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Intra-cytoplasmic sperm Injection (ICSI)

If an abnormality is detected on semen analysis then ICSI may be utilised. This is because conventional IVF is unlikely to result in fertilisation of the eggs.

ICSI treatment involves injecting a single sperm into each egg, using very fine micromanipulation equipment. As the human egg is one-tenth of a millimetre in diameter and the sperm 100 times smaller, this is a very delicate procedure performed by highly skilled embryologists using a very sophisticated microscope.

ICSI is also used where sperm have been obtained directly from the testis.

ICSI has not been shown to increase fertilisation rates in situations where the sperm assessment is normal.

Normal fertilisation rates with IVF or ICSI are approximately 50-60%. Hence for every 10 eggs collected you could expect 5 - 6 embryos to be created.