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Comparison of semen parameters between pregnant and nonpregnant couples with male factor infertility during intrauterine insemination*

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Abstract: Aim: To compare the semen parameters between pregnant and nonpregnant couples with male factor infertility during intrauterine insemination (IUI). Materials and Methods: The study included a total of 156 IUI cycles performed in our center from January 2005 to December 2006 with the indication of male infertility. IUI cycles were divided into 2 groups: group 1 pregnancy (24 cycles) and group 2 (132 cycles) nonpregnancy cycles. Results: In both groups, progressive motility of neither initial nor processed sperm specimens was significantly different ($P > 0.05$). When comparisons of semen parameters in groups were performed in the initial specimen, sperm concentration and total motile sperm count (TMC) were significantly different between the groups ($P = 0.03$, $P = 0.04$, respectively). After processing specimens a definite significant difference was found in sperm concentration and inseminated motile sperm count (IMC) between pregnancy and nonpregnancy cycles ($P = 0.03$, $P = 0.03$, respectively). Although TMC $> 10 \times 10^6$ provided a pregnancy rate (PR) of 18% compared with TMC $< 10 \times 10^6$ (PR: 10%), no significant differences were detected ($P > 0.05$). Conclusions: In addition to the initial TMC and IMC, sperm concentration in both initial and processed specimens may influence IUI-related pregnancy in male factor infertility.

Key Words: Male factor, semen parameter, sperm concentration, pregnancy

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