United States and abroad. His current research interests include proteomics of male infertility, molecular markers of oxidative stress, DNA integrity, apoptosis in the pathophysiology of male reproduction, and fertility preservation in patients with cancer. Ashok can be reached via email: agarwaa@ccf.org. To learn more about Ashok or his research, visit the website of the American Center for Reproductive Medicine: http://www.clevelandclinic.org/reproductiveresearchcenter/; ResearchGate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ashok_Agarwal2; and Wikipedia: https:// en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ashok_Agarwal



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Dr. Majzoub provides services in General Urology, Andrology, and Male Infertility offering endoscopic, microsurgical, reconstructive, and prosthetic surgeries for his patients. His interests extend towards the management of chronic pelvic pain syndrome in men and has opened the first dedicated pelvic pain clinic in the region.

Dr. Majzoub has done extensive work in the field of Medical Research and has been very active with over 70 research publications in peer-reviewed journals and several book chapters mainly focusing on Andrology and men's health. He is a reviewer at several high impact medical journals and is an active member of the American Urological Association, the American Association for Reproductive Medicine, the European Association of Urology, the European and International Societies of Sexual Medicine, and the Arab Association of Urology. He holds editorial positions at a number of scientific journals and has had several speaker participations at national and international conferences.

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