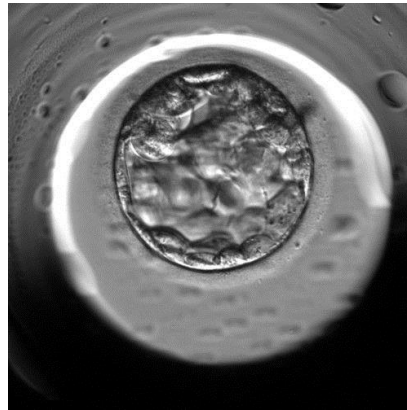


# Building robust time-lapse models



Kirstine Kirkegaard  
The Fertility Clinic  
Aarhus University Hospital



Time-lapse as a  
diagnostic test

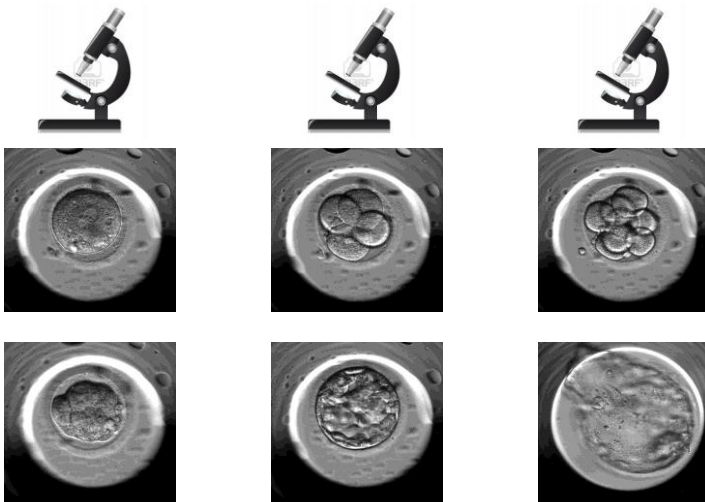
## Morphology

Limited information

Dependent on timing

Subjective

Validated



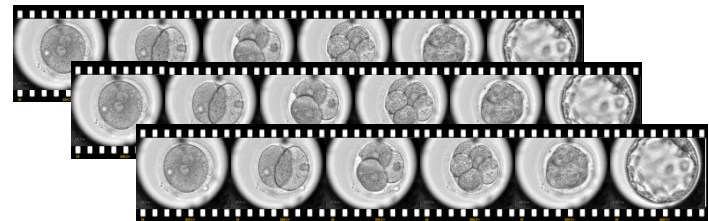
## Time-lapse

Detailed information

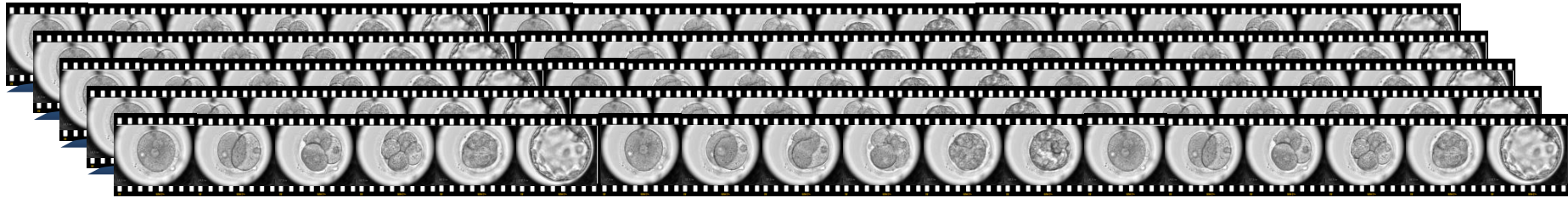
Flexible

Precise\*<sup>)</sup>

Validated?



\*Sundvall et al 2013



Time-lapse incubation



Improved culture?



Improved selection?



Improved treatment?



# Improved pregnancy rates

## Assumptions:

### 1. Culture conditions

- Un-interrupted culture
- Incubator

### 2. Selection

# Culture conditions

J Assist Reprod Genet (2012) 29:565–572  
DOI 10.1007/s10815-012-9750-x

TECHNICAL INNOVATIONS

## A randomized clinical trial comparing embryo culture in a conventional incubator with a time-lapse incubator

ASSISTED REPRODUCTION TECHNOLOGIES

Kirstine Kirkegaard  
Marie Louise Greber  
Hans Jakob Inger

**Embryo quality, blastocyst and ongoing pregnancy rates in oocyte donation patients whose embryos were monitored**

human reproduction

ORIGINAL ARTICLE *Embryology*

María Cruz · Blanca Galán  
Kamilla Sørensen · Inma Pérez-Cano · Manu

**No benefit of culturing embryos in a closed system compared with a conventional system: a randomized, controlled trial of the EmbryoScope**

H. Park, C. Bergh,

**Clinical validation of embryo culture and selection by morphokinetic analysis: a randomized, controlled trial of the EmbryoScope**

Irene Rubio, Ph.D.,<sup>a</sup> Arancha Galán, Ph.D.,<sup>a</sup> Zalao Larreategui, Ph.D.,<sup>b</sup> Fernando Ayerdi, Ph.D.,<sup>b</sup> Jose Bellver, M.D.,<sup>a</sup> Javier Herrero, Ph.D.,<sup>a</sup> and Marcos Meseguer, Ph.D.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Instituto Universitario IVI Valencia, University of Valencia, Valencia; and <sup>b</sup> IVI Bilbao, Bilbao, Spain

# Embryo selection

*Assupmtion: Timing of development can distinguish viable from non-viable embryos*

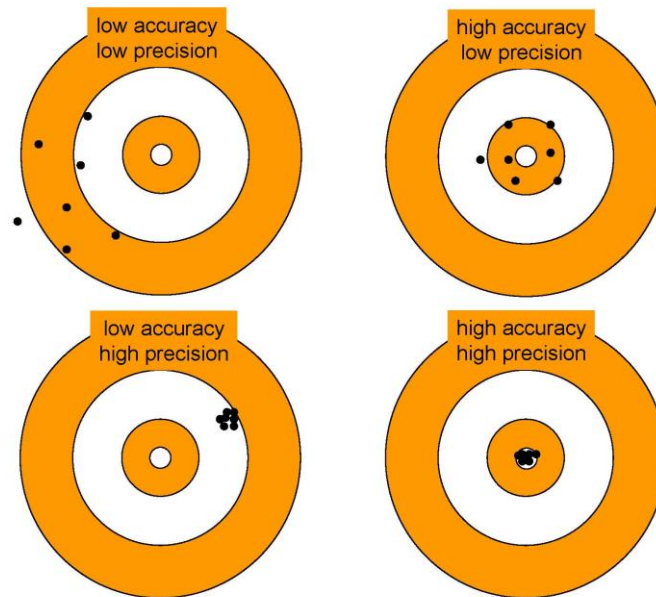
Accuracy and precision

Viable?

What is normal?

Sensitivity and specificity

# Precision and accuracy



human  
reproduction

ORIGINAL ARTICLE *Embryology*

## Inter- and intra-observer variability of time-lapse annotations

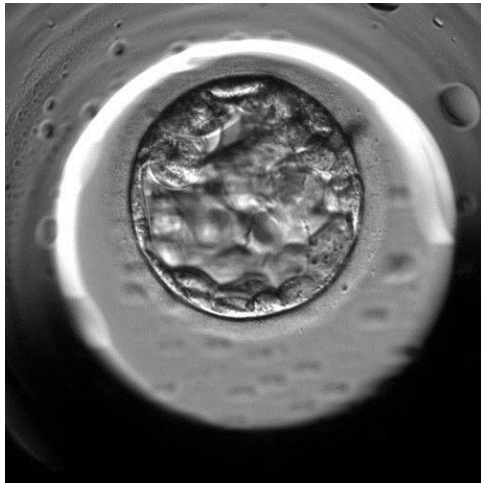
Linda Sundvall<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Hans Jakob Ingerslev<sup>1,2</sup>, Ulla Breth Knudsen<sup>1,2</sup>,  
and Kirstine Kirkegaard<sup>1,2</sup>

ACCURACY:

Dependent on time  
between image  
recordings



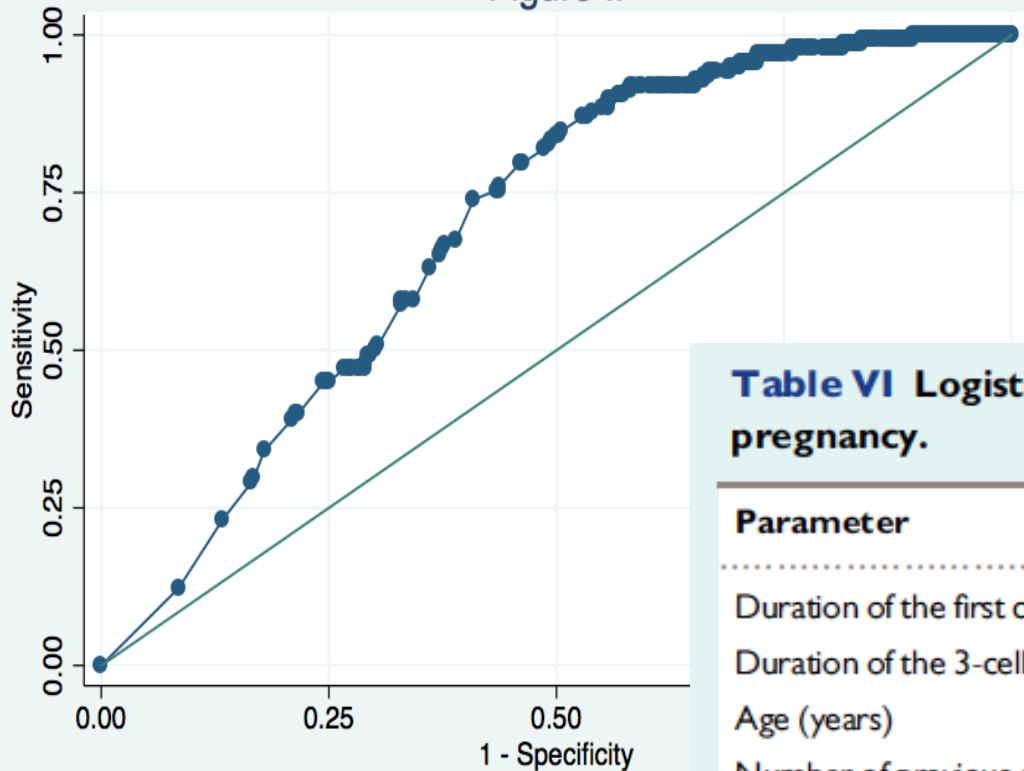
# What is viable?



# Blastocyst development

STUDY	ENDPOINT	PARAMETERS
Wong 2010	Blastocyst development (n=100)	1st cytokinesis, duration 2- and 3-cell stage
Hashimoto 2012	Blastocyst score (n=80)	T(7/8), 3rd cell cycle, duration 3-cell stage
Cruz 2012	Blastocyst score (n=834)	T(4), duration 3-cell stage, morula, direct cleavage 1-3, unevenness 2-cell stage
Dal Canto 2012	Expanded blastocyst (n=459)	T(3)-t(8), duration of all cleavage stages
Hlinka 2012	Blastocyst development (n=180)	Cleavage cycles and interphases.
Conaghan 2013	Blastocyst quality (n=1233)	Duration 2- and 3-cell stage
Kirkegaard 2013	High quality blastocysts (n=571)	1st cytokinesis, duration 3-cell stage, direct cleavage 1-3

