



supporting endocrine testing as a first line of investigation for males with UI and results from a basic semen examination in the reference range according to the WHO criteria.

Currently, endocrine testing is not recommended as a primary first line of investigation for males with UI and results from a basic semen examination in the reference range according to the WHO criteria (Minhas et al., 2021, Schlegel et al., 2021, WHO, 2000). However, given the essential role of FSH for the initiation and maintenance of full spermatogenesis, increasing research emphasis has been given to single nucleotide polymorphisms in FSH beta (FSHB) and FSH receptor (FSHR) genes and their effects on male infertility (Ferlin et al., 2011, Grigorova et al., 2011, Schubert et al., 2019, Schubert et al., 2022, Tamburino et al., 2017a, Tamburino et al., 2017b, Tüttelmann et al., 2012).

HUMAN PAPILLOMA VIRUS (HPV)

Evidence

No studies were identified to answer this PICO question.

Recommendation

HPV testing of semen is not recommended when conventional semen analysis according to WHO criteria is normal.

Strong

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Justification

There are over 200 HPV subtypes and most people will test positive for a HPV type at some point during life. Furthermore, HPV is a transient infection which most often clears spontaneously, but it is unknown how fast infectious HPV is cleared in males and females (Depuydt et al., 2019, Giuliano et al., 2011). There is some evidence showing reduced pregnancy rates in donor IUI cycles and autologous IUI cycles with moderate male factor infertility in HPV positive semen versus HPV negative (Depuydt et al., 2018, Depuydt, et al., 2019). Conflicting data on association between semen HPV presence and alteration of sperm parameters (Luttmer et al., 2016), as well as the effects of semen HPV infection on reproductive outcomes makes it impossible to recommend routine screening of HPV in a diagnostic setting in assisted reproduction. Therefore, HPV testing could be discussed with couples scheduled for an IUI cycle only in research settings. Further information on the management of HPV in couples undergoing MAR can be found in the ESHRE guideline “Medically assisted reproduction in patients with a viral infection or disease” (Eshre Guideline Group on Viral infection/disease, 2021).

MICROBIOLOGY TEST

Evidence

No studies were identified to answer this PICO question.