



Spontaneous pregnancy after 9 attempts of IVF

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Objective

The aim of this case study was to show the impact of coagulation factor disorders on fertility and how much we can help based on today's knowledge.

Methods

A case report.

Results

The 37-year old patient O.T. has a history of nine in vitro fertilization attempts. The patient and her husband underwent testing for artificial insemination and no infertility reason was found. The first four attempts of IVF (In vitro fertilization hereinafter) were made in Slovenia in three different ordinations, with standard protocols of ovulation stimulation where the quality eggs and adequate sperm were obtained. Every attempt resulted in fertilization of one or two embryos, which were transferred to the uterus, but never resulted in a biochemical pregnancy (the adequate preparation of the endometrium according to the protocol was done). After four unsuccessful attempts, an analysis for thrombophilia was done and the homozygous form of PAI 1 allele was diagnosed. Following diagnosis, two more attempts of IVF were done in Slovenia and anticoagulant therapy was administered by the haematologist. The outcome was the same as in the previous attempts. Furthermore, the patient had three IVF attempts performed abroad in different countries, and each attempt included anticoagulant therapy as per protocol. There was no conception. After the 5-year period of trying, the couple stopped any further attempts. After one year, the patient presented with amenorrhoea and a 7-week viable pregnancy was noted. She was immediately administered anticoagulant therapy considering her coagulation status and the pregnancy was guided as high risk. The pregnancy was completed surgically and a healthy child with normal physical characteristics was born. We wonder whether it was necessary to include anticoagulant therapy, when the patient conceived spontaneously without the therapy. Was the fetus heterozygous for the mutation, and therefore pai1 pregnancy occurred without anticoagulant therapy, and why did it not occur the previous time despite therapy being included? It is important to note that the patient was 37 years old at the time of pregnancy. The reason for infertility for the given couple could not be found.

Conclusion

It is undeniable that the coagulation status of women is important, but is it crucial? Other reasons for infertility should be investigated when several IVF attempts fail despite adequate therapy. We think that the cause is probably the excessive desire for pregnancy, which with still undiscovered endogenous mechanisms affect the pregnancy.