Figure II

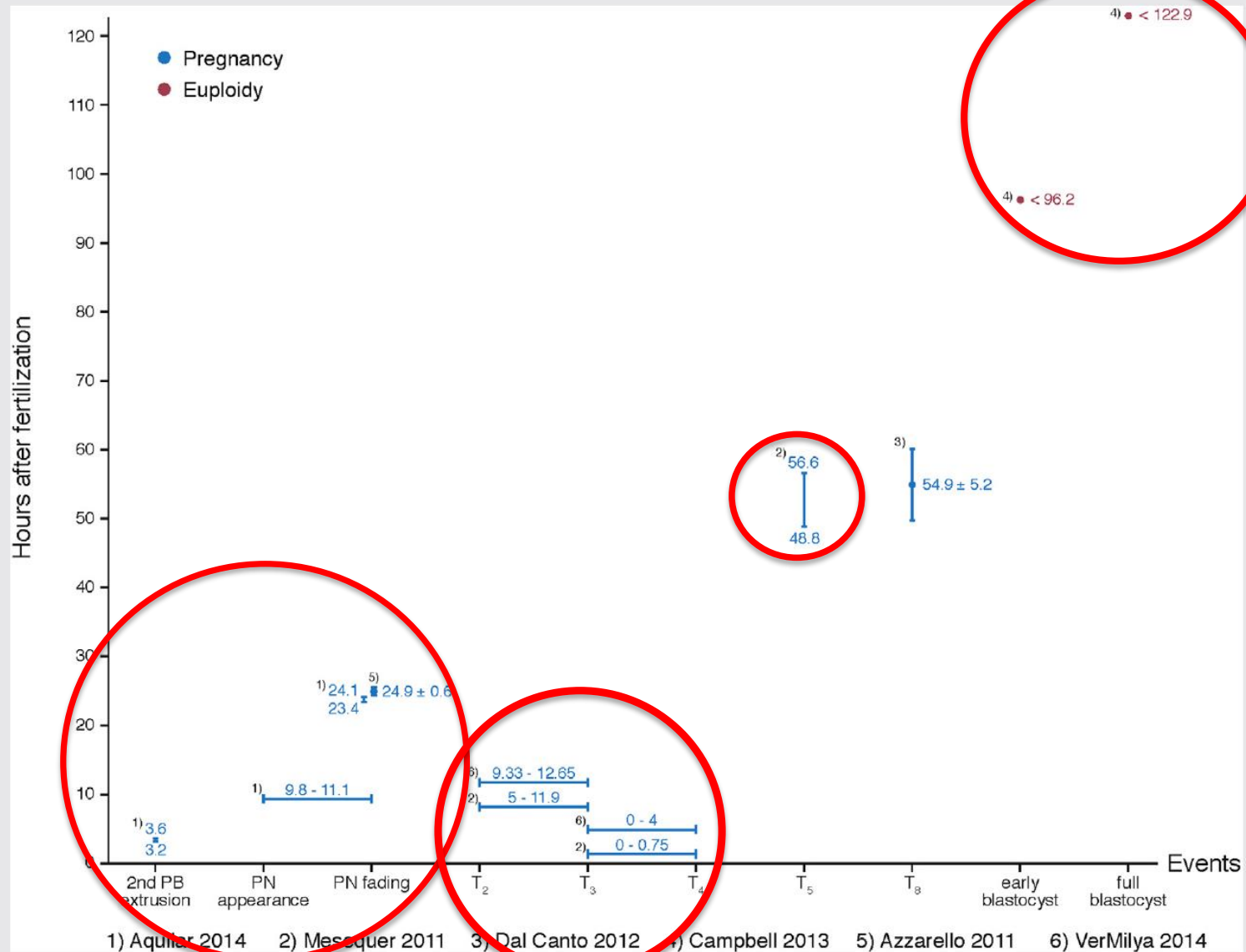


Prediction of blastocyst formation vs. pregnancy

**Table VI** Logistic regression analysis of predictors of pregnancy.

Parameter	OR (95% CI)	P-value
Duration of the first cytokinesis (h)	0.84 (0.45; 1.57)	0.59
Duration of the 3-cell stage (h)	0.84 (0.59; 1.22)	0.36
Age (years)	0.84 (0.73; 0.98)	0.03
Number of previous cycles	1.2 (0.62; 2.4)	0.56
Number of GQE on Day 2	1.0 (0.78; 1.3)	0.98
Number of GQE on Day 3	1.1 (0.83; 1.4)	0.57
Total FSH dose(100 IU)	0.99 (0.93; 1.1)	0.82
Cause of infertility (categorical)	0.34 (0.05; 2.2)	0.25

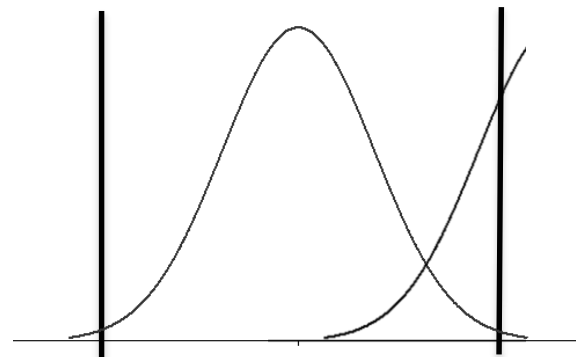
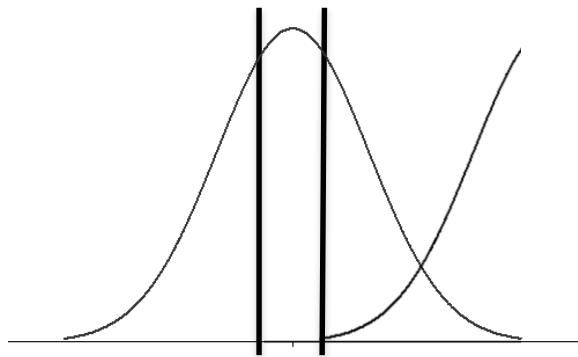
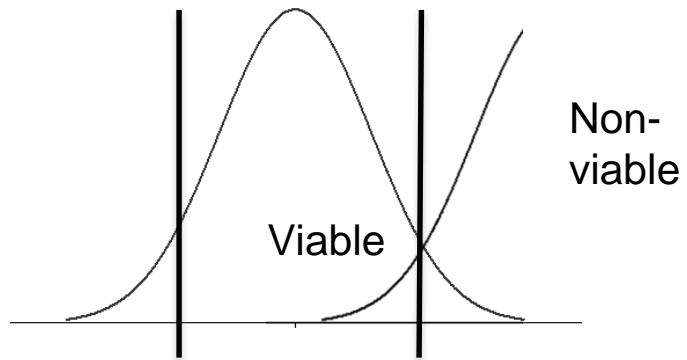
FIGURE 1



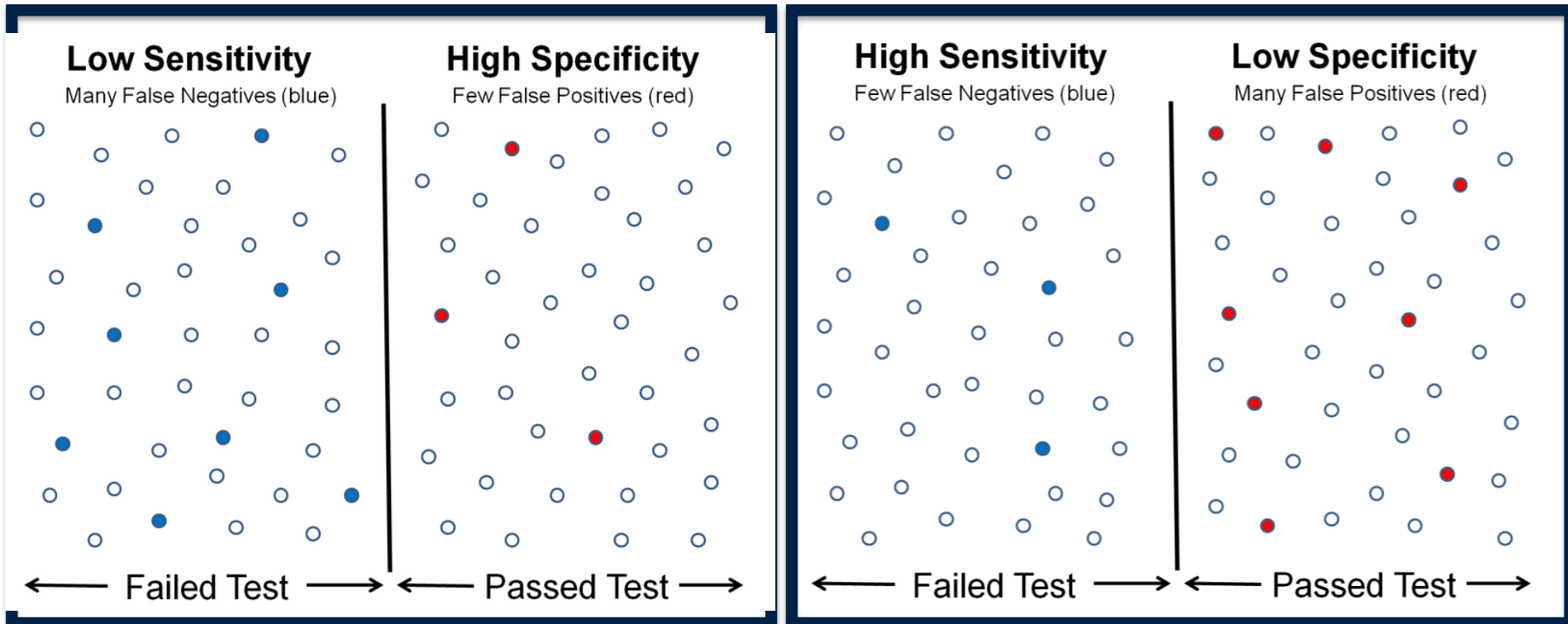
Time-points for embryonic events proposed in time-lapse selection models. PB = polar body; PN = pronuclei.

Kirkegaard. Embryo selection using time lapse. Fertil Steril 2014.

# What is normal?



# Diagnostic sensitivity and specificity

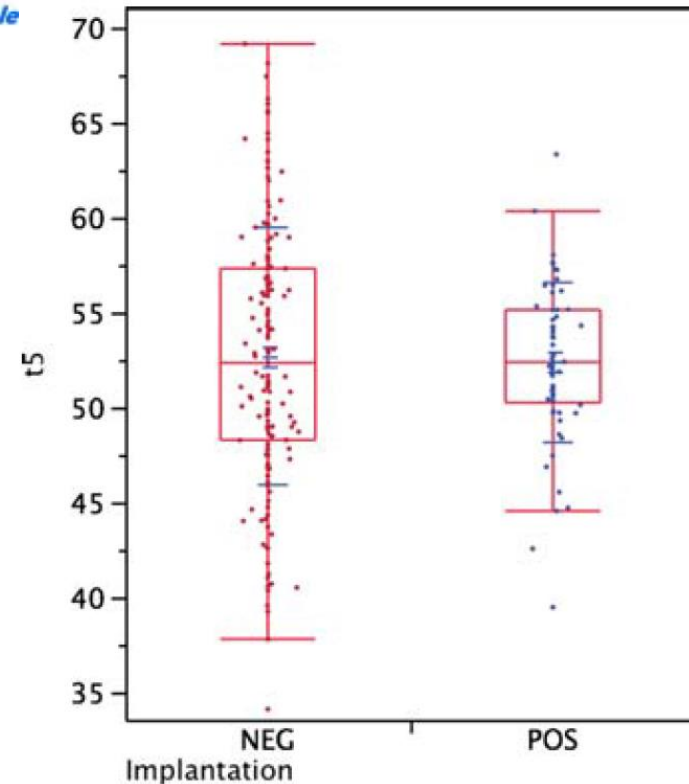
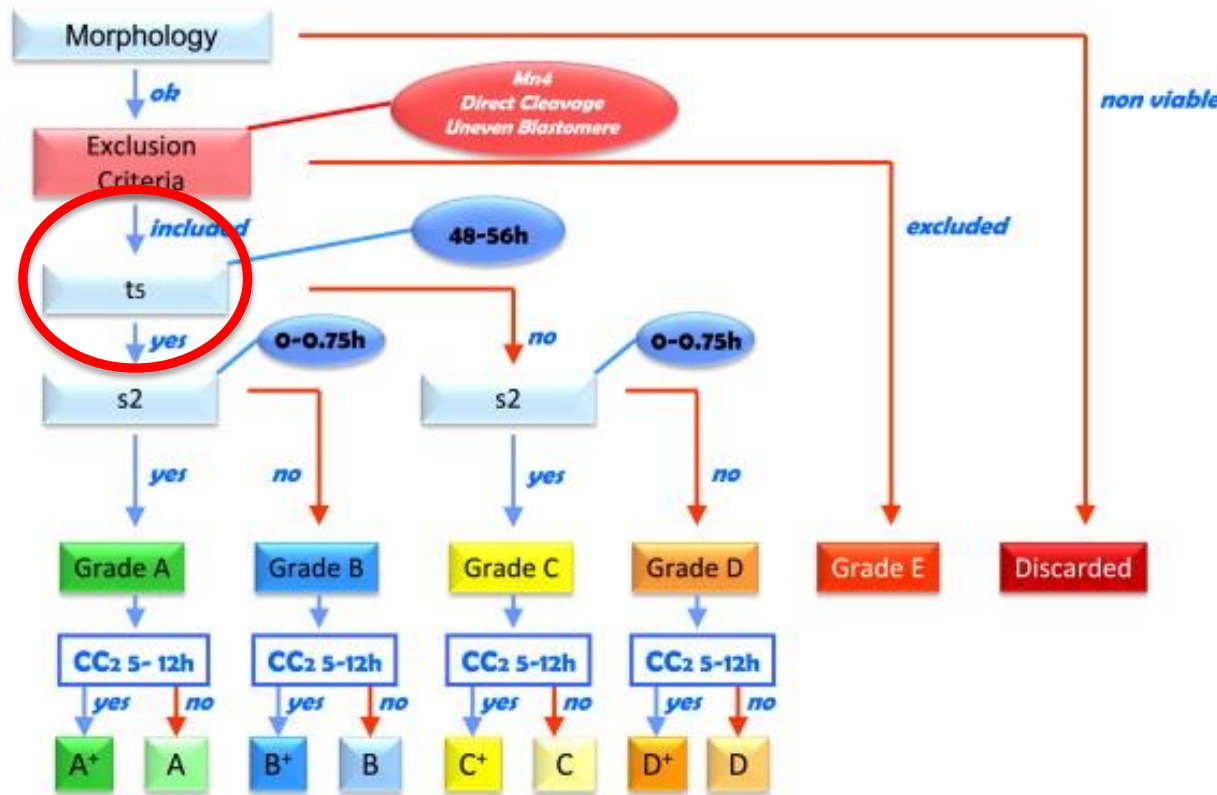


Depends on the reference intervals/cut off levels!

