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[\[PDF \(470K\)\]](#) [\[References\]](#)**The Process of Deciding to Give Up Infertility Treatments and Women's Lifelong Development**[Yuko Yasuda](#)¹⁾ and [Yoko Yamada](#)¹⁾

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We sought to understand how infertile women decided to stop infertility treatments by examining narratives of the experience they had with the treatments. We interviewed nine women and classified them into three types in terms of the dominant features of their narratives: Agency, Communion, and Hesitation. We selected a case that was most typical of each type, and analyzed them further. For the cases of Agency and Communion, we examined their developmental transformation up to the point of stopping infertility treatments from the viewpoint of different and common features. They differed in terms of mutual trust with their doctors in the clinical relationship. The women shared the change in their perspectives from preoccupation with the treatment to future-oriented views of their lives, following the experiences of difficulties and conflicts during the treatment. Next, we noted the potential for developmental transformation for Hesitation type, whose narratives tended to waver, in the process of retelling their stories. For all three types, narratives about their experiences with infertility treatments were organized dynamically, and all of them appeared to try to give meaning to their infertility experiences.

Keywords: [infertility treatment](#), [assisted reproductive technology](#), [experience](#), [narrative](#), [life story](#)

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