



## **International Federation of Fertility Societies**

Fédération internationale des sociétés de fertilité

Federación internacional de las sociedades de fertilidad

**Press Statement: International Federation of Fertility Societies**

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### **Fifty Percent Chance of Having a Live Birth After Four ART Cycles – Comment by International Clinicians**

The journal *Fertility and Sterility* is publishing a paper\* by Stern et al showing a greater than 50% chance of live birth after four cycles of ART. The International Federation of Fertility Societies is issuing this comment, which should be used in conjunction with the original paper.

**Commenting for the International Federation of Fertility Societies, Dr David Adamson, MD (Palo Alto, CA, USA, email [gdadamson@arcfertility.com](mailto:gdadamson@arcfertility.com)) said:**

*“This is an important paper for two reasons. It’s the first to link ART cycles to individual women, and that shows us that more than half of the women become pregnant after up to 4 cycles of treatment. But this also shows us that the average number of cycles was less than 2, meaning that lots of women drop out of treatment. This is probably due to the difficulties of coping with the emotional stress, as well as the cost of treatment. But this work shows that if they keep going, many will be able to have a baby.*

*What this means is that up to around 4 cycles, the success rate for ART is pretty good, so as a gold standard, health systems and funders should be aiming be for no less than 4 ART cycles.*

*Massachusetts is a comparatively well-funded state, and much of the developed world can and perhaps should aim to support ART to this level. But we also owe it to the rest of the world to take the lead in developing lower-cost but effective ART systems, as well as training the clinicians to help women cope with the emotional and financial burdens of infertility and ART treatment”.*

ENDS

PLEASE MENTION THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF FERTILITY SOCIETIES IN ANY STORIES DERIVING FROM THIS PRESS STATEMENT

Notes for editors

**The International Federation of Fertility Societies (IFFS) is the main international body representing national societies working in the fields of fertility and contraception. The IFFS has 57 member societies from all parts of the world. Since its founding in 1951, the IFFS has undertaken a wide range of activities to promote the science and clinical practice of fertility at an international level. The next IFFS World Congress will take place in Munich in 2010 (<http://www.iffs2010.com/invitation.html>) .**

**The IFFS can comment on any international issues relating to human reproduction. See: <http://www.iffs-reproduction.org/index.html>**

**For more information, please contact: Tom Parkhill, [parkhill@uno.it](mailto:parkhill@uno.it) or +44 (0)131 208 3008 or +44 7509 215 465 (mobile).**

\*This press statement is a comment on the paper:

*Calculating cumulative live-birth rates from linked cycles of assisted reproductive technology (ART): data from the Massachusetts SART CORS.*

The authors of this paper are Judy E. Stern, Ph.D.,<sup>a</sup> Morton B. Brown, Ph.D.,<sup>b</sup> Barbara Luke, Sc.D., M.P.H.,<sup>c</sup> Ethan Wantman, M.B.A.,<sup>d</sup> Avi Lederman,<sup>d</sup> Stacey A. Missmer, Sc.D.,<sup>e</sup> and Mark D. Hornstein, M.D.,<sup>f</sup> a SART Writing Group. This paper is published in *Fertility and Sterility*, July 2009.

For more information on the original paper, please contact Sean Tipton at the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, [stipton@asrm-dc.org](mailto:stipton@asrm-dc.org) telephone 202-863-2494.

The original paper is embargoed for release on July 20, 2009. This statement is embargoed until the same time.