



International Federation of Fertility Societies

Fédération internationale des sociétés de fertilité

Federación internacional de las sociedades de fertilidad

Single Embryo Transfer versus Double Embryo Transfer – international clinicians comment.

FROM: International Federation of Fertility Societies

Embargo: Wednesday 28 October, 5 pm EST

The *New England Journal Of Medicine* is publishing a letter entitled [Cumulative Live-Birth Rates in a Trial of Single-Embryo or Double-Embryo Transfer](#), Dr Ann Thurin-Kjellberg et al (Gothenburg, Sweden, embargoed to Wednesday 28 October, 5 pm EST), which compares the rates successful treatment using single and double-embryo transfer; the paper shows that the success rates for SET approaches that of double embryo transfer.

The International Federation of Fertility Societies (IFFS) is issuing this statement, which may be used as support material in any press coverage of the NEJM article.

Speaking on behalf of the IFFS, Dr Richard Kennedy (Coventry, UK) said:

***“Safety considerations must be at the forefront of assisted reproduction technology. The IFFS supports strategies, which reduce the incidence of multiple pregnancy and its attendant complications following assisted conception procedures. This research adds further evidence confirming the value of elective single embryo transfer in assisted reproductive technologies.*”**

We believe that implementation of elective single embryo transfer should initially be confined to women with a good prognosis. Elective single embryo transfer should also be coupled with strategies to mitigate against the decreased pregnancy rates that result from single embryo replacement, specifically improving embryo selection and improving embryo cryopreservation”.

ENDS

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

Notes for editors

The International Federation of Fertility Societies 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 or +44 (0) 131 208 3008 or +44 7509 215 465 (mobile).