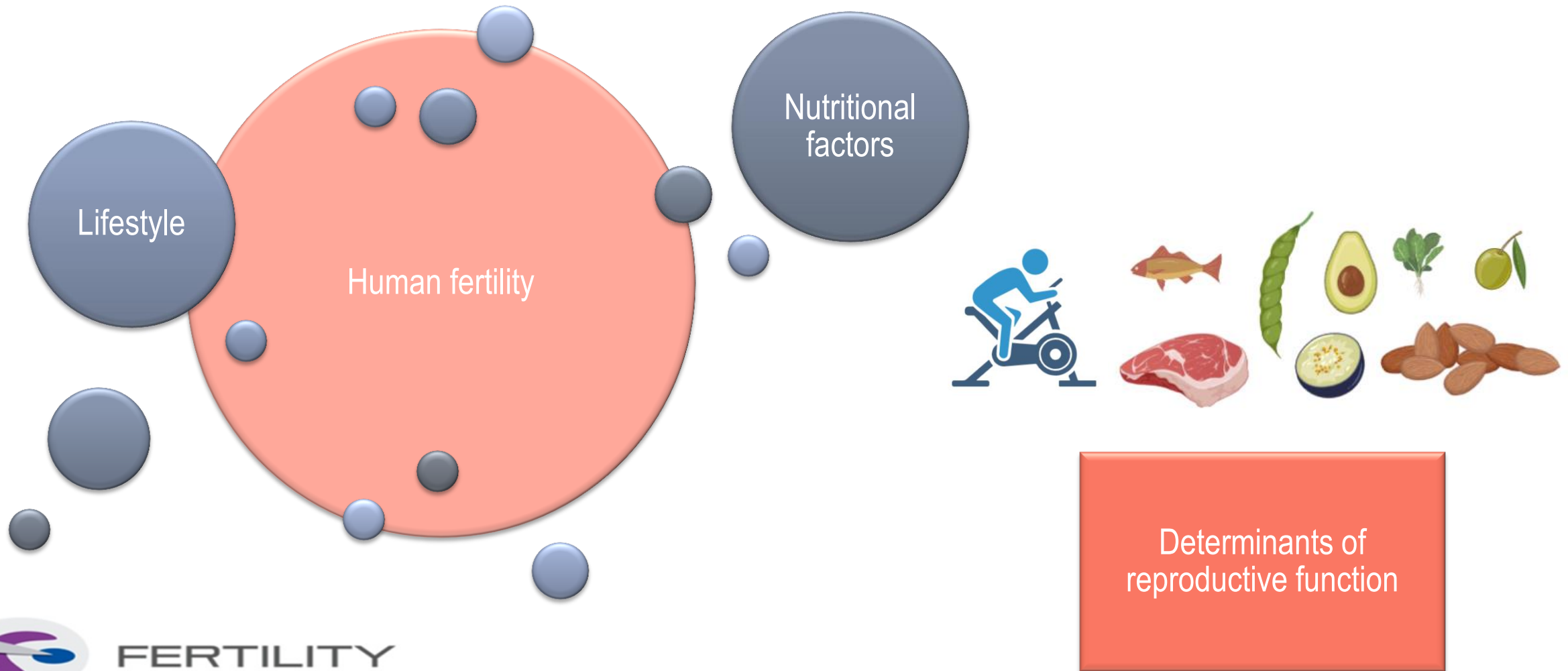


## **REDUCED OOCYTE QUALITY JUSTIFIES POOR ICSI OUTCOMES AMONG SMOKERS AND SUGAR CONSUMERS**

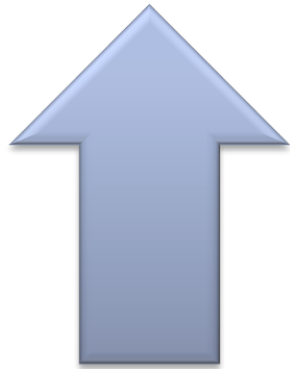
Gabriela Halpern <sup>1</sup>, Amanda Setti <sup>1,2</sup>, Daniela Paes de Almeida Ferreira Braga <sup>1,2</sup>,  
Assumpto Iaconelli Jr. <sup>1,2</sup>, Edson Borges Jr. <sup>1,2</sup>