In practice there is rarely a sharp demarcation between normal/abnormal

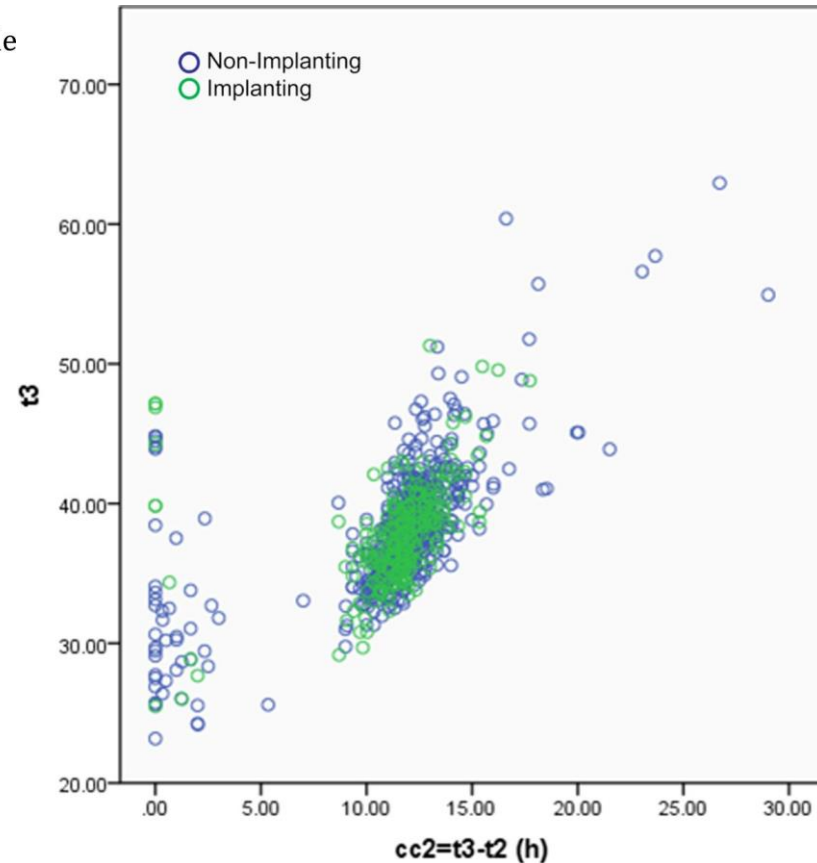
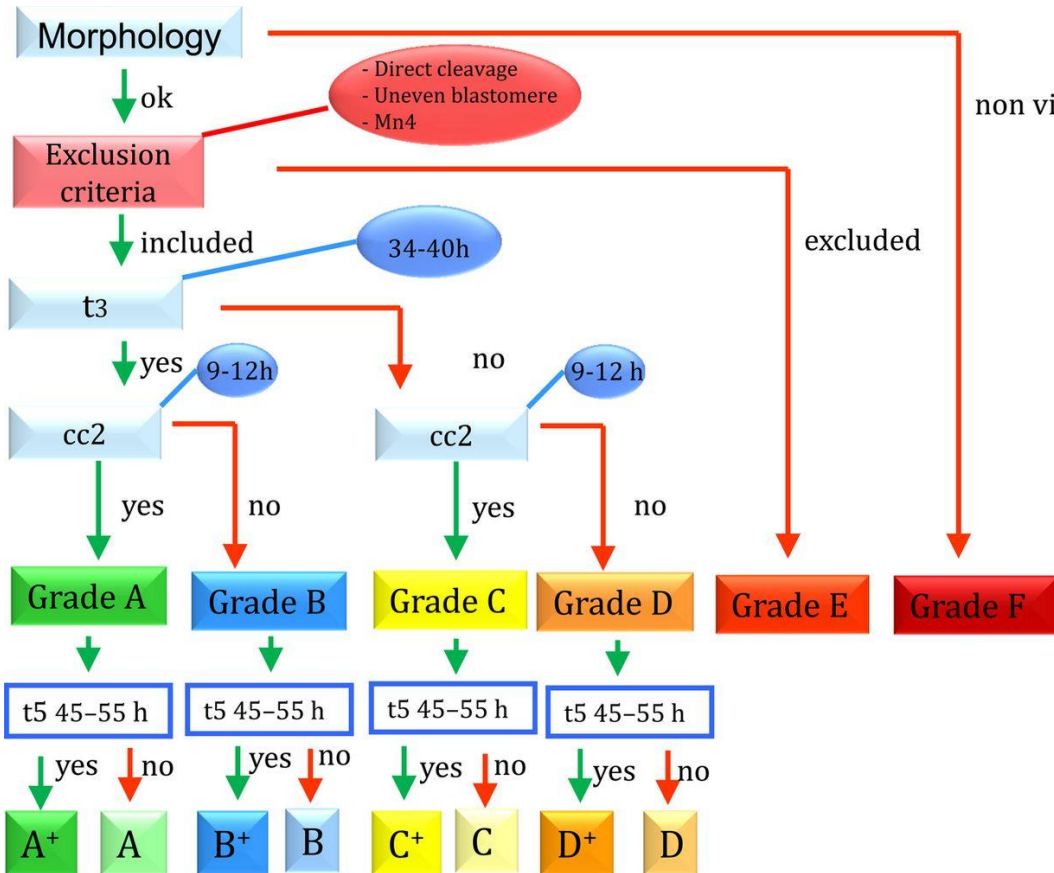
# The use of morphokinetics as a predictor of embryo implantation†

Marcos Meseguer<sup>1,\*</sup>, Javier Herrero<sup>1</sup>, Alberto Tejera<sup>1</sup>, Karen Marie Hilligsøe<sup>2</sup>, Niels Birger Ramsing<sup>2</sup>, and Jose Remohí<sup>1</sup>



t5:48–56; s2(t4-t3): ≤0.75; cc2(t3-t2): 5-12

# The use of morphokinetics as a predictor of implantation: a multicentric study to define and validate an algorithm for embryo selection



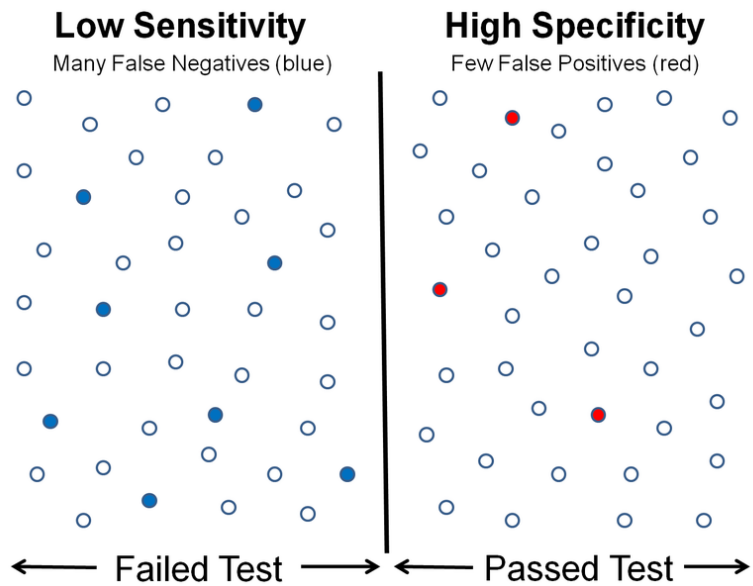
T3 : 31/34–40 h; cc2 9–12 h; t5: 45-55



# Improving embryo selection using a computer-automated time-lapse image analysis test plus day 3 morphology: results from a prospective multicenter trial

Joe Conaghan, Ph.D.,<sup>a</sup> Alice A. Chen, Ph.D.,<sup>b</sup> Susan P. Willman, M.D.,<sup>c</sup> Kristen Ivani, Ph.D.,<sup>c</sup> Philip E. Chenette, M.D.,<sup>a</sup> Robert Boostanfar, M.D.,<sup>d</sup> Valerie L. Baker, M.D.,<sup>e</sup> G. David Adamson, M.D.,<sup>f</sup> Mary E. Abusief, M.D.,<sup>f</sup> Marina Gvakharia, M.D., Ph.D.,<sup>f</sup> Kevin E. Loewke, Ph.D.,<sup>b</sup> and Shehua Shen, M.D.<sup>b</sup>

P2 (duration 2 cell stage) 9.33–11.45 hours  
P3 (duration 3 cell stage) 0 – 1.73 hours  
specificity of 84.7% sensitivity of 38.0%,  
PPV of 54.7%, NPV of 73.7%

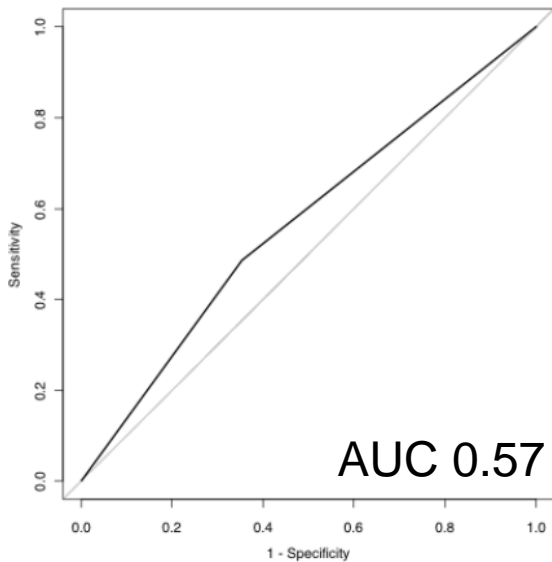


	usable	non-usable	
Test usable	TP	FP	PPV 54.7%
Test non-usable	FN	TN	NPV 73.7%
	Sensitivitet 38.0%	Specificitet 84.7%	

	Implanted	Not implanted	Implantationrate
Usable*	n=131	n=445	22,7 %
Non-usable <sup>#</sup>	n=134	n=809	14.2%
Entire cohort	n=265	n=1254	17.4%

\*P2 : 9.33-11.45 hours and P3: 0-1.73 hours.

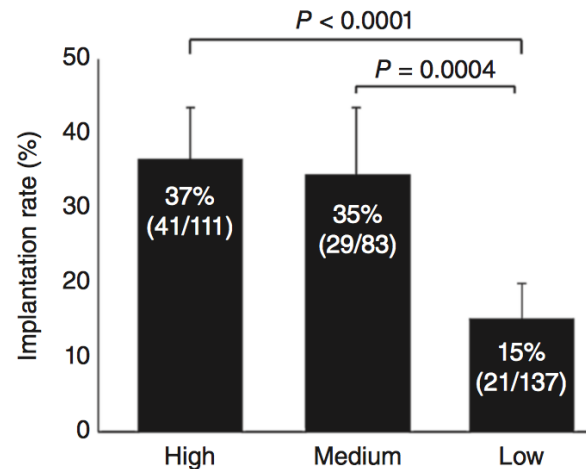
<sup>#</sup>P2 outside 9.33-11.45 hours and P3> 0-1.73 hours.



# Computer-automated time-lapse analysis results correlate with embryo implantation and clinical pregnancy: A blinded, multi-centre study

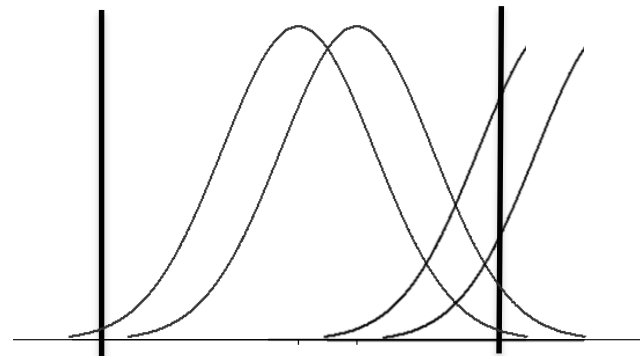
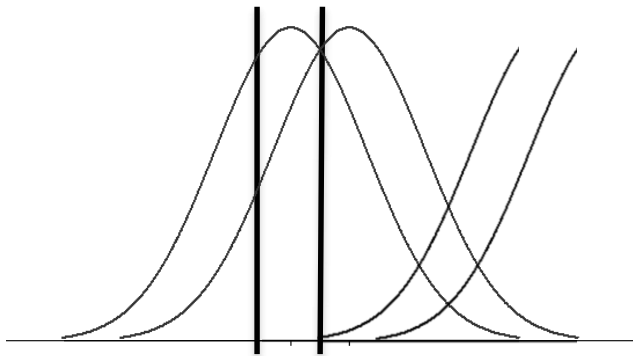
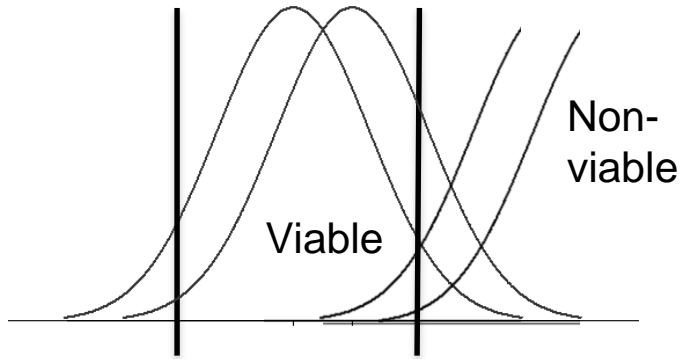


Matthew D VerMilyea <sup>a</sup>, Lei Tan <sup>b</sup>, Joshua T Anthony <sup>a</sup>, Joe Conaghan <sup>c</sup>, Kristen Ivani <sup>d</sup>, Marina Gvakharia <sup>e</sup>, Robert Boostanfar <sup>f</sup>, Valerie L Baker <sup>g</sup>, Vaishali Suraj <sup>b</sup>, Alice A Chen <sup>b</sup>, Monica Mainigi <sup>a</sup>, Christos Coutifaris <sup>a</sup>, Shehua Shen <sup>b,\*</sup>



**Figure 2** Implantation rates for Eeva three-category High, Medium and Low scored embryos. Error bars represent 95% upper confidence limit. Implantation rates between High versus Low and Medium versus Low were significantly different ( $P < 0.0001$  and  $P = 0.0004$ , respectively).

