## **Developing a Pathway**

- Scientific imperative and limits of control
- Demand of unmet clinical need
  - real or imagined
- Poorly understood science and greed of some practitioners
  - money or fame



# Replacing the mitochondrial genome to overcome genetic disease & infertility



Meet the world's first 'three-parent baby': Boy - delivered by US medical team in Mexico - carries a tiny piece of genetic code from a third donor 'parent' to avoid inheriting a disease from his mother

 Three-person baby technique lets parents with genetic mutations edit the mother's egg so they can have a healthy baby

# First baby born using 3-parent technique to treat infertility

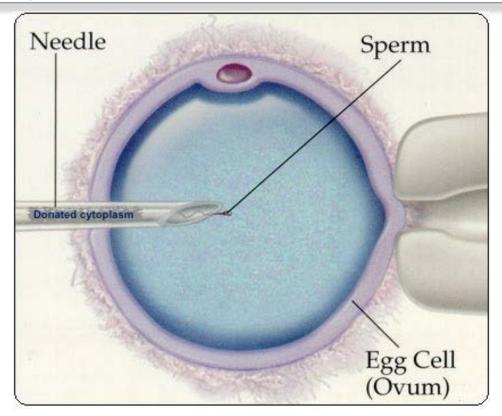


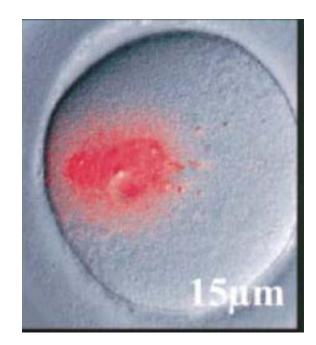
Clinic director Valery Zukin holding the baby girl Nadiva Clinic

#### Ooplasmic transfer in mature human oocytes

Jacques Cohen<sup>1,4</sup>, Richard Scott<sup>1</sup>, Mina Alikani<sup>1</sup>, Tim Schimmel<sup>1</sup>, Santiago Munné<sup>1</sup>, Jacob Levron<sup>2</sup>, Lizi Wu<sup>3</sup>, Carol Brenner<sup>1</sup>, Carol Warner<sup>3</sup> and Steen Willadsen<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>The Institute for Reproductive Medicine and Science of Saint Barnabas, Livingston New Jersey, USA, <sup>2</sup>Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Tel Hashomer, Tel-Aviv, Israel, and <sup>3</sup>Department of Biology, Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts, USA





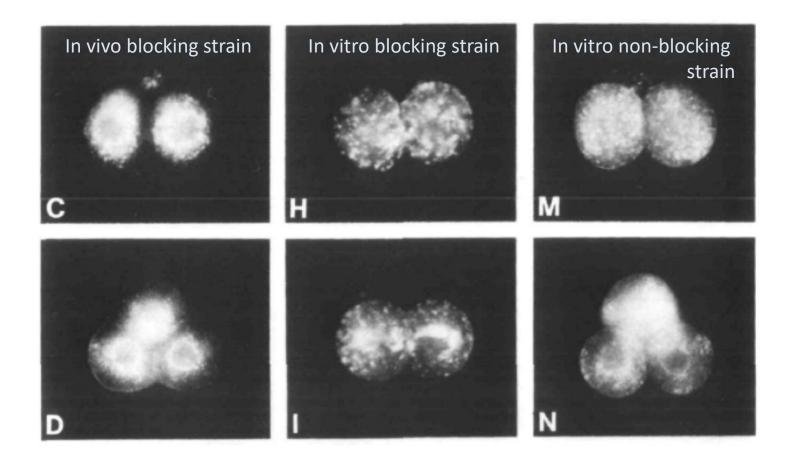
# Outcome of 37 attempts of OI at St Barnabas (1996-2001)

