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Does Your Child Complain Of Excruciating Pain During Menstrual Cycles? Then, Don't Ignore

Men also suffer from infertility as much as women do

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Printing Your Nose Out!

From Editor's Desk

Womens



Volume 1, Issue 3, February 2016



MEN ALSO SUFFER FROM INFERTILITY AS MUCH AS WOMEN DO



DOES YOUR CHILD COMPLAIN OF EXCRUCIATING PAIN **DURING MENSTRUAL CYCLES?** THEN, DON'T IGNORE



WOMENS **CENTER:** CHAMPIONING THE CAUSE OF WOMEN'S HEALTH





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It was gratifying to read an article on continued medical education (ICON 2015: An Astounding Success, January 2016 issue, Womens Center News). These days we find that not many hospitals are investing on CME. Investment in CME should not be seen as expenditure, but investment. Only hospitals, which employ doctors and other paramedical staff, who remain updated would be able to survive in this competitive market and make quality healthcare a reality. I wish Womens Center and its team all the very best.

K.Sahadevan

Dear Sir,

The exclusive interview with Jayaram Govindarajan, Executive Director, Womens Center was very informative. It is always nice to see young people at the helm of affairs. Jayaram in the interview says that Womens Center is in the process of tying up with a Spanish Organisation to bring in Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) for embryos to India. God Speed to him and Womens Center.

K.R.Syamala Chennai Dear Reader,

It gives us immense pleasure to present you with the third issue of Womens Center News. As usual, we have taken care to pack this issue with useful and informative articles.

There is an exclusive interview with Dr.Mirudhubashini Govindaraian. Womens Center Clinical Director where she takes on a number questions relating to fertility issues.

We decided to include this interview, because we believe that the society around us needs greater awareness on multiple issues pertaining to fertility. Some of the questions asked to the

doctor might appear rudimental. However, we are sure you will find those questions and answers appropriate looking through a layman's prism.

This issue also carries the story of Charulatha, a 16-year-old schoolgirl who was afflicted with juvenile cyst adenomyoma - a rare medical condition.

We thought of including this article, because, many parents take it lightly when girls starting from puberty complains about excruciating pain during their menstrual cycles.

Charulatha who underwent a minimally-invasive surgical procedure at our facility today is a happy girl, because she is free from the unbearable pains resulting from juvenile cyst adenomyoma. The article, besides being

educational in values, also stresses the medical expertise

available at Womens Center in treating such rare disorders. We are certain this feature would a go a long way in creating greater Kochi

awareness among parents who otherwise tend to dismiss the pain associated with menstrual cycle as normal. As usual, we have also included Ask the Doctor and News in Capsule

columns. We are certain you would find these too interesting and informative.

We would also like to thank everyone who congratulated us for the successful conduct of ICON 2015. On this occasion, we reiterate our commitment to continued medical education (CME).

For, we believe that continued education is of paramount importance in medical practice as it plays a vital role in ensuring quality and affordable healthcare to every health-seeker!

Yours

Dr.Govindarajan Editor-in-Chief



a number questions relating to fertility issues

There is an exclusive

interview with

Dr.Mirudhubashini

Govindarajan, Womens

Center Clinical Director

where she takes on

Womens



In a male-dominated society, everyone seems to be in a hurry to blame the woman and not her husband when the couple fails to achieve successful pregnancy. In this interview Dr.Mirudhubashini Govindarajan, Womens Center Clinical Director, argues it is time the society changed its mindset.

MEN ALSO SUFFER FROM INFERILITY AS **MUCH AS WOMEN DO**

Q1: What causes infertility?

Infertility is not a disease or a single problem by itself; it s a manifestation of varied problems that can occur either in the male or female partner. A host of problems involving the general health, reproductive organs or even the gametes (egg or sperm) of either partner may be the underlying issue. The problem varies from couple to couple. The first step of dealing with subfertility is investigations to find out the basic issue.

Q2: Infertility appears to have become a common problem in our country. You views:

Subfertility is not an uncommon problem in any part of the world. It appears to affect about 15% or 1 in 8 of all couple. The causative factors though may vary from place to place. Infective disorders such as tuberculosis and disorders secondary to environmental factors are probably more common in India.