# What is normal?



# What is normal?

Laboratory/culture conditions

IVF/ICSI

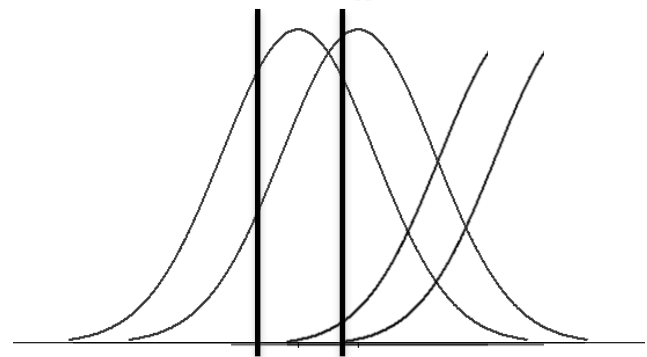
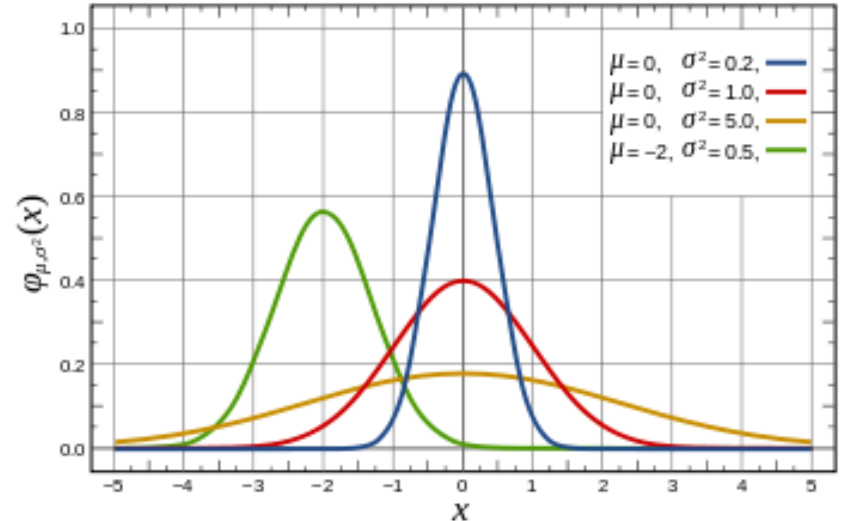
Oxygen

Culture media

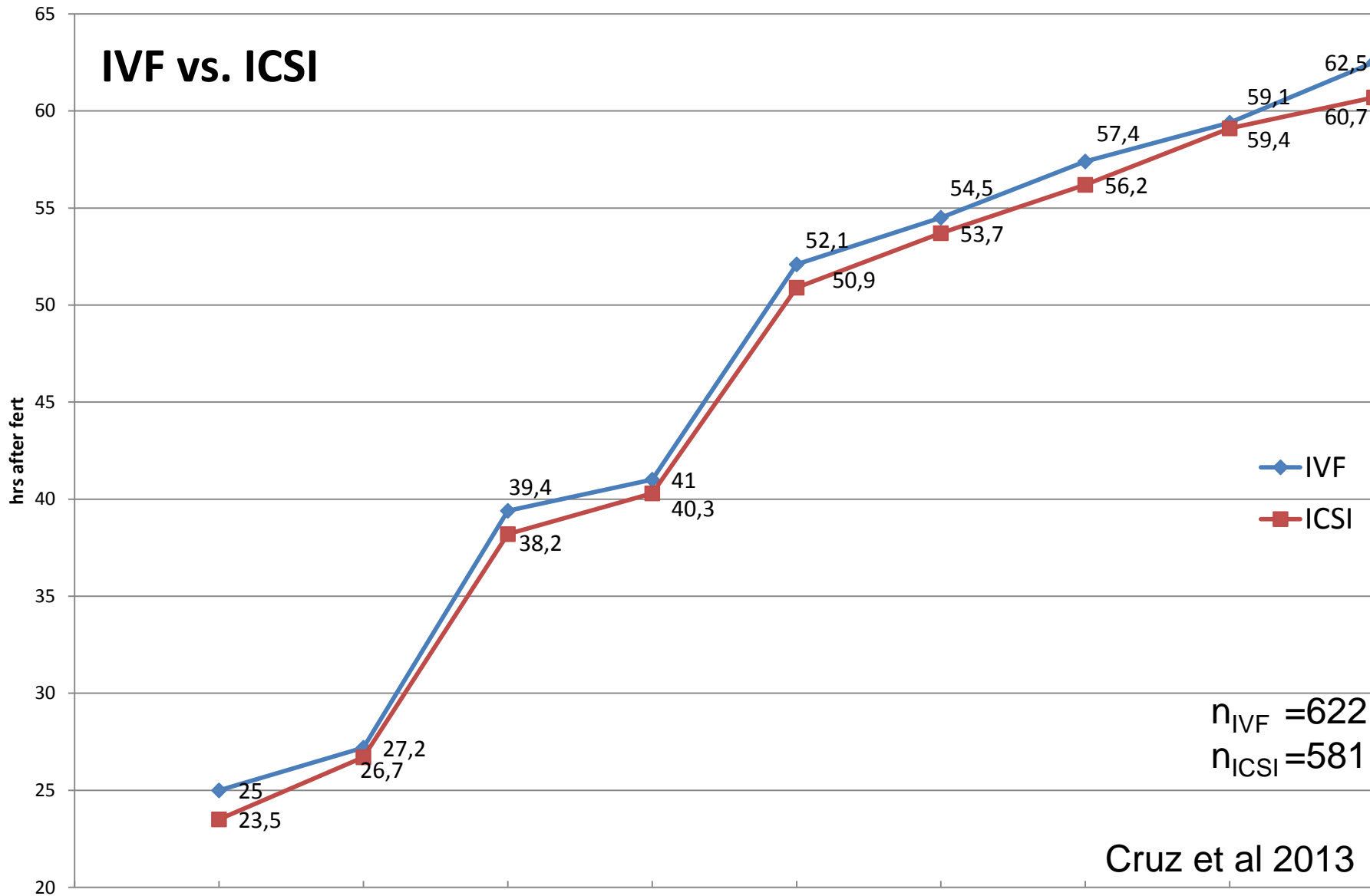
Treatment ?

Patients (Age, diagnosis,  
BMI, hormones) ?

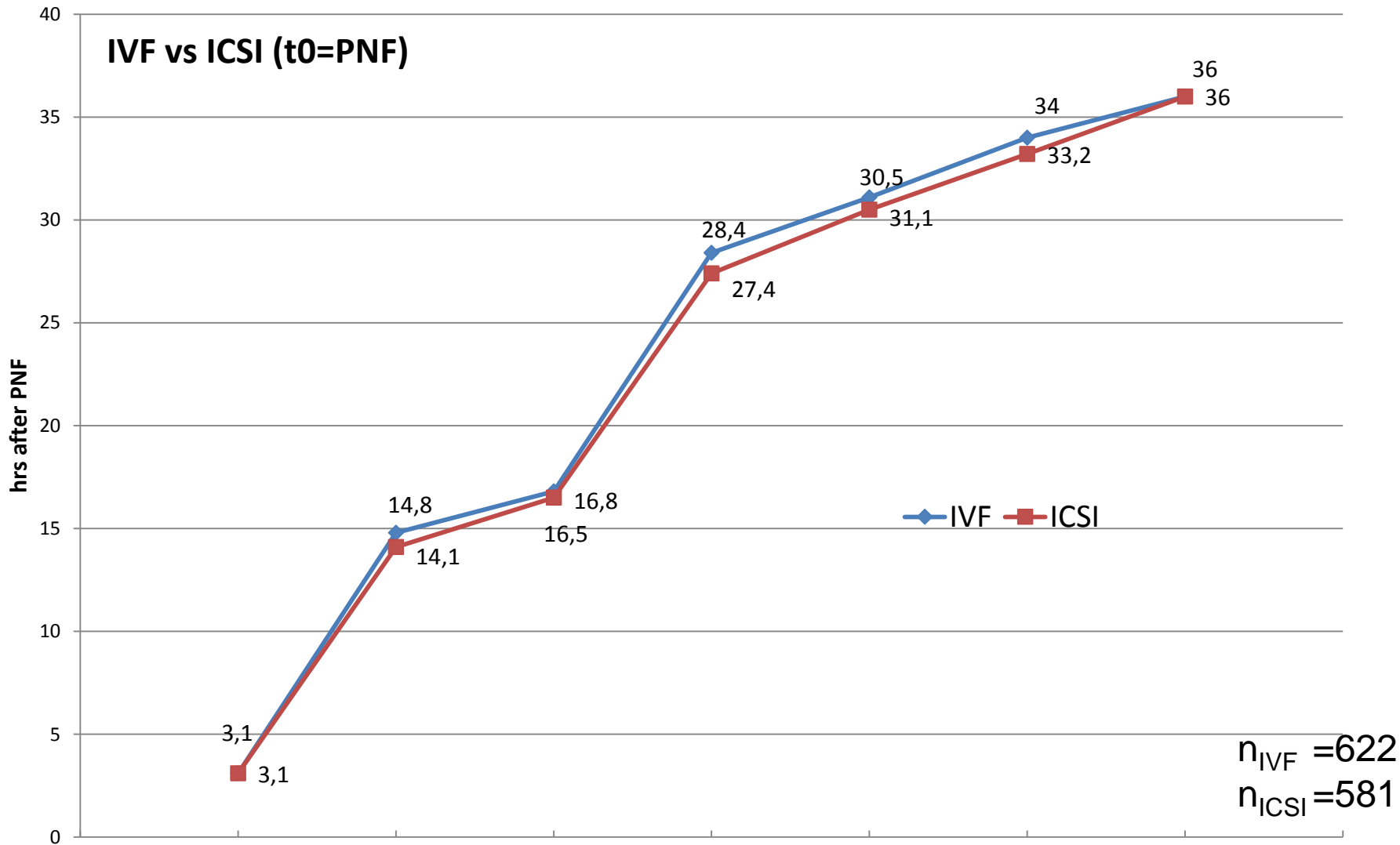
Cell cycle check points



# IVF vs. ICSI

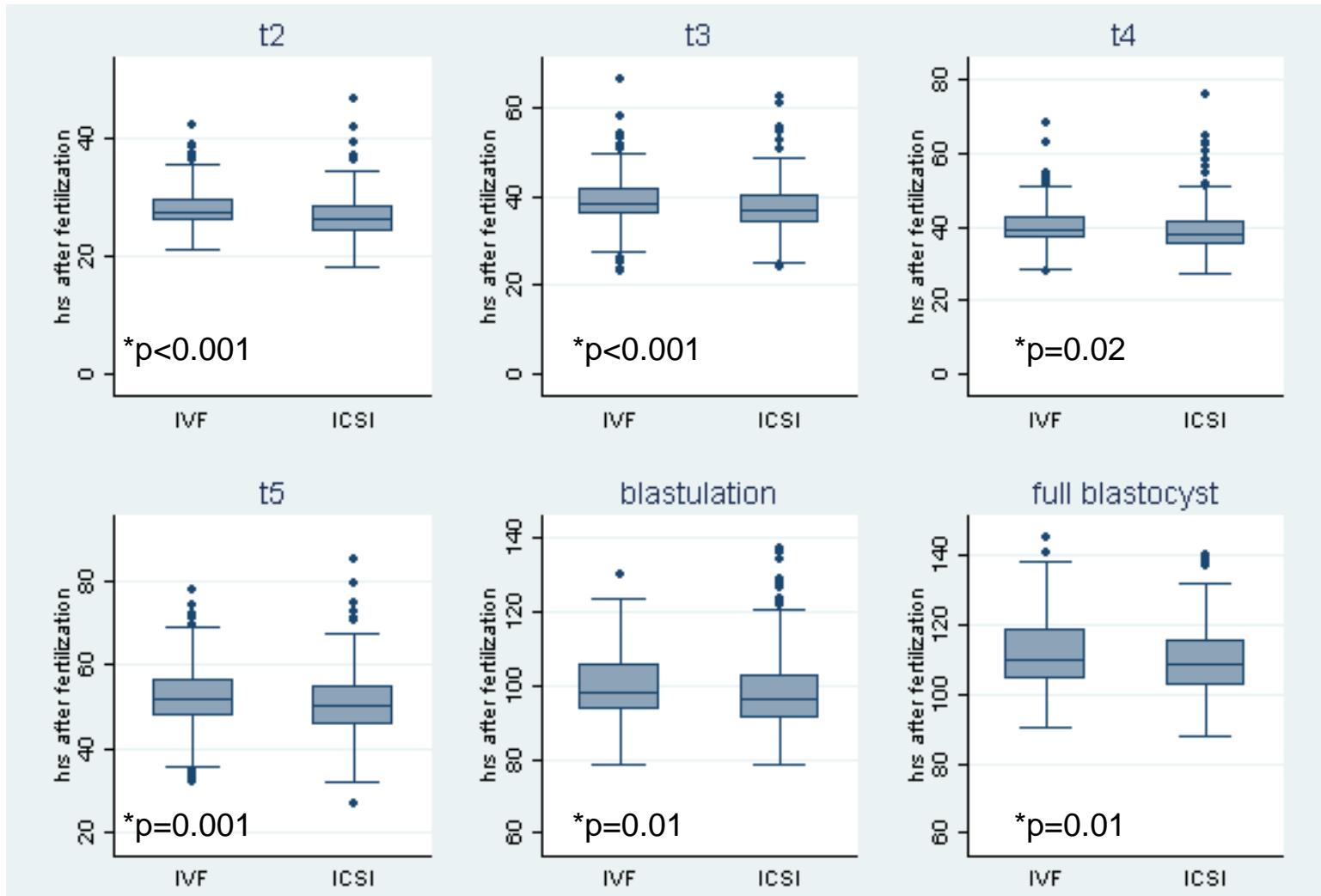


# IVF vs ICSI (t0=PNF)





# IVF vs. ICSI



\*Students t-test. Blastocyst only  $n_{IVF}=262$   $n_{ICSI}=375$ , unpublished data

# Hatching of in vitro fertilized human embryos is influenced by fertilization method

Kirstine Kirkegaard, M.D., Johnny Juhl Hindkjaer, M.Sc., and Hans Jakob Ingerslev, D.M.Sc.  
Fertility Clinic, Aarhus University Hospital, Aarhus, Denmark

**TABLE 2**

Fertilization method according to type of hatching.