	Maternal age at cytoplasmic transfer cycle (years)	Number of previous cycles	Number of embryos transferred/fetal heartbeat after cytoplasmic transfer	13 patients pregnant
1	39.5	4	3/1	
1	38.4	6	6/1	
1	37.6	9	5/1	17 babies born
1	30.5	3	4/1	17 Danies Doili
1	37.2	3	2/1	+ 1 preclinical loss (XO)
1	35.7	4	<b>5/2</b> (1) XO TOP: (2) XX	
1	31.6	3	4/1	
1	34.1	6	3/1	
1	36.5	6	<b>5/2</b> (1) OI; (2) OD	
1	33.8	4	6/4	
1	34.8	10	4/1	
	36.6	3	4/1	
	36.3	3	4/2	

Chen et al RBMOnline 33, 737 (2016)

Control of events during early cleavage of the mouse embryo: an analysis of the '2-cell block'

By MARTIN J. GODDARD AND HESTER P. M. PRATT <sup>1</sup>
From the Department of Anatomy, University of Cambridge



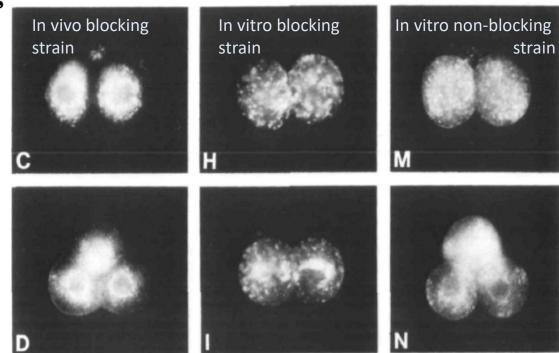
Cytoplasmic factors influence mitochondrial reorganization and resumption of cleavage during

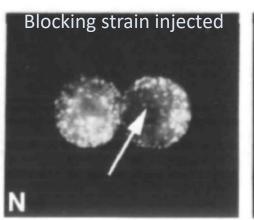
culture of early mouse embryos

A.L.Muggleton-Harris and J.J.G.Brown

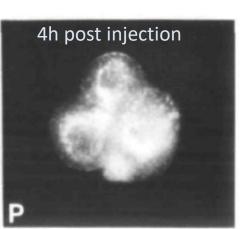
MRC Experimental Embryology and Teratology Unit, Medical Research Council Laboratories, Woodmansterne Road, Carshalton, Surrey SM5 4EF, UK

Outcome for Blocking and Non-Blocking mouse strains









### Ooplasmic transfer in mature human oocytes

## What factors might be added in OT

Cohen et al MHR 1988

- 1. Mitochondria from the donor supplement pool of mitochondria
- 2. Internal pool of inherited (maternal) mRNAs may be boosted
- 3. Other organelles (ribosomes, proteins, spindle organizing units)
- 4. Specific consequences by altering a single mechanisme.g. change in the polarization of mitochondria

"The transfer of small amounts of donor ooplasm (5–15%) probably includes mRNAs, proteins, mitochondria, as well as other factors and organelles".

## Cytoplasmic Transfer Abroad - Medical Tourism Guide

Details of leading clinics and hospitals performing Cytoplasmic Transfer to foreign patients.





#### Bahceci IVF Centers, Istanbul, Turkey









#### Cytoplasmic Transfer FOR INFERTILE **COUPLES**

Published on November 23, 2015











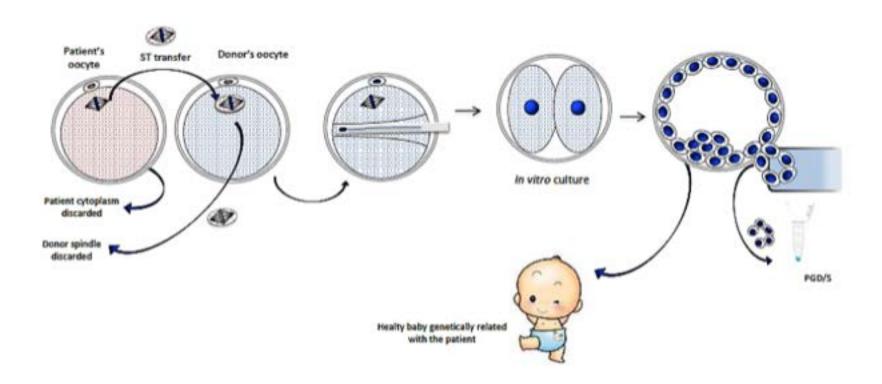
Surrogacy and Egg Donation Centre, India