Q3: In a conservative society, when a couple fails to achieve pregnancy, the fingers are immediately pointed towards the woman. Is it right? Is infertility just a woman's problem? This mindset has to change in our society. As a rough estimate, one third

of the problems are in female, one third in the male and one third on both sides. Therefore in at least half of the couple who have difficulty in conceiving, there is a problem in the male as well.

Q4: Now, it is clear men too can suffer from infertility problems. Can you detail what causes infertility among men?

In a man, subfertility can be secondary to a lot of factors. Medical problems such as diabetes, cholesterol hypertension, high levels and marked obesity can be contributing factors. Genetic

environmental problems, exposures secondarv to smoking, alcoholism, pesticides, fertilizers and chemicals can also lead to subfertility. A male should be investigated as thoroughly as female to find out the root cause of these problems.

Q5: Does one's age have anything to do with infertility? If so, how age affects both the woman and man in achieving successful pregnancy?

of the major problems we encounter today because of late marriages, career issues, etc. This can affect both men and women. The God given gametes (egg/sperms) are in each human being from birth onwards. With advancing age, these cells tend to become abnormal At age 40, eighty percent of a woman's oocytes are chromosomally abnormal. A similar change happens in men too.

long the couples should try before calling on their doctors? There can be no absolute time limit. If a couple have a specific problem such as totally irregular menstrual cycles or sexual problems, they should reach for help early. If there are no problems, they should try

Q6: Couples just two years

into marriage and not

achieving pregnancy run

to fertility clinics seeking

assistance. Is it right? How

at least for 1-2 years before Ageing is definitely one they reach for help. Young couple with no problem starting medical treatment for fertility within a few months of marriage is not right. At the same time, putting off treatment until an arbitrary older age (especially older couple) may lead to problems also.

> Q7: How do the doctors find out if a woman and her partner have fertility problems?

one has to remember in The first step of medical

The first step of medical management is to find out the causative factor for the delay in conceiving. Investigations to assess their general health, the adequacy of gametes and genital tract are important before starting any medical treatment.

management is to find out medicine is "First of all – do the causative factor for the delay in conceiving. Investigations to assess their general health, the adequacy of gametes and genital tract are important before starting any medical treatment.

Q8: Sometimes, we find fertility clinics some offering IVF treatment to couples who are not so healthy and past 50 years. Is it okay to do that? In the event of a successful pregnancy, wouldn't failing health of parents and the huge parent-child age gap adversely affect the child's well-being?

The basic dictum that

no harm". Second dictum in fertility management is "To keep in mind the long term well being of the child". Creating a child with ART treatment should not be thought of if either the physical well being of a parent is in jeopardy or if the child cannot have a normal parenting while arowina.

Q9: Does counselling play an important role in couples opting for IVF treatment? What counselling strategies Womens Center deploy and how effective are they? Couples with infertility

highly are stressed. This stress increases considerably when they

Café coffee bay

WomensCenterNews | February 2016

xpert Talk





Recent advances at Womens Center have significantly enhanced the success rate, which include Sperm sorter techniques and PGD/ PGS.

are facing complex treatments such as IVF. They need counselling at multiple levels. Counselling about the procedure is done by medical **>>** Embryo transfer and embryology personnel. However, for the emotional aspect to be addressed, there is a need for properly trained professional counsellors. Womens Center has routine medical, embryology, paramedical, financial and professional psychological counseling for all its IVF patients.

10: How often is the Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) successful? Some clinics claim 65 to 80 per cent success rate. Is it possible?

No fertility Unit in the world can claim to offer 65-80% pregnancy rates for all of their patients. The success for a particular couple is mainly dependent on the quality of their own eggs, sperms and the uterus itself. Many couples especially older ones have sub-optional gametes or uterine environment. It is virtually impossible to achieve these rates when any or these factors are defective. These statements are often primarily promotional in nature and have to be dealt with as such.

Q11: What are the different types of ART? Are they available at Womens Center?

At Womens Center, we routinely perform various ART procedures which are consistently upgraded as per world norms.