	IVF (n = 165)	ICSI (n = 215)
Type 1	92 (55.8%)	210 (97.7%)
Type 2	45 (27.3%)	3 (1.4%)
Type 1 + 2	28 (17.0%)	2 (1.0%)

Note: P value testing the hypothesis of no relation between fertilization method and type of hatching (Fisher exact test): < .001. Percentages are reported for columns. Abbreviations as in Table 1.

Kirkegaard. *In vitro hatching of human embryos. Fertil Steril* 2013.

**TABLE 3**

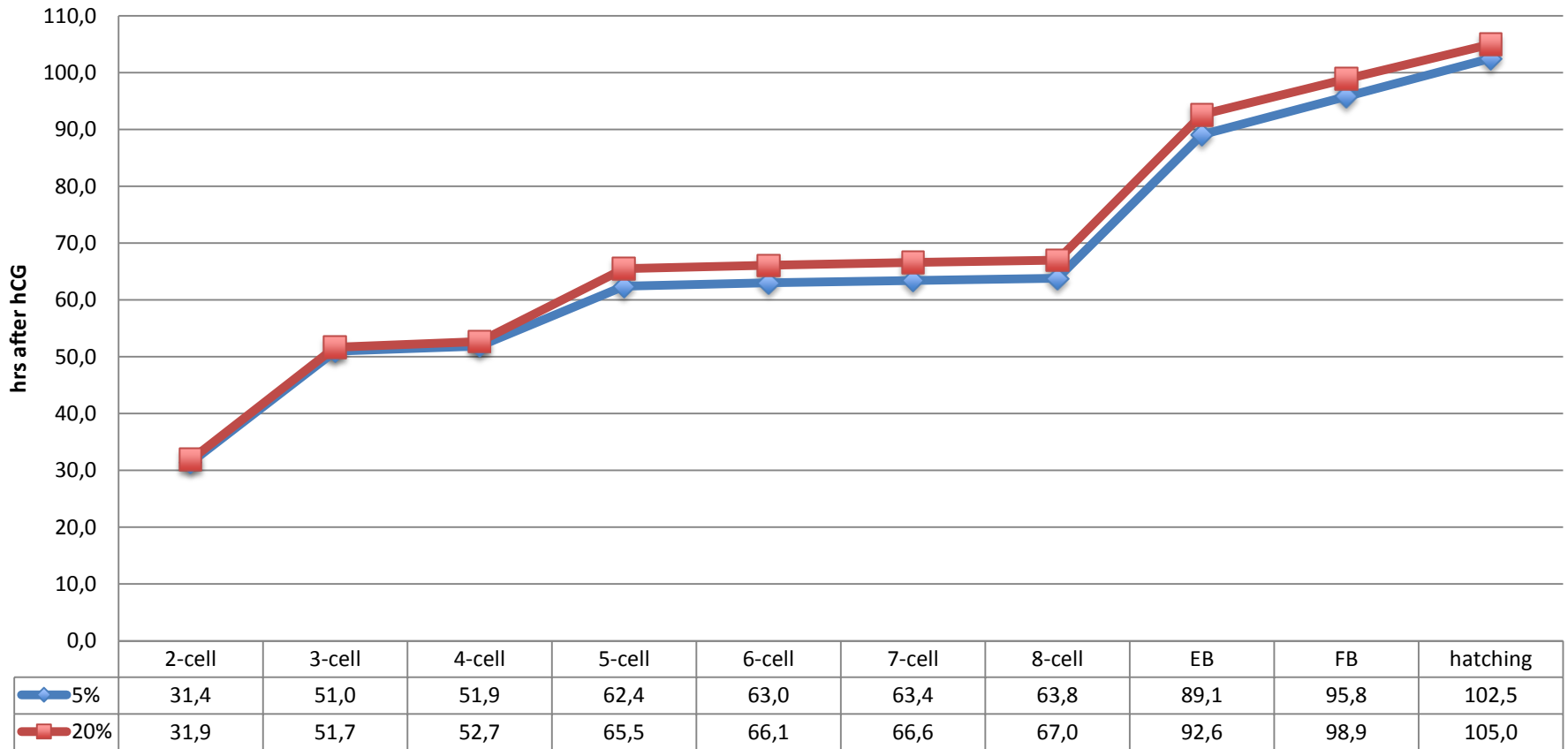
Completed hatching versus fertilization method and type of hatching.

	Total	Completed	Not completed
Type 1	302	3 (1.0%)	299 (99.0%)
Type 2	48	31 (64.6%)	17 (35.4%)
Type 1 + 2	30	19 (63.3%)	11 (36.6%)
IVF	165	50 (30.3%)	115 (69.6%)
ICSI	215	3 (1.4%)	212 (98.6%)

Note: P value testing the hypothesis of no relation between: type of hatching: < .001; and fertilization method: < .001. Percentages are reported for rows. Abbreviations as in Table 1.

Kirkegaard. *In vitro hatching of human embryos. Fertil Steril* 2013.

## 5% vs 20 % O<sub>2</sub>

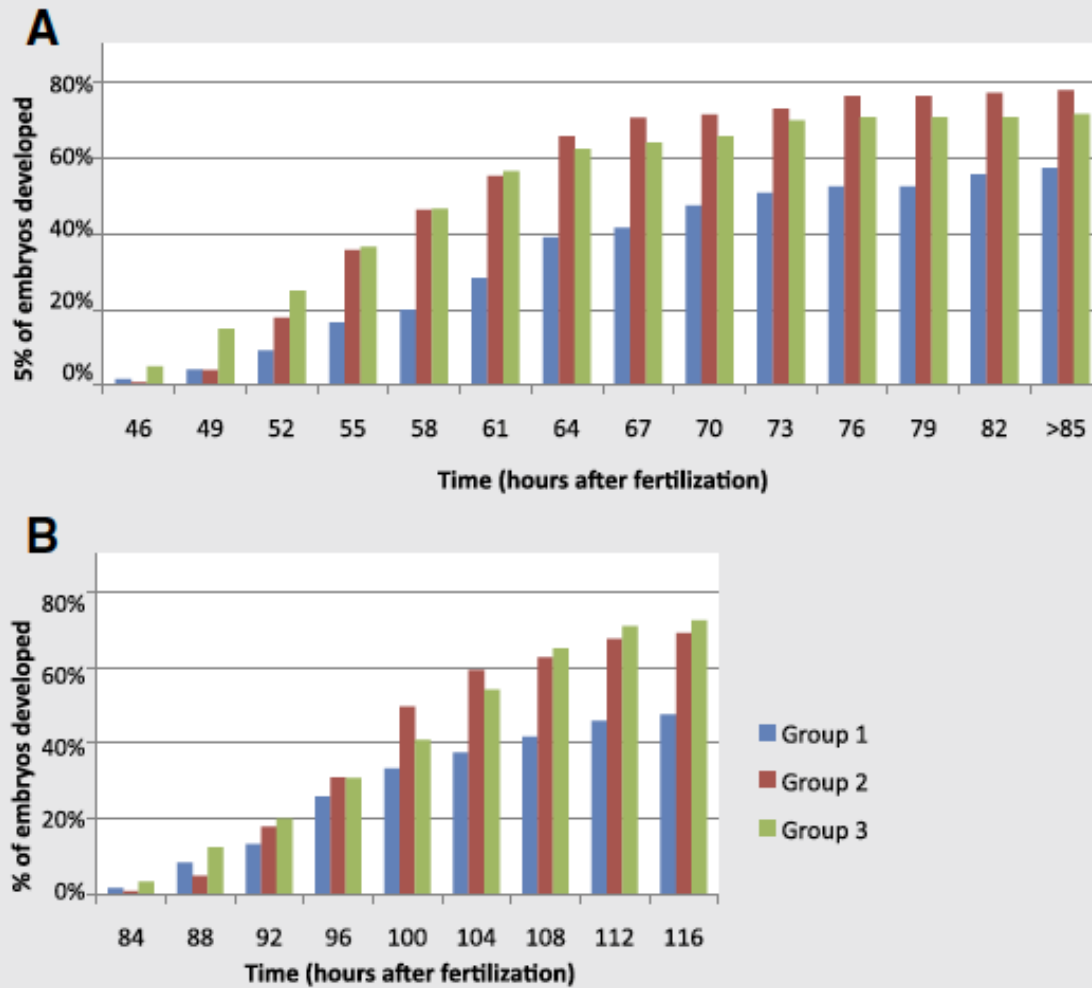


Culture under 20% oxygen results in cumulative delayed development and increased developmental arrest at all stages

Wale and Gardner 2010

**FIGURE 1**

Oxygen-  
Human  
embryos



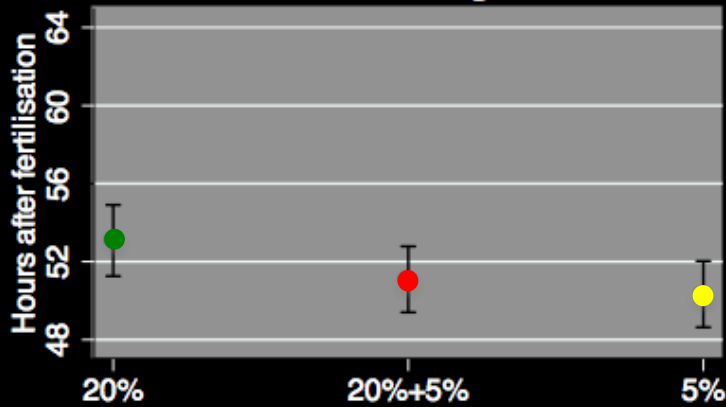
- 20% O<sub>2</sub>
- 5%+20% O<sub>2</sub>
- 5% O<sub>2</sub>

The cumulative development of embryos progressing through (A) third cleavage cycle and (B) early blastocyst stage.

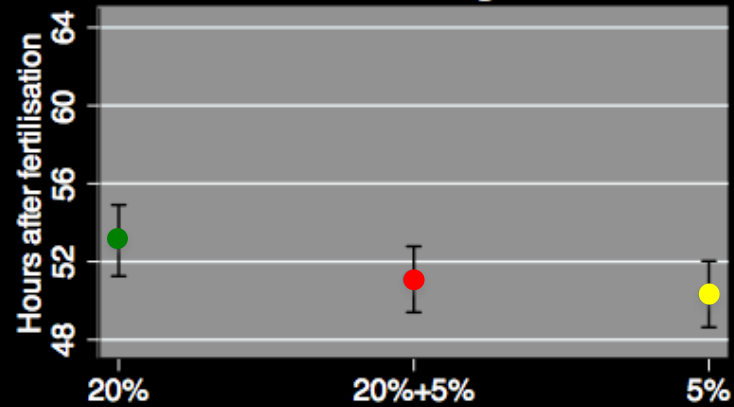
Kirkegaard. Temporal effect of O<sub>2</sub> on human embryos. *Fertil Steril* 2013.