# INTRODUCTION

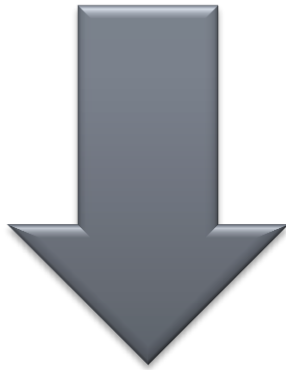


# INTRODUCTION

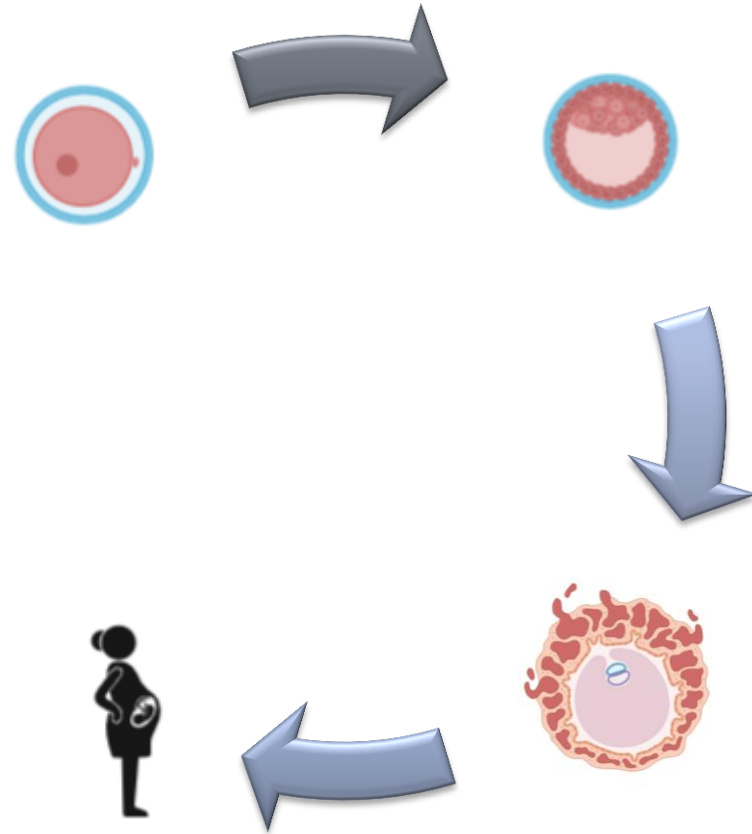
Hypothesis



Oocyte  
dimorphisms



Reproductive  
outcomes



FERTILITY

## OBJECTIVE

To investigate the impact of maternal lifestyle factors and nutritional habits on oocyte morphology and on the outcomes of ICSI cycles

# MATERIAL AND METHODS

Prospective  
cohort study

Private-university affiliated IVF center

561 couples, 1st ICSI cycle

Jan/2015 – Dec/2018

D5 ET

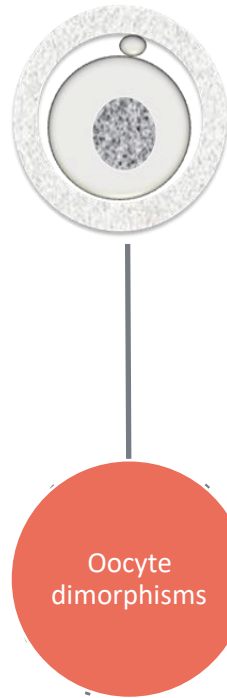
> 4 and ≤ 20 retrieved oocytes

> 5 x 10<sup>6</sup> spermatozoa / mL

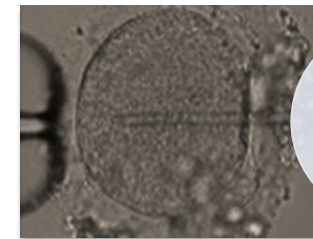
## Questionnaire

- Smoking habit
- Alcoholic beverages
- Refined sugar
- Artificial sweetener
- Soft drinks
- Legumes and vegetables
- Fruits
- Milk and dairy
- White and red meats
- Exercise frequency

# MATERIAL AND METHODS



- Centrally located cytoplasmic granulation (CLCG)
- Dark cytoplasm (DC)
- Vacuoles
- Smooth endoplasmic reticulum (SER)
- Large perivitelline space (PVS)
- PVS granularity
- Fragmented polar body (PB)
- Zona pellucida (ZP) abnormalities
- Shape abnormalities
- Membrane resistance (MR) abnormalities