- In Vitro Fertilization (IVF)
- Intra Cytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI)
- Embryo co-culture
- Extended embryo culture -Blastocyst stage
- Cryopreservation _ Sperm. Oocytes, Embryos, Blastocyst
- Sperm DNA fragmentation
- >> Testicular biopsy sperm extraction / aspiration Donor oocyte / Sperm program
- Donor embryo program

Q12: What other latest technologies you have deployed at your center? How do they help the childless couples?

Recent advances at Womens Center have significantly enhanced the success rate, which include Sperm sorter techniques and PGD/PGS.

Sperm sorting assists us in choosing the "non-fragmented" sperm for the ICSI process. The developing embryo, in this case, has an improved chance of implementation and healthy child birth.

& PGS are techniques PGD which screen the embryos for any chromosomal abnormalities. Transferring "genetically normal" embryos increases the chances of implantation and reduces the risk of birth defects.





Does Your Child Complain Of Excruciating Pain During Menstrual Cycles? Then, Don't Ignore

When a child complains of unbearable pain soon after puberty, parents generally dismiss it as a normal phenomenon. But, remember the child may be suffering from juvenile cystic adenomyoma. In the absence of surgical intervention, the child could suffer from unexplainable pain with the return of every menstruation cycle.

Success Story

hen Charulatha attained **V** puberty, her parents were overjoyed. For, it meant their daughter had grown into a healthy and normal child. So, when she complained of severe stomach pain after menstruating for the first time, they did not see anything abnormal.

"This pain is quite normal. There's nothing to worry as you would get used to this sort of thing as days pass by", they consoled their daughter. Like every innocent child, Charulatha too trusted her parents' comforting words.

Suffering from excruciating pain, she rolled on the bed clutching to her abdomen, screaming and yelling as tears rolled down from her eyes.

abdomen, screaming and yelling

However, unfortunate, one should say the attainment of puberty was only the beginning of a nightmarish period in Charulatha's life. For with every passing menstruation cycle the intensity of her pain only increased.

Suffering from excruciating pain, she rolled on the bed clutching her as tears rolled down from her eyes. "The pain was such that everything I looked at was just a blur", Charulatha recalls those dark days which she tries to forget.

Her worried parents took her to a hospital in Madurai, their native,



Charulatha

subjected to an ultrasound-

based imaging of the pelvis

area. The uterus was found to be

The diagnosis also detected the

existence of a cystic mass in the uterus with mixed echogenicity. In

other words, it meant the mass had

only mixed ability to return the signal

The doctors there also noticed

during the ultrasound examination.

where

of normal size.

was



a right ovary cyst in the size of 3x3 cms. Charulatha was later referred to Womens Center where the ultrasound-based transabdominal examination was repeated.

> "We detected a cystic structure in the anterior muscular wall of the uterus, which measured to a size of 4x4 cm". says Dr. S. Vishranthi adding: "Cyst within the myometrium is a rare finding and cystic adenomyoma is one such disorder". With the

diagnosis set, the doctors at Womens Center planned to perform hysterolaparoscopy on the patient. Both the central canals were examined



hysteroscopy while the cervical canal and cavity appeared normal. Laparoscopic examination, however, revealed a symmetrically enlarged uterus with a marked globular cyst on right side anterior wall while the left ovary was normal. "We injected diluted vasopressin into the swelling",

says Dr. Vishranthi. The medical team soon aspirated about 15 ml chocololate-coloured material using a needle. Further, a transverse incision was given on



Success Story

We detected a cystic structure in the anterior muscular wall of the uterus, which measured to a size of 4x4 cm Dr. S. Vishranthi Consultant Gynaecologist and Endogynaecologist



I used to dread menstruation cycles earlier. The pain was such that everything I looked at was just a blur. Now, I don't have any fear thanks to Womens Center – Charulatha







the anterior uterine surface and with harmonic scalpel the remaining chocolatecoloured material was drained and cyst lining removed.