# 3rd cleavage cycle

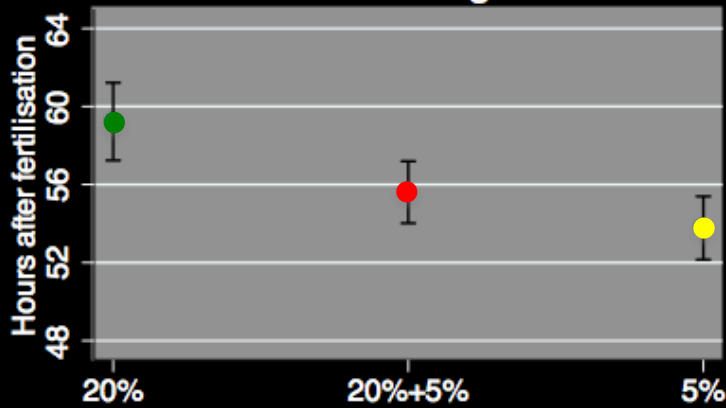
## 5-cell stage



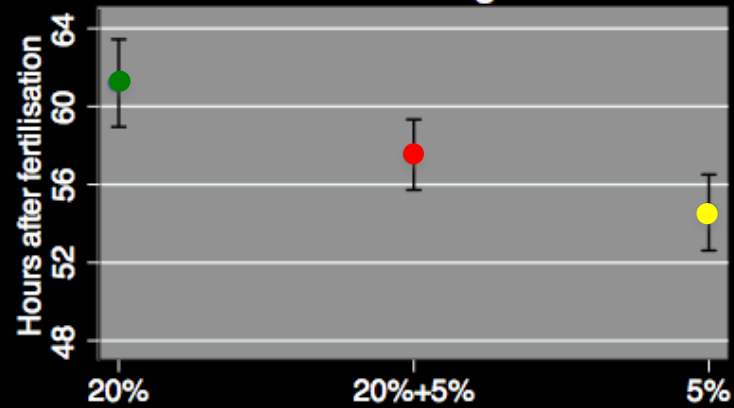
## 6-cell stage



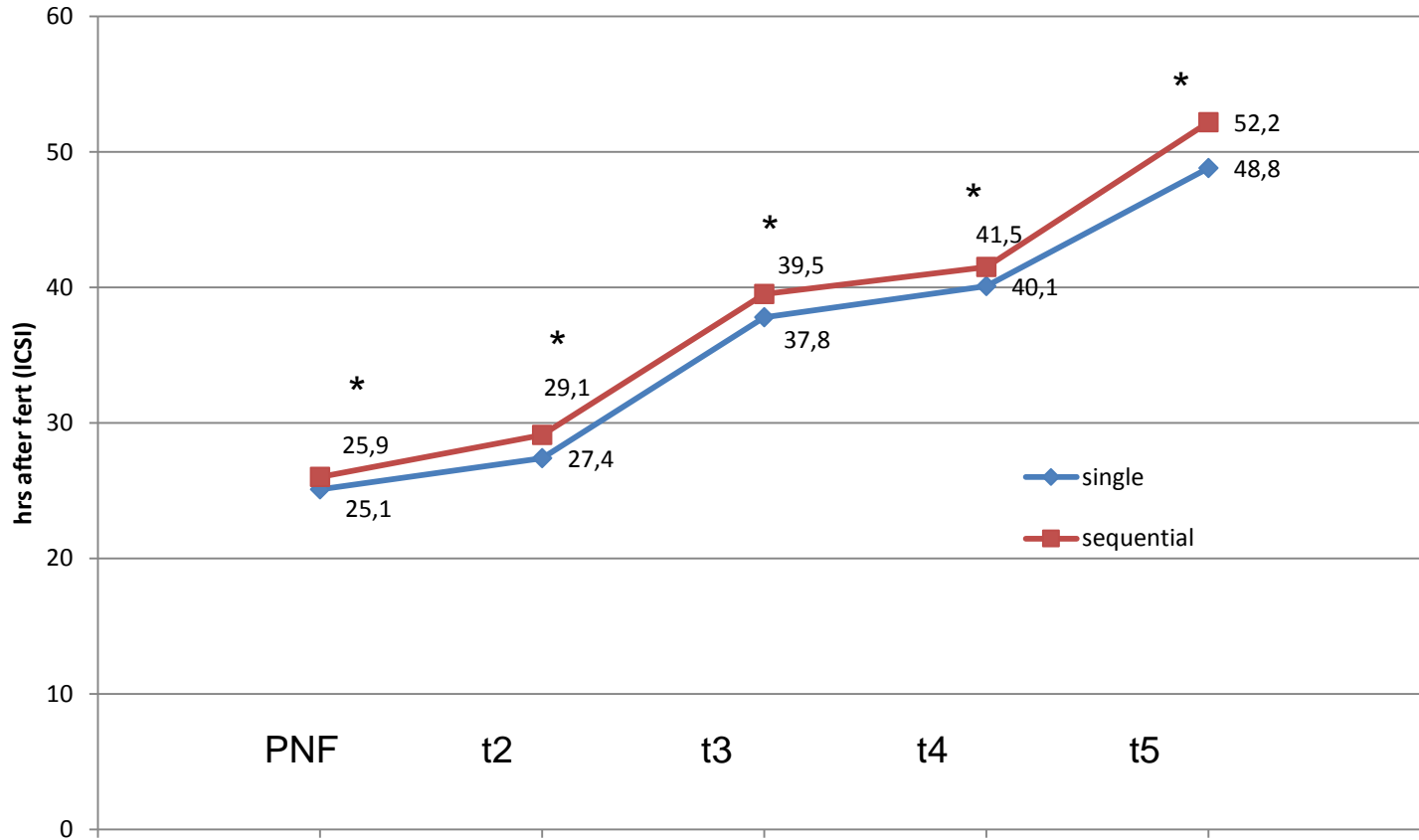
## 7-cell stage



## 8-cell stage



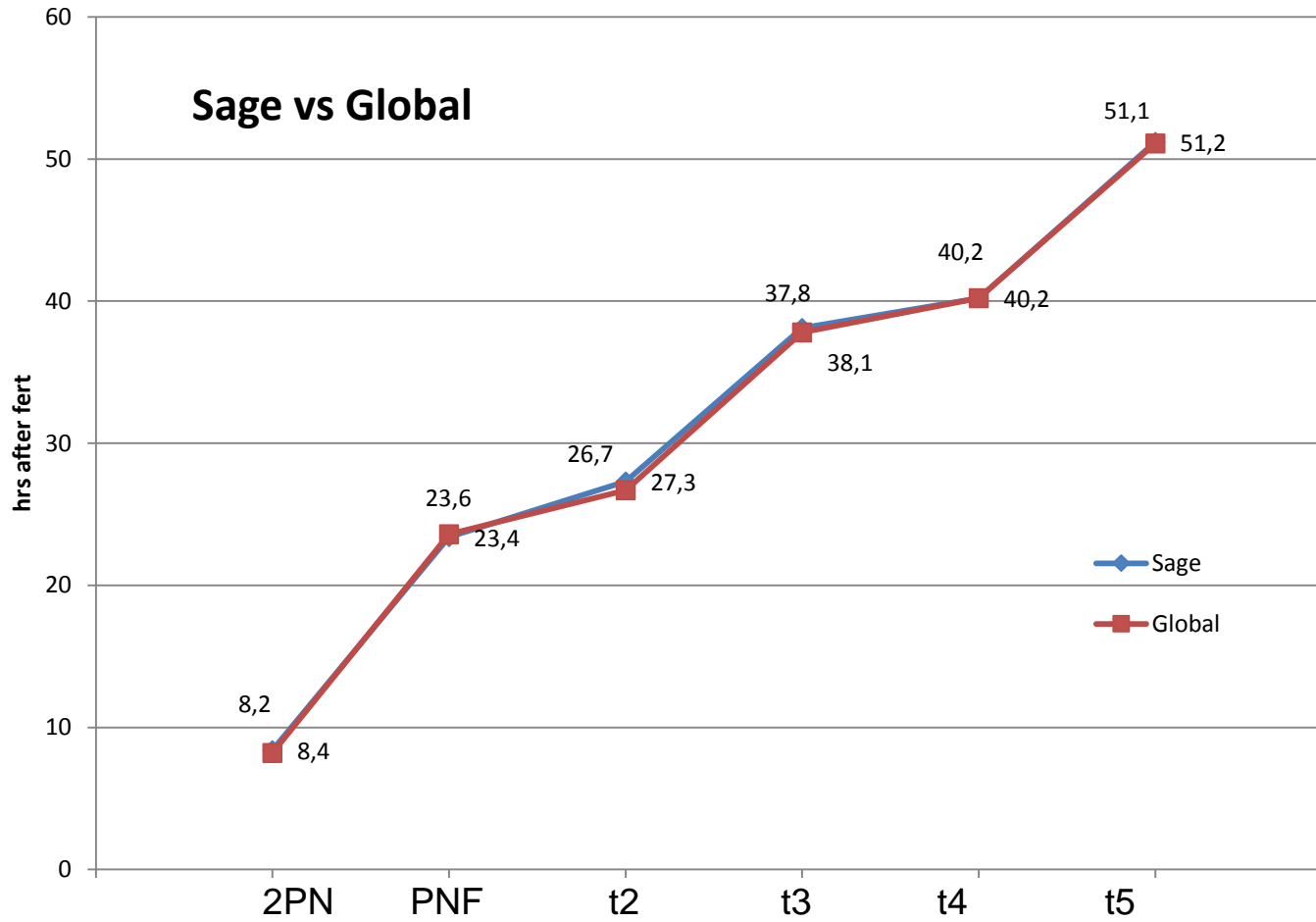
## single vs sequential media



Ciray et al 2012

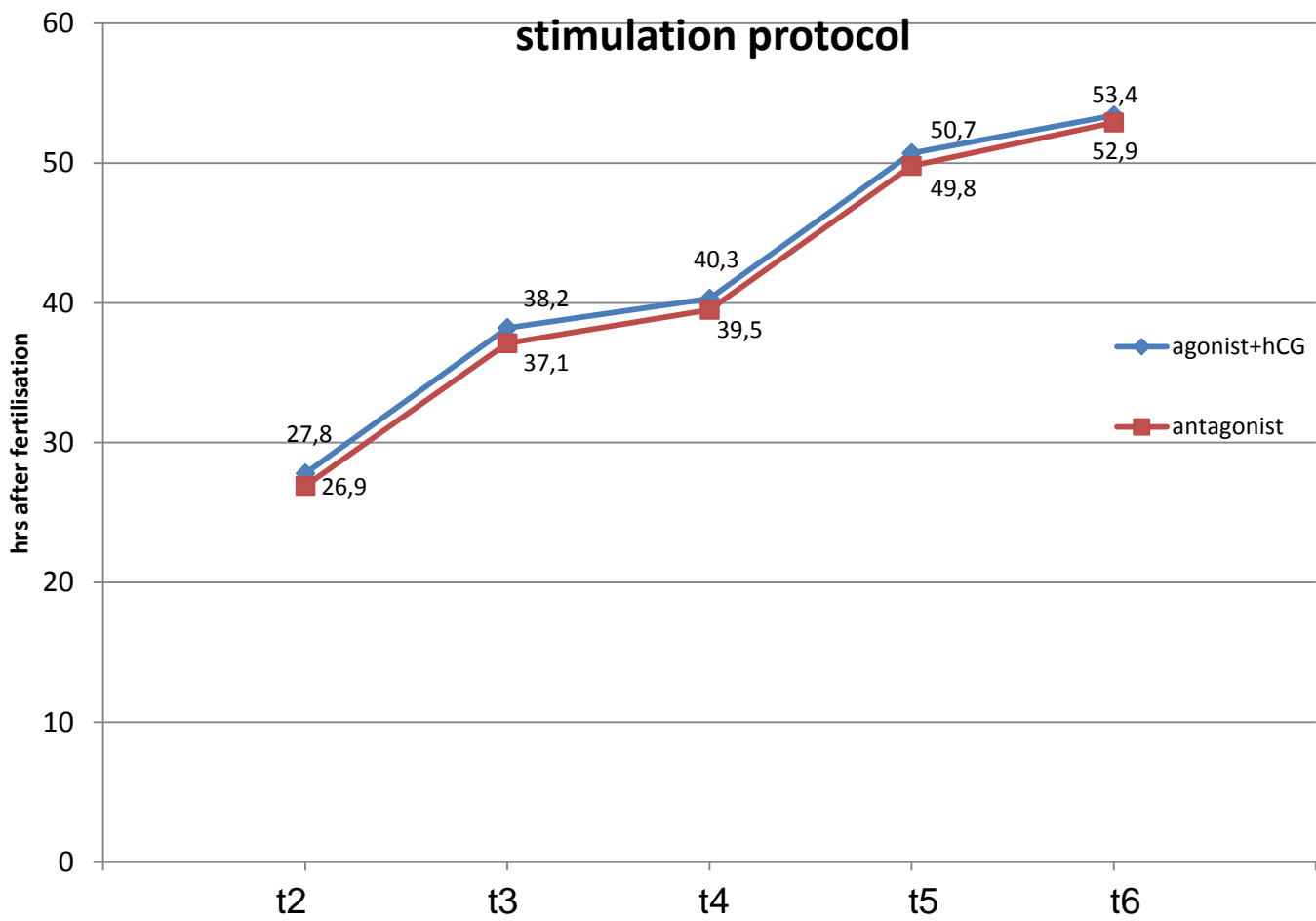
$n_{\text{single}}=231$  (2 PN=170),  $n_{\text{seq}}=215$  (2 PN=149)  
71 cycles