non-  
resistant  
membrane



resistant  
membrane

# MATERIAL AND METHODS

Data analysis

Multivariate regression analysis, adjusted for maternal age and BMI

Lifestyle and nutritional factors: independent variables

Incidence of oocyte dimorphisms and ICSI outcomes: dependent variables



# RESULTS - Influence of lifestyle and nutrition on the incidence of oocyte dimorphisms

|                        | Centrally located cytoplasmic granulation (CLCG) | Dark cytoplasm (DC)                     | Vacuole                                   | Smooth endoplasmic reticulum (SER)       | Perivitelline space (PVS) granularity    | Fragmented polar body (PB)               | Zona pellucida (ZP)                        | Shape                                    | Membrane                                  |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Cigarette smoking      | B: 41.2<br>CI: -13.1 – 95.5<br>p: 0.137          | B: 2.1<br>CI: 1.0 – 3.3<br>p<0.001      | B: 10.5<br>CI: -23.7 – 44.7<br>p: 0.548   | B: 14.0<br>CI: 6.3 – 21.7<br>p<0.001     | B: -15.8<br>CI: -42.4 – 10.9<br>p: 0.247 | B: 32.4<br>CI: 7.9 – 57.0<br>p: 0.011    | B: 14.9<br>CI: 3.9 – 25.9<br>p: 0.009      | B: 14.2<br>CI: 4.6 – 23.8<br>p: 0.004    | B: 28.3<br>CI: 9.9 – 46.6<br>p: 0.02      |
| Alcoholic beverages    | B: 8.84<br>CI: -12.2 – 29.8<br>p: 0.409          | B: 2.14<br>CI: 1.3 – 3.0<br>p<0.001     | B: -6.6<br>CI: -19.3 – 6.0<br>p: 0.302    | B: 12.6<br>CI: 0.6 – 25.8<br>p: 0.040    | B: 5.2<br>CI: -4.7 – 15.1<br>p: 0.307    | B: 36.2<br>CI: 12.7 – 59.7<br>p: 0.003   | B: 8.4<br>CI: 4.5 – 12.3<br>p<0.001        | B: 1.0<br>CI: -3.0 – 5.0<br>p: 0.635     | B: 0.6<br>CI: -2.1 – 3.2<br>p: 0.685      |
| Refined sugar          | B: 19.5<br>CI: 0.5 – 38.4<br>p: 0.044            | B: 1.5<br>CI: 0.4 – 2.6<br>p: 0.008     | B: -38.6<br>CI: -94.6 – 17.4<br>p: 0.177  | B: -3.4<br>CI: -11.8 – 4.9<br>p: 0.420   | B: 21.6<br>CI: 2.6 – 40.6<br>p: 0.027    | B: 72.3<br>CI: 44.6 – 100.0<br>p<0.001   | B: 3.7<br>CI: -10.9 – 18.3<br>p: 0.622     | B: 1.5<br>CI: -0.3 – 3.3<br>p: 0.105     | B: -1.7<br>CI: -4.2 – 0.8<br>p: 0.193     |
| Artificial sweetener   | B: 19.7<br>CI: 4.7 – 34.7<br>p: 0.010            | B: 4.5<br>CI: 2.7 – 6.3<br>p<0.001      | B: 1.6<br>CI: -76.1 – 79.3<br>p: 0.968    | B: 22.1<br>CI: -35.9 – 80.1<br>p: 0.455  | B: 44.0<br>CI: 3.8 – 84.2<br>p: 0.032    | B: 89.1<br>CI: 30.6 – 147.6<br>p: 0.003  | B: -4.9<br>CI: -35.8 – 25.9<br>p: 0.754    | B: 1.3<br>CI: 0.3 – 2.6<br>p: 0.044      | B: 21.6<br>CI: 14.1 – 29.1<br>p<0.001     |
| Milk and dairy         | B: -29.3<br>CI: -80.6 – 21.9<br>p: 0.262         | B: -0.8<br>CI: -3.2 – 1.6<br>p: 0.504   | B: 19.1<br>CI: -73.1 – 111.3<br>p: 0.685  | B: 5.2<br>CI: -5.5 – 15.9<br>p: 0.341    | B: 40.2<br>CI: -20.4 – 100.8<br>p: 0.194 | B: -26.4<br>CI: -51.2 – -1.5<br>p: 0.038 | B: -24.4<br>CI: -48.5 – -0.328<br>p: 0.047 | B: -12.4<br>CI: -15.4 – -9.4<br>p: 0.004 | B: -5.3<br>CI: -10.2 – -0.5<br>p: 0.03    |
| Legumes and vegetables | B: -79.4<br>CI: -132.4 – -26.4<br>p: 0.003       | B: -2.8<br>CI: -4.4 – -1.2<br>p: 0.001  | B: -76.3<br>CI: -162.9 – -0.2<br>p: 0.047 | B: -24.0<br>CI: -38.2 – -9.8<br>p: 0.001 | B: -21.6<br>CI: -78.5 – 35.3<br>p: 0.457 | B: 11.3<br>CI: -31.5 – 54.1<br>p: 0.605  | B: 14.4<br>CI: -8.1 – 37.0<br>p: 0.210     | B: 2.0<br>CI: -1.2 – 5.2<br>p: 0.220     | B: -26.2<br>CI: -42.2 – -10.1<br>p: 0.001 |
| Fish                   | B: -3.6<br>CI: -32.2 – 25.0<br>p: 0.806          | B: -0.7<br>CI: -4.6 – -3.2<br>p: 0.741  | B: 37.5<br>CI: -22.2 – 97.1<br>p: 0.218   | B: 4.6<br>CI: -2.6 – 11.8<br>p: 0.215    | B: -16.7<br>CI: -55.9 – 22.5<br>p: 0.404 | B: -11.8<br>CI: -45.2 – 21.6<br>p: 0.489 | B: -4.8<br>CI: -20.4 – 10.7<br>p: 0.544    | B: -0.7<br>CI: -2.7 – 1.2<br>p: 0.447    | B: -8.7<br>CI: -16.4 – -1.0<br>p: 0.027   |
| Physical activity      | B: -0.1<br>CI: -44.8 – 44.6<br>p: 0.996          | B: -3.5<br>CI: -4.8 – -2.1<br>p: <0.001 | B: -24.2<br>CI: -95.2 – 46.7<br>p: 0.504  | B: 6.0<br>CI: -5.5 – 17.4<br>p: 0.306    | B: 9.4<br>CI: -37.2 – 56.0<br>p: 0.693   | B: -35.2<br>CI: -70.4 – -0.1<br>p: 0.049 | B: 3.9<br>CI: -14.6 – 22.4<br>p: 0.680     | B: 1.9<br>CI: -4.1 – 7.9<br>p: 0.530     | B: 9.3<br>CI: -4.7 – 23.4<br>p: 0.194     |