"There was no direct communication between the uterine cavity and the cyst. So, we didn't enter the uterine cavity. We performed right cystectomy ovarian closing the defect with v-loc sutures", Dr. Vishranthi explains. whole The procedure went

off without any complication and Charulatha was discharged the next day. Post-operatively, the patient was also given Gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) analogue for two months.

Subsequent examination of Charulatha proved that she did not experience dysmenorrhea (painful



menstruation) when the menstrual cycle returned. Says Charulatha: "I used to dread the menstruation cycle earlier. Now, I don't have any fear thanks to Womens Center."



EWS IN CAPSULE



Oral contraceptive use doesn't lead to major birth defects The use of oral

increased risk ! of major birth defects, says a study. Women who have a breakthrough pregnancy during oral contraceptive use or even (those who) intentionally become pregnant within a few months of stopping oral contraceptive use (because) any exposure is unlikely to cause her fetus to develop a major birth defect," the

contraceptive

not associated

before ! pregnancy is

an

just

with

researchers said. To examine the association between oral contraceptive use around the time of conception, and into pregnancy, with major birth defects, the team of US and Danish researchers carried out a large prospective observational study. Findings from the study revealed no increased risk of any major birth defect associated with oral contraceptive exposure.

Insulin-producing cells grown in lab



Scientists have successfully converted human skin cells into functional pancreatic cells, a breakthrough that may lead to a personalised cell therapy for diabetics, ending the need for insulin jabs. The new cells produced insulin in response to changes in glucose levels, and when transplanted into mice, protected the animals from developing diabetes researchers said. The study will ! allow scientists to scale up pancreatic cell production and manufacture trillions of the target cells in a controlled manner.

Womens Center: Championing he cause of women's health

There cannot be a healthy family or Womens Center which caters exclusively a society in the absence of healthy women. As a matter of fact, the health of a woman is her total well-being.

During the last decade, we have witnessed renewed political commitment and sustained awareness campaigns stressing the importance of women's health.

However, two individuals, Dr. K.S. Govindarajan and Dr. Mirudhubashini Govindarajan thought about women's health from a holistic point of view some 30 years back.

It was this thought that resulted in the conception and implementation of

WOMENS CENTER OFFERS

- Comprehensive Infertility Sperm Banking
 - Evaluation including SCSA® Embryo Freezing & Frozen Analysis
- Testicular Sperm Extraction (TESE)
- Intra-Uterine Insemination
- In-Vitro Fertilisation (IVF) >> Intra Cytoplasmic Sperm
- Injection (ICSI)
- Assisted Hatching

A FEW OTHER SPECIALTIES

- Adolescent Care
- High-risk Pregnancy Care
- New-born Care
- Dedicated NICU
- Cancer Screening

facilities and other required resources to the comprehensive healthcare needs including the most sophisticated of women. medical equipment, it is no wonder Womens Center is able to provide

There are various ways to support the welfare of women and ensure their social and cultural uplift. Providing total healthcare is one such.

Womens Center which has completed 33 years of its yeomen services to women in the society today is an institution of one-of-its-kind in the country.

A pioneer in women's health with many firsts to its credit, Womens Center has grown into a large institution of international repute.

Equipped with infrastructural

Embryo Transfers

Blastocyst Culture &

Donor Insemination

Transfer

▶ Egg Donation

Surrogacy

Menopause

Screening

Management

>> Comprehensive Health

MRgFUS-guided fibroids &

adenomyosis management

Embryo Donation

The first infertility center in the country to obtain ISO 9001-2008 certification for its test tube laboratory services Womens Center today is manned by over 100 medical

Coimbatore.

and paramedical experts. Besides reaching total healthcare solutions to women, the center is also quided by the philosophy of economic and social empowerment of women.

healthcare to its patients on par with

to international quality and best

medical administrative practices in

the delivery of its specialised services.

women's healthcare solutions, the

center is present in Chennai, Salem,

Tiruchirappalli and Tuticorin besides

Being the undisputed leader in

Womens Center is committed

international standards.

You're Welcome

It has been in the forefront of empowering women, particularly those living in the rural areas, by giving them access to basic healthcare.

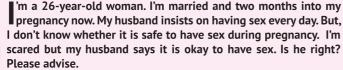
Keeping this in mind, Womens Center recruits volunteers from the villages for a week-long maternal and child welfare training course.