## Sage vs Global



Basile et al 2012

### stimulation protocol



n=2101

n=713

Munoz et al 2012 + 2013

+FSH dose



# What is normal?

Laboratory/culture conditions

IVF/ICSI

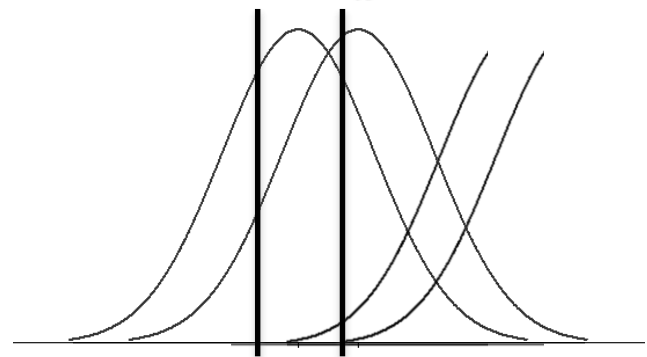
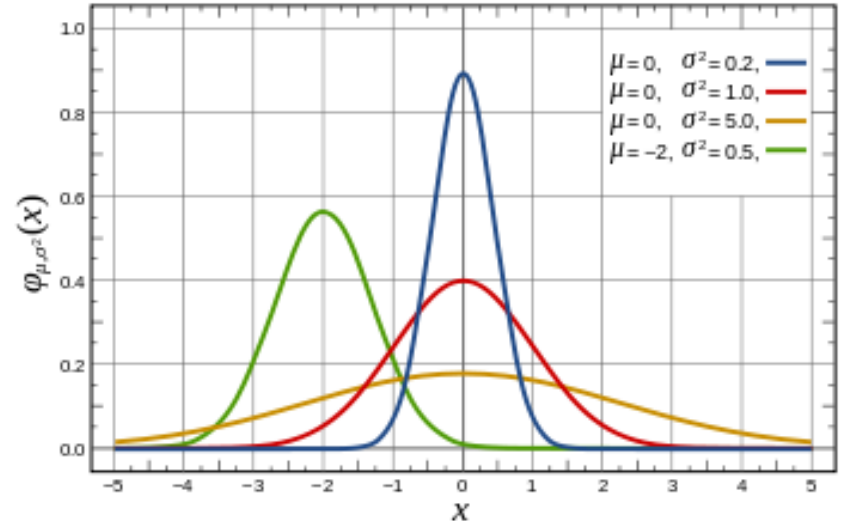
Oxygen

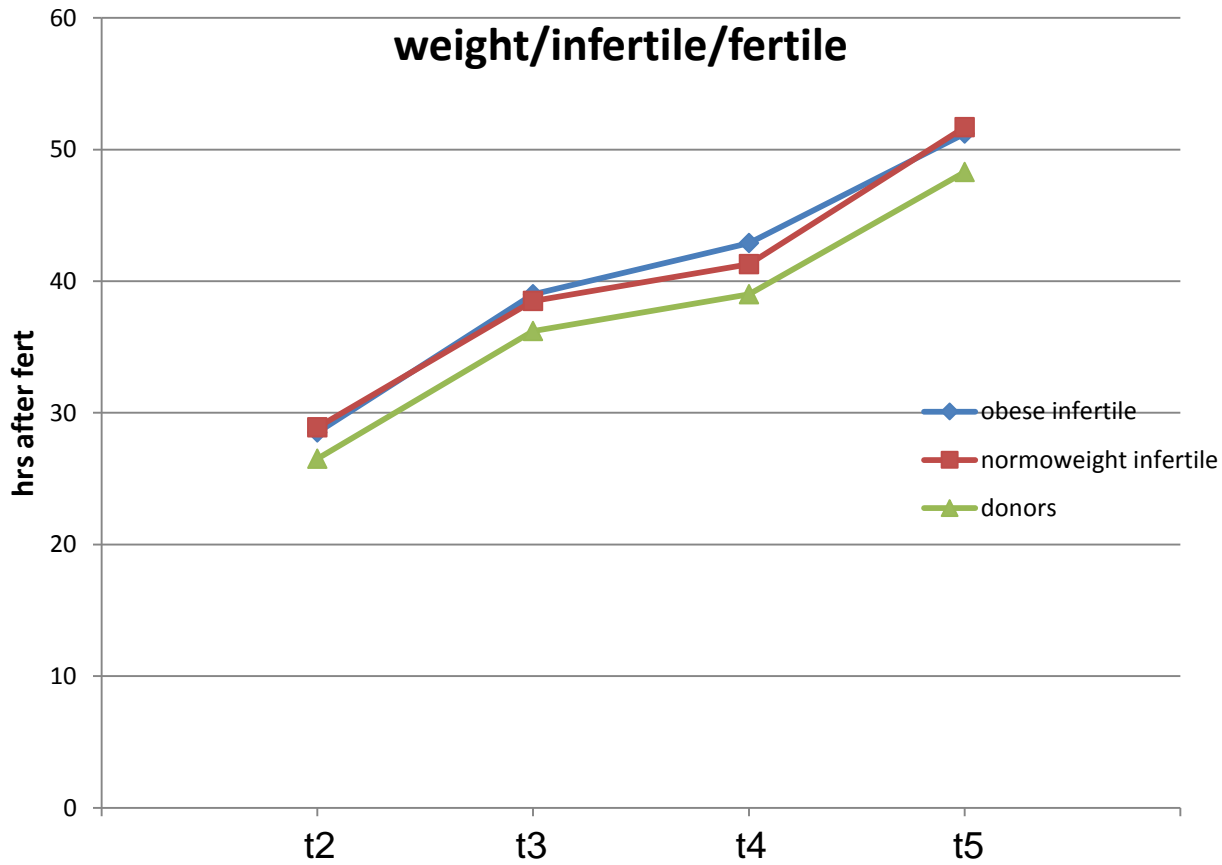
Culture media

Treatment ?

Patients (Age, diagnosis,  
BMI, hormones) ?

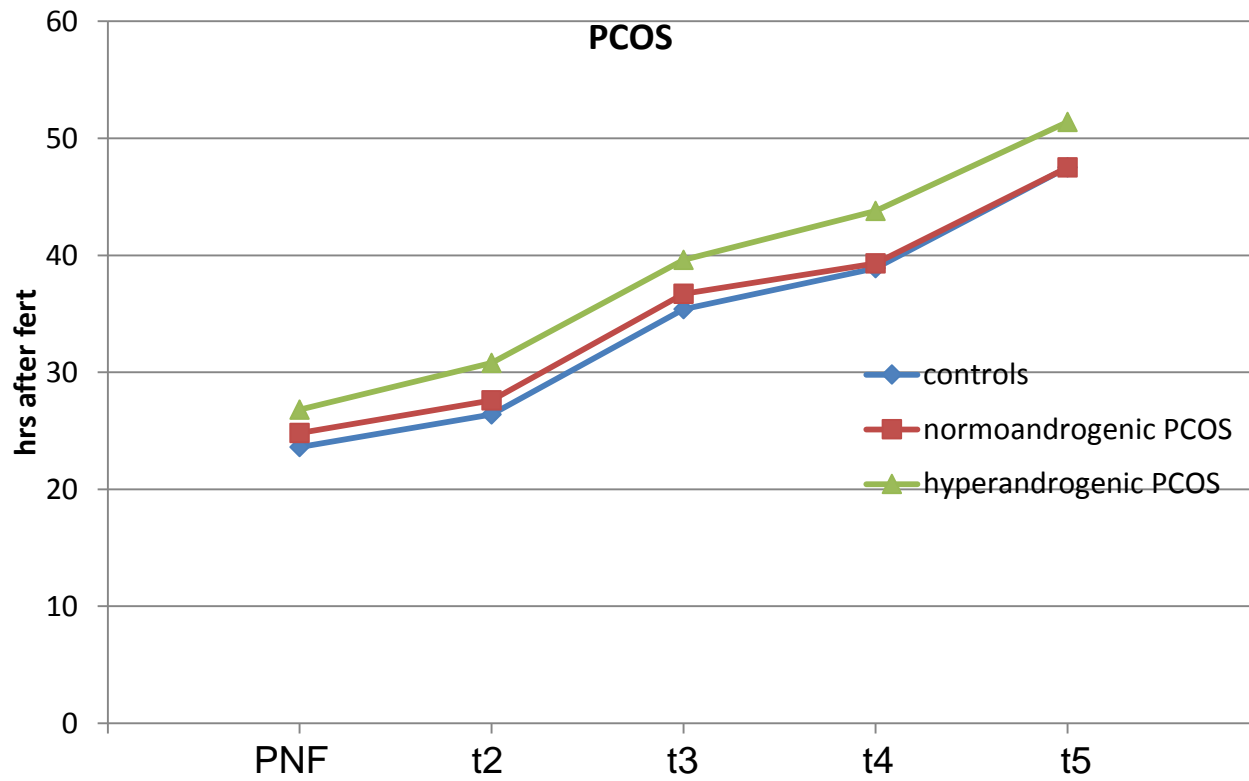
Cell cycle check points





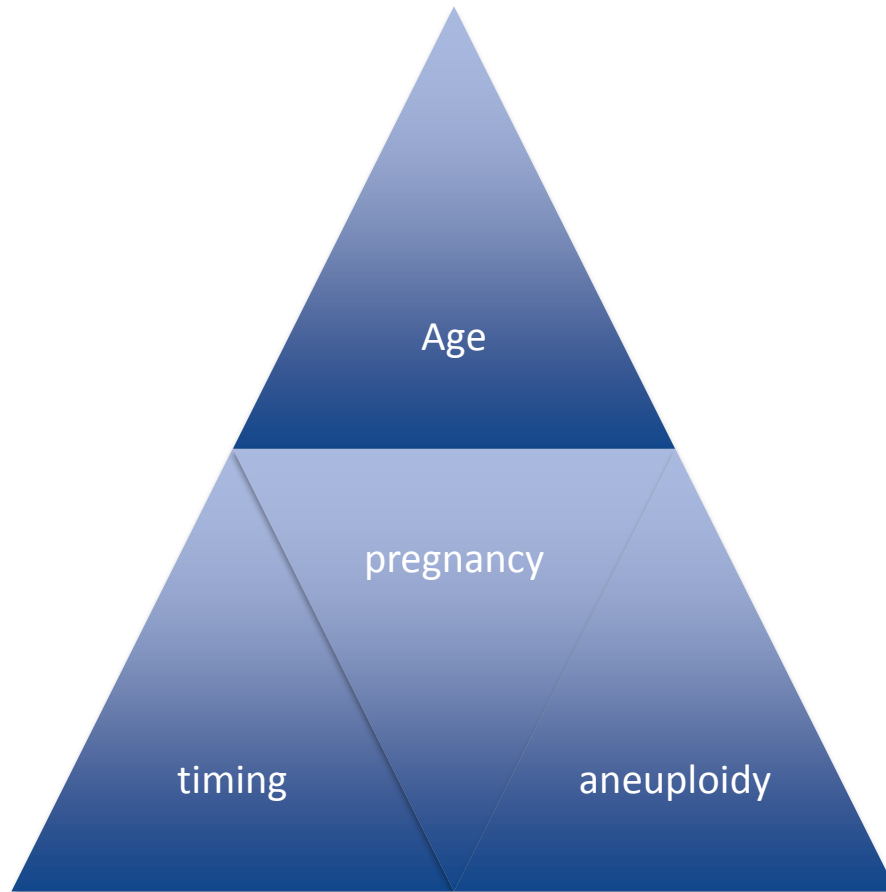
group	age
Obese infertile	34.7 (SD 3.4)
Normo weight infertile	33.3 (SD 2.9)
Donors	27.1 (SD 4.2)

Bellver et al 2013



Wissing et al 2013

# Confounding



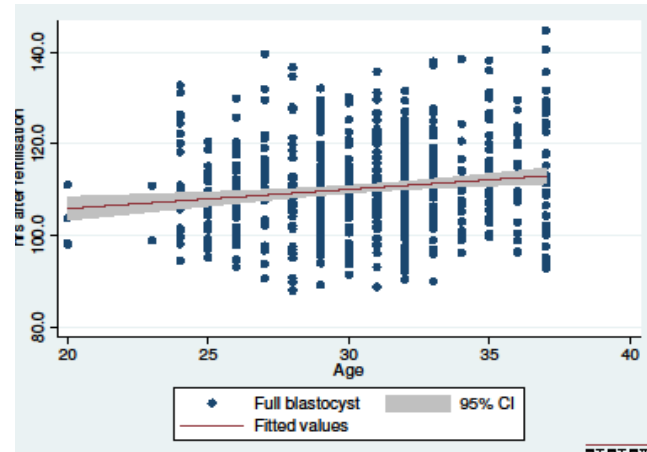
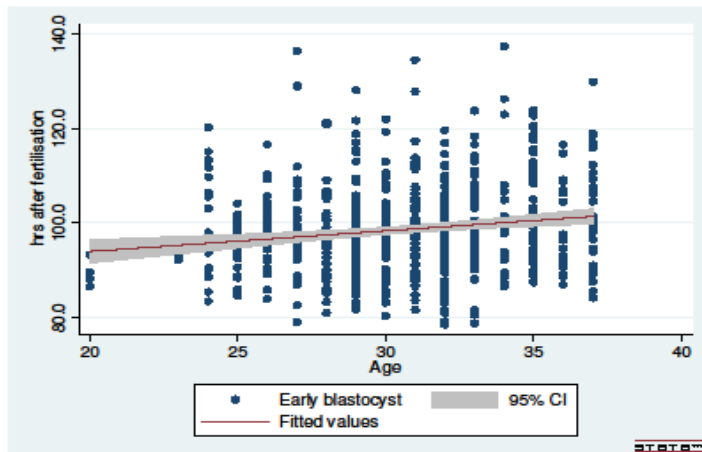
## Age, aneuploidy and tSB

Model effect	Estimate	Significance of additional effect
Age	0.16 (0.04)	0.016
tSB	0.05 (0.02)	0.0001

Logistic regression analysis of the effect of age and tSB on aneuploidy.

