

## Treatment Options for Women Who Have Had a Tubal Sterilization

### MICRO SURGICAL ANASTOMOSIS IN A WOMAN WITH A PREVIOUS TUBAL STERILIZATION

The requirement of 2 inches (5 cm) of remaining tube in a woman under 40 years of age is optimal. A copy of the operative note and pathology report from the sterilization procedure is often helpful in determining the length of the remaining tubal segments. A copy of this report can be obtained from either the physicians who performed the tubal sterilization, or, alternatively, the report can be obtained from the medical records department of the hospital in which the sterilization procedure was performed. Usually the doctor or hospital will require a faxed or written request for these records. If it is not clear if there are residual segments of sufficient length, a laparoscopy may be performed on the day of the intended anastomosis to measure the remaining tubal segment to insure that there is sufficient tube remaining.

The cost is between \$10,000 and \$15,000 depending on the patient's weight. Because larger women require larger incisions and longer post-operative stays in the hospital, a heavier woman may require a several night stay and a higher cost than thinner women. The post-operative recuperation time will be up to four to six weeks with a larger incision.

The success rate of the procedure depends upon 1) the length of the remaining tubal segments; 2) the male's sperm count and the ability to fertilize eggs; 3) whether the female ovulates regularly; 4) the location on the tube where the sterilization procedure was performed (i.e., the closer to the uterus, the higher the pregnancy rate); 5) whether there are other fertility problems present (i.e., endometriosis, pelvic adhesions, etc); and 6) the age of the female- Women over 35 years of age will have a decreased chance for success regardless of their previous ability to conceive. Typically rates of success are in the 50-60% range in women under 35 years of age with all other factors being normal.

Some of the complications are a 10% or higher ectopic (pregnancy within the tube) pregnancy rate. An ectopic pregnancy is the second leading cause of maternal death in the United States. As with all surgical procedures, the complications of internal bleeding or infection exists. Since this will be a 2-4 hour procedure, the risk of these complications is higher than following a 30- minute egg retrieval.

### IN-VITRO FERTILIZATION (IVF) FOR A WOMAN WITH A PREVIOUS TUBAL STERILIZATION

Women under 35 years of age have optimal pregnancy rates with this procedure. A normal uterus and at least one normal ovary are required.

The cost is between \$14,000 and \$15,000 per fresh IVF cycle.

The success rate depends upon 1) the female's age; 2) the number of eggs retrieved, the fertilization rate of the woman's eggs and the number of embryos which form; 3) the normality of the wife's uterus; and 4) the normality of the male's sperm. Typically rates of success are 60% in women under 35 years of age who undergo an embryo transfer. The complications include a 2% ectopic pregnancy rate, internal bleeding and infection. The patient will only be off work for two days: the day of the egg retrieval and the day of the embryo transfer.

If you are interested in learning more about one or both of these procedures please call (405) 271-1616 and we will instruct you on how to print the new patient paperwork and how to send it to our office. Once we receive the information we will call you to set up an appointment with one of our Physicians. The consultation visit is approximately \$250.00 depending on your insurance coverage and any additional tests that may need to be performed.