Supported by philanthropic agencies and local administration Womens Center imparts training to women from rural villages by taking care of all the expenses involved.

For, as Dr. Govindarajan, managing director, Womens Center puts it educating women not only leads to the education of the entire family but also improves the quality of the entire social fabric.







Ms.KMP. Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, Coimbatore



Hello Doctor

I'm a 26-year-old unmarried ewoman. I'm good looking, fair and healthy with a proper BMI. But, my problem is that my breasts too small. The problem becomes noticeable, when I wear tight outfits. My friends tease me and say that no man would fall in love with me or marry me because my breasts are not large. I've been taking healthy food but it has not

helped in the enlargement of the breasts. Is there anyway, I can get my breast enlarged? If yes where should I visit and what would be the financial impact?

> Ms.ATJ, Tatabad, Coimbatore



Clinical Director Dr. Mirudhubashini Govindarajan, FRCS - Canada

nswer

Sexual activity is not forbidden during pregnancy. However, your comfort level will have to be taken into consideration. It can give rise to uterine contractions in some women. There may be a medical advice to avoid it in situations such as threatened abortion, bleeding, preterm labour, etc.



"m a 45-year-old married woman. I've two grown up sons. For the last few months, I have been experiencing excruciating stomach pain almost every day. I've been taking pain killers but so far I have not consulted any doctor. My periods are irregular and the intensity of the pain increases during menstruation period. Should I consult a doctor? Please advise.

> Ms.NT, Vadapalani, Chennai

It is absolutely necessary for you to have a medical consultation nswep and necessary investigation. "Excruciating pain" should not be considered as normal even if it is associated with your periods. Yearly examinations should be done for all menopausal women - this becomes mandatory if you are symptomatic.

Large breasts need not be considered as a marker for either good looks or normal life. Smaller nswep breasts are absolutely compatible with normal sexual life and normal breast feeding later. You just have to choose the right attire to accentuate your positive features.

> 'm a 49-year-old married woman with three grown-up children. Of late, my periods have become irregular. For the last few months, I have been going through a lot of mental trauma during periods. I feel lonely and get easily angry and detest the presence of my husband. I don't know how to explain this situation. But, I become normal once the menstrua-

tion period ends. Am I suffering from some psychological problems? Please help with an appropriate reply since my relationship with my husband has come under strains like never before.

Ms.BSL,

Begumpet, Hyderabad

You are probably going through what is generally called a "mid-life crisis." It is usually secondary to nswep hormonal changes and other changes in your life such as medical problems, children leaving home, change in the social situations, etc. It is best to have a check up at Institutions that deal with such

problems - menopause clinics. The Management may consist of appropriate medications, if necessary, exercises, diet counseling and professional emotional counseling, etc.

ISWE

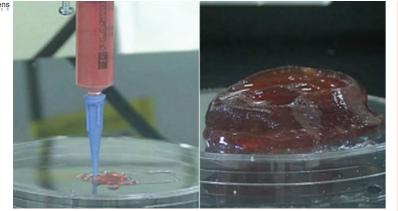
'm a 24-year-old IT professional. I'm single now and expecting to get married next A lot of trendy habyear. I've been smok- its that we pick up ing about 10 cigarettes at a certain stage a day for the last two of our life may turn out to be our nightyears. Occasionally, I also drink. My friends mare in the future. It is absolutely imtell me that smoking portant for you to

and drinking can have an adverse effect on help? Please help.

the foetus when I get pregnant. Is it true? quit smoking entirely, not only for the sake of a future pregnancy, but for Would reducing the number of cigarettes your own future well-being. Alcohol during pregnancy can also produce abnormalities called "Foetal Alcohol Syndrome" and is better to be avoided. Ms. AGK, But again, it is just not a future pregnancy, but the adverse effect on you that Bangalore, you should be aware of.

2 WomensCenterNews | February 2016





Printing your nose out!

Cartilage growing to rebuild body parts 'within three years' South West Wales

Datients needing surgery to reconstruct body parts such as noses and ears could soon have treatment using cartilage which has been grown in a lab.