*Campbell et al 2014*

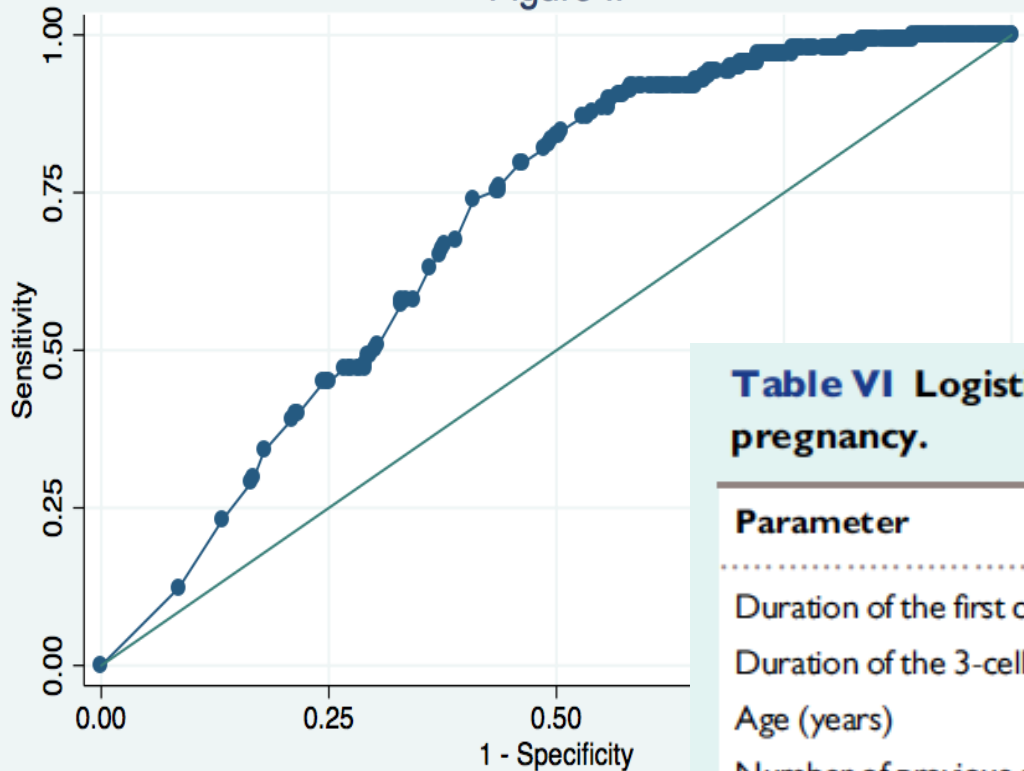
# AGE AND BLASTOCYST TIMING



	Regression coefficient (95% CI)	P-value	Coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ )
Early blast	0.44 (0.16; 0.71)	0.002	0.02
Full blast	0,42 (0.10;0.74)	0.01	0.02

Clustered linear regression, n=653, npt=149

Figure II



Area under ROC curve = 0.6943

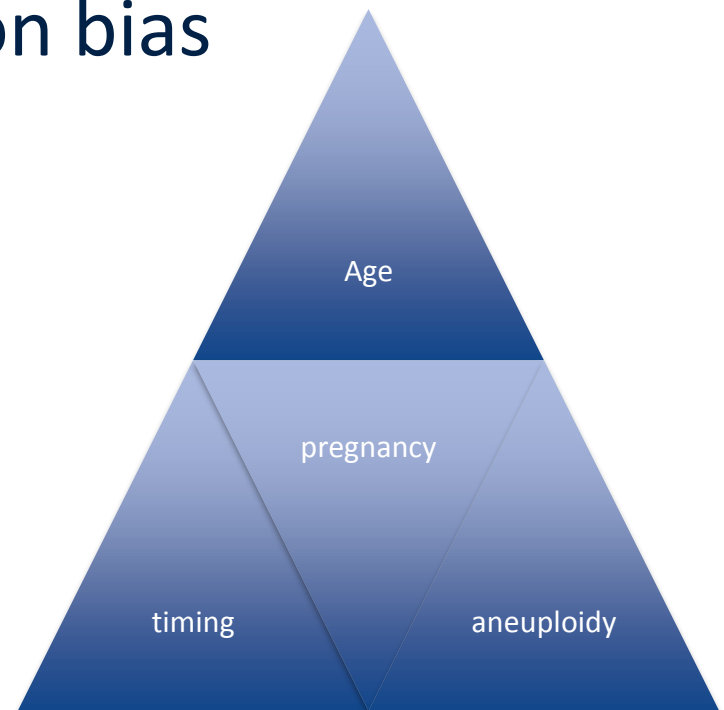
Prediction of blastocyst formation vs. pregnancy

**Table VI** Logistic regression analysis of predictors of pregnancy.

Parameter	OR (95% CI)	P-value
Duration of the first cytokinesis (h)	0.84 (0.45; 1.57)	0.59
Duration of the 3-cell stage (h)	0.84 (0.59; 1.22)	0.36
Age (years)	0.84 (0.73; 0.98)	0.03
Number of previous cycles	1.2 (0.62; 2.4)	0.56
Number of GQE on Day 2	1.0 (0.78; 1.3)	0.98
Number of GQE on Day 3	1.1 (0.83; 1.4)	0.57
Total FSH dose(100 IU)	0.99 (0.93; 1.1)	0.82
Cause of infertility (categorical)	0.34 (0.05; 2.2)	0.25

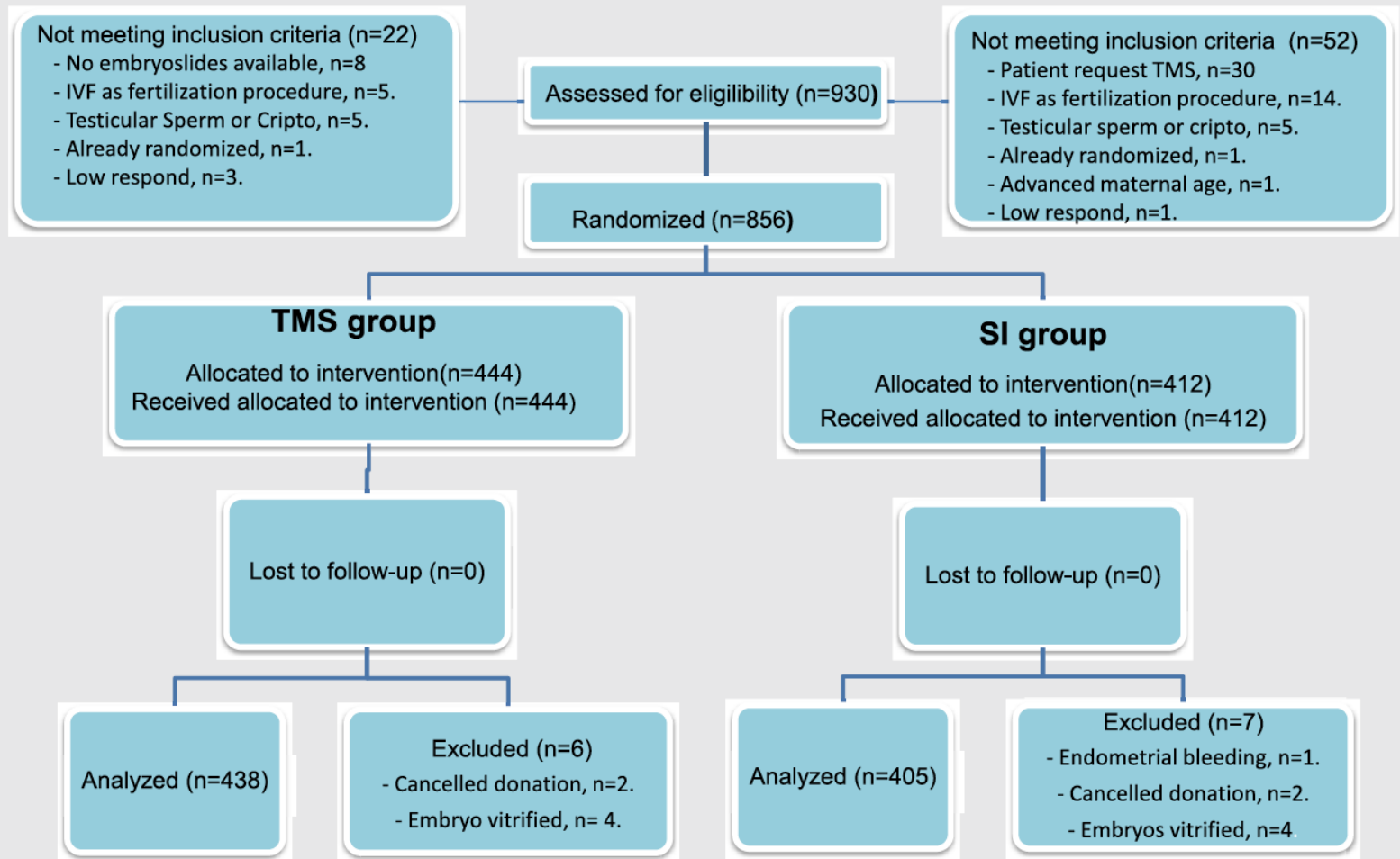
# A few words about RCT's

- Equal distribution of known and unknown confounders
- Elimination of selection bias





## SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 2



Patient flow chart presentation. Number of patients and descriptions of patients are included in every box.

# What is normal?

Laboratory/culture conditions

IVF/ICSI

Oxygen

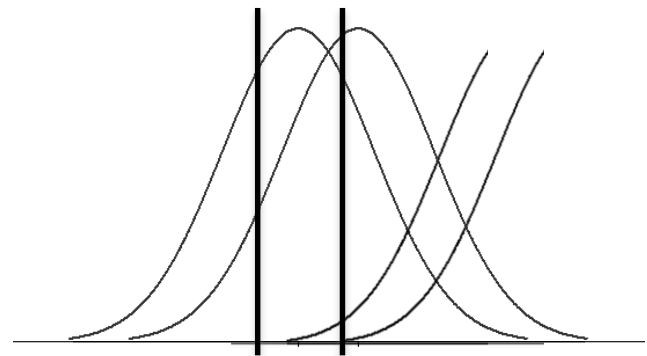
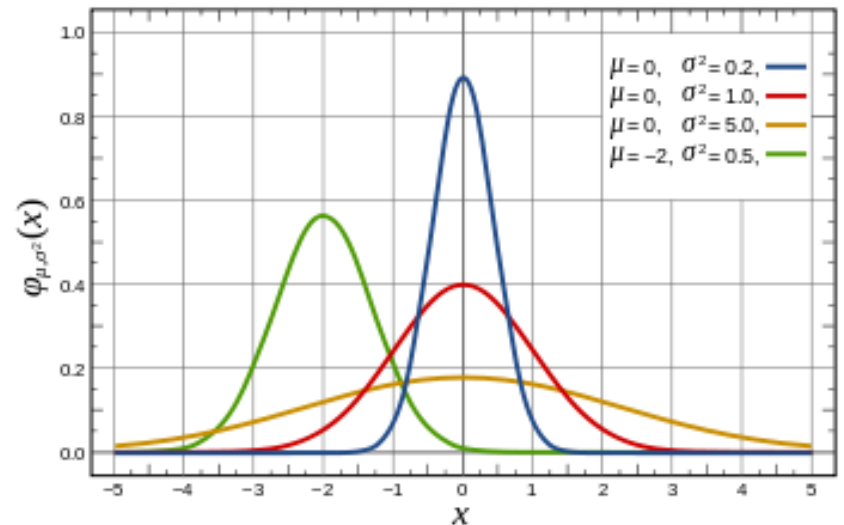
Culture media

Treatment ?

Patients (Age, diagnosis,

BMI, hormones) ?

Cell cycle check points



# Choosing the best embryo by time lapse versus standard morphology

Kirstine Kirkegaard, Ph.D.,<sup>a</sup> Aishling Ahlström, Ph.D.,<sup>b</sup> Hans Jakob Ingerslev, Dr.Med.Sc.,<sup>c</sup> and Thorir Hardarson, Ph.D.<sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Clinical Biochemistry, Aarhus University Hospital, Aarhus, Denmark; <sup>b</sup> IVF Lab, Reproductive Medicine, Sahlgrenska University Hospital, Gothenberg, Sweden; <sup>c</sup> The Fertility Clinic, Aarhus University Hospital, Aarhus, Denmark; and <sup>d</sup> Fertilitetscentrum/IVF Sweden, Gothenberg, Sweden

## TABLE 3

### Studies evaluating aneuploidy.

Study	No. of embryos	End point(s)	Predictive parameters
Chavez et al., 2012	45	Aneuploidy at the 4-cell stage (a-CGH)	Duration of the first cytokinesis, duration of the 2- and 3-cell stage
Campbell et al., 2013	88	Aneuploidy at the blastocyst stage (a-CGH and SNP array)	Time to blastulation and full blastulation
Basile et al., 2014	504	Aneuploidy at day 3 ( $\geq 6$ cells) (a-CGH)	Time ranges for division to 5 cells (t5), duration of the 2-cell stage (t3-t2), t5-t3, and t5-t2
Rienzi et al., 2014	455	Aneuploidy at the blastocyst stage (q-PCR based comprehensive chromosome screening)	None



Sensitivity/specificity

Ranking

Confounders

Validation