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Rescue intracytoplasmic sperm injection: a case report

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INTRODUCTION:

The incidence of total fertilization failure after *in vitro* fertilization (IVF) has been reported to range from 5%-20%. Rescue intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) has been proposed as a treatment option to avoid cycle cancelation, even though it results in low pregnancy rates. We report a case study of total fertilization failure after IVF followed by rescue ICSI.

AIM:

To evaluate the result of rescue intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) after total fertilization failure following conventional *in vitro* fertilization (IVF).

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

Rescue ICSI was performed 23 hours after total fertilization failure following conventional IVF.

RESULTS:

The fertilization rate after rescue ICSI was a high 60%. The patient fell pregnant with twins, but aborted both foetuses eight weeks after the embryo transfer.

CONCLUSION/DISCUSSION:

Despite the fact that many physicians are still under debate whether to perform rescue ICSI, many feel that it can still be performed as the last ray of hope. However, more studies are necessary to reach conclusive recommendations and to evaluate factors to improve rescue ICSI outcomes.