Successful Parents India is a branch of a European based head office of Successful Parents Agency. The Agency operates in India and accepts clients for fertility treatments in New Delhi: surrogacy, egg donation (Indian and Caucasian egg donors), PGD (not sex selection), as well as many other service



#### embryotools\*

## Spindle transfer (ST)



#### 17.01.2019

Researchers from the Spanish centre Embryotools —with headquarters in the Barcelona Science Park (Parc Cientific de Barcelona, PCB) — are participating in a landmark scientific event in Greece that will shape the future of assisted reproduction. In a pilot clinical trial conducted on women, which is being sponsored by the assisted reproduction centre Institute of Life in Athens, Spanish scientists have achieved the world's first pregnancy that uses the Maternal Spindle Transfer technique to solve problems of infertility.

### MITOCHONDRIAL REPLACEMENT THERAPY **GIVES NO BENEFITS TO PATIENTS** OF ADVANCED MATERNAL AGE





#### 1. OBJECTIVE:

To determine if mitochondrial replacement therapy (MRT) could increase blastulation rates. euploidy rates and pregnancy rate in infertile patients of advanced maternal age (AMA).



#### 2. MATERIALS AND METHODS:

30 infertile patients (37-47 years old, mean age was 42x2 years) participated in this study. Five types of MRT (germinal vesicle transfer (GVT), MI spindle bransfer (MIST), MII spindle transfer (HIST), polar body I genome transfer (PBIGT) and pronuclear transfer (PWT)) were assisted by HV2-E cell fusion kit. Intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) had been performed for all cases. If possible, reverse reconstitutions were done. Embryos obtained after reconstitution were cultured until blastocyst stage in time-lapse incubator, were biopsied for array comparative genomic hybridization (aCGH) or next generation sequencing (NGS) analysis and then were vitrified.



#### 3. DESIGN:

The study period was from December 2015 to November 2018. Patients were informed and correct to possible risks and the experimental protocol was approved by ethics committee of local association of reproductive medicine. Inclusion criteria were: (1) no less than two failed previous TAY attampts, (2) low blamulation rates or recurrent ambour arrest, (3) low number or absence of exploid embryos, (4) age 2 ST years.



#### 4. RESULTS:

After performing various types of MRT (efficiencies of NT types were different), 109 zygotes were obtained, that resulted in 34 biastocysts; 3 of which (one per patient) were euplicid. One try of elective single embryo transfer (eSET) of thawed embryo was done for each of three patients. Positive hCG level (>100 mits/ms.) and following heartbeating were confirmed only for one patient (42 y.o., PNT group). The healthy baby boy was born on 15" of March 2018 by Caesarean section. After unsuccessful attempt of MRT, one of 30 patients (41 y.o.) had an exploid embryo from conventional aCGH cycle using donor sperm and the other patient (45 y.o.) became spontaneously pregnant and gave both to a

Contrary, zygotic cytoplasts of woman of AMA were competent enough to support normal embryo development when carry young karyoplants: there were 47% bianulation rates and 70% euploidy rates for reversely reconstituted zygotes.





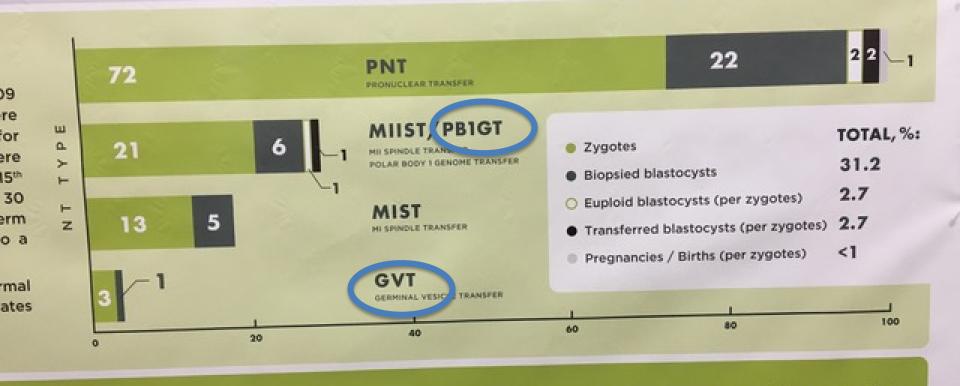
CONCLUSION:

CONCLUSIONS: Although the investigation is limited to obtained zygotes. numbers of suploid embryos and ongoing pregnancies after applying HRT were dramatically low, thereby intentile patients of AMA should be advised not to undergone such procedures in order to increase the number of explois

ambryos or pregnancy rates. Sporado pregnancies could assure who unsuccessful INF treatment even in intensis patients of AMA Further Investigations of the efficiency of CVT (and sequential nuclear transportation GVT-HHIST) and MIST are needed.

done. Embryos obtained after cyst stage in time-lapse incubator, nomic hybridization (aCGH) or next then were vitrified.

Inclusion criteria were: (1) no less than two failed previous IVF attempts, (2) low blastulation rates or recurrent embryo arrest, (3) low number or absence of euploid embryos, (4) age ≥ 37 years.



is limited to obtained zygotes, pregnancies after applying MRT its of AMA should be advised not increase the number of euploid embryos or pregnancy rates. Sporadic pregnancies could appear after unsuccessful IVF treatment even in infertile patients of AMA. Further investigations of the efficiency of GVT (and sequential nuclear transplantation: GVT->MIIST) and MIST are needed.



## What will users stick to?



Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990

CHAPTER 37

Forbids
any creation, storage or
use of human embryos
outside the body except
under licence

LONDON: HMSO

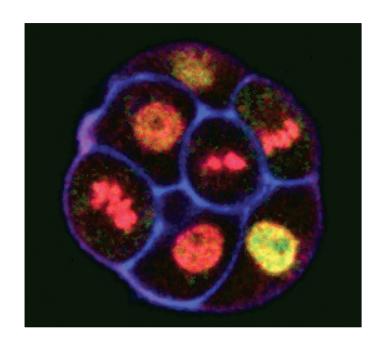
£5.85 net

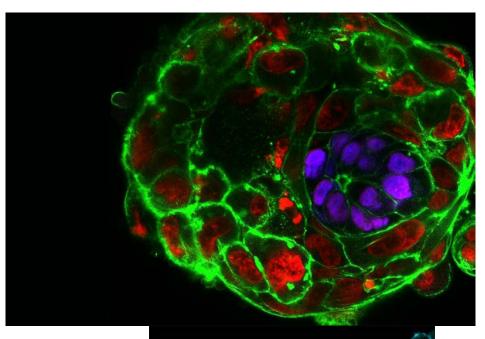
# THE LICENSING AND REGULATION OF HUMAN EMBRYO USE IN THE UK

- for therapy (IVF/DI)
- for cryostorage of gametes and embryos
- for research using embryos in vitro up to 14 days

Breach of the Law is a criminal offence

Punishable by 2 years imprisonment a £20,000 fine or both



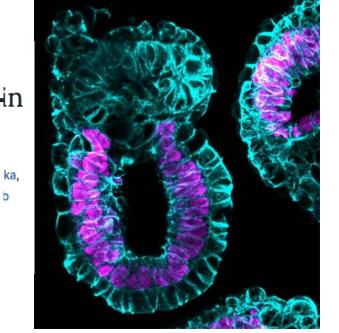


## nature

Letter | Published: 04 May 2016

# Self-organization of the *in vitro* attached human embryo

Alessia Deglincerti, Gist F. Croft, Lauren N. Pietila, Magdalena Zernicka-Goetz, Eric D. Siggia & Ali H. Brivanlou <sup>™</sup>



## Consistency of approach

- 1. Why do we want/need to do GGE? What is the goal?
- 2. How does the commission provide advice when there is already so much variation between states/countries about acceptable ART technology Embryo research MRT?
- 3. If we are really concerned about GGE, why is ART unregulated in so many countries (e.g. USA) when ART manipulations may cause epigenetic effects transmissible to the next generation?

What is doable now? What is practical? What is honest?