The process involves growing someone's cells in an incubator and then mixing them with a liquid which is 3D printed into the jellylike shape needed.

It is then put back in an incubator to grow again until it is ready.

Researchers in Swansea hope to be among the first in the world to start using it on humans within three years.

"In simple terms, we're trying to grow new tissue using human cells," said Prof Iain Whitaker, consultant plastic surgeon at the Welsh Centre for Burns and Plastic Surgery at Morriston Hospital.

"We're trying to print biological structures using human cells, and provide the right environment and the right timing so it can grow into tissue that we can eventually put into a human.

"It would be to reconstruct lost body parts such as part of the nose or the ear and ultimately large body parts including bone, muscle and vessels."

The team of surgeons is working with scientists and engineers who have built a 3D printer specifically for this work.

"The good news in the future is, if our research is successful, within two months you'd be able to recreate a body part which was not there without having to resort to taking it from another part of the body which would cause another defect or scar elsewhere," he added.

How the process works

Cells are taken from a tiny sample of cartilage during the initial operation and grown in an incubator over several weeks

The shape of the missing body part is scanned and fed into a computer

It is then 3D printed using a special liquid formula combined with the live cells to form the jelly-like structure

Reagents are added to strengthen the structure

It is put into an incubator with a flow of nutrients to supply the cells with food so they can grow and produce their own cartilage

The structure will then be tested to see if it is strong enough to be eventually implanted into patients



"Doctors at a hospital in Brooklyn, New York have gone on strike. Hospital officials say they find out will what the Doctors' demands are as soon as they can get a pharmacist over there to read the picket signs!"



Doctor: Nurse, how is that little girl doing who swallowed ten quarters last night? Nurse: No change yet.

The seven-year old girl told her mom, "A boy in my class asked me to play doctor."

"Oh, dear," the mother nervously sighed. "What happened, honey?" "Nothing, he made me wait 45 minutes and then double-billed the insurance company."



WOMENS CENTER

Academic Calendar - 2016



Womens Center Certified Training Courses

OGSI certified courses	;
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			Infertility	Endoscopy	Colposed
Hysteroscopy Duration - 3 days	IUI Duration - 3 days	Colposcopy Duration - 3 days	Duration : 7 days _(Basic) 14 days _(Advanced)	Duration : 7 days _(Basic) 14 days _(Advanced)	Duration : 2 days _(Basic) 3 days _(Advanced)
Apr - 21, 22, 23 Jun - 23, 24, 25	Jan - 21, 22, 23 Mar - 17, 18, 19	Feb - 15, 16, 17 Apr - 18, 19, 20	2 days (IUI & Stimulation protocol) Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov 3rd Week	Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec 3rd Week	Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, C 3rd Week
Aug - 18, 19, 20 Oct - 20, 21, 22	May - 19, 20, 21 Jul - 21, 22, 23	Jun - 20, 21, 22 Aug - 16, 17, 18	ISAR Embryology Training Courses		
Dec - 15, 16, 17	Sep - 22, 23, 24 Nov - 17, 18, 19	Oct - 17, 18, 19 Dec - 12, 13, 14	Embryologists	IVF Te	chnologist

yologists Duration - 12 months Eligibility - Science Post Graduates/ Medical Graduates

F

IVF Technologists Duration - 8 months Eligibility - Science Graduates

Colposcopy

Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec

Contact Ms. Ammu for dates, availablity & booking

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Dr. MGR Medical University Fellowship Courses

Reproductive Medicine Duration - 2 years

Eligibility - MS/MD/DNB (OG)

Duration - 2 years Eligibility - MS/MD/DNB (OG)

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Maternal Fetal Medicine

Duration - 1 year

Neonatal Intensive Care

Eligibility - MS/MD/DNB (Paed)

Duration - 1 year Eligibility - MS/MD/DNB (OG)

Endo - Gynecology



We take care of your health like a mother does!

It's not just about infertility . We take care of every conceivable health issues pertaining to women. We've the best infrastructure, best doctors. We give you personal care. All done with an infectious smile!



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Womens

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