# RESULTS

**Comparison of oocyte dimorphisms' incidence amongst non-smoker and smokers, according to self-reported frequency**

| Outcomes              | Smoking habit           |                                |                                          |                                     | p-value |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
|                       | Non-smoker (n= 407 )    | Up to 5 cigarettes/day (n= 66) | Between 5 and 10 cigarettes/day (n= 50 ) | More than 10 cigarettes/day (n= 38) |         |
| <b>DC</b>             | 0.0 ± 0.0 <sup>a</sup>  | 0.0 ± 0.0 <sup>a</sup>         | 1.5 ± 0.1 <sup>b</sup>                   | 2.5 ± 0.2 <sup>c</sup>              | <0.001  |
| <b>Fragmented PB</b>  | 14.4 ± 0.8 <sup>a</sup> | 28.4 ± 0.3 <sup>b</sup>        | 34.1 ± 1.0 <sup>c</sup>                  | 50.0 ± 7.1 <sup>c</sup>             | <0.001  |
| <b>ZP abnormality</b> | 0.0 ± 0.0 <sup>a</sup>  | 4.4 ± 0.1 <sup>b</sup>         | 3.9 ± 0.3 <sup>b</sup>                   | 9.7 ± 0.4 <sup>c</sup>              | <0.001  |
| <b>MR abnormality</b> | 0.0 ± 0.0 <sup>a</sup>  | 1.3 ± 0.2 <sup>b</sup>         | 2.1 ± 0.2 <sup>c</sup>                   | 3.5 ± 0.1 <sup>d</sup>              | <0.001  |

# RESULTS

**Comparison of oocyte dimorphisms' incidence amongst refined sugar's non-consumers and consumers, according to self-reported frequency**

| Outcomes             | Refined sugar consumption |                         |                                 |                           | p-value |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|
|                      | Non-consumer (n= 77)      | Up to 2x/week (n= 236)  | Between 3x and 6x/week (n= 47 ) | More than 6x/week (n=201) |         |
| <b>CLCG</b>          | 0.0 ± 0.0 <sup>a</sup>    | 1.9 ± 0.2 <sup>b</sup>  | 7.5 ± 0.2 <sup>c</sup>          | 8.6 ± 0.2 <sup>d</sup>    | <0.001  |
| <b>DC</b>            | 0.0 ± 0.0 <sup>a</sup>    | 0.6 ± 0.1 <sup>b</sup>  | 2.9 ± 0.1 <sup>c</sup>          | 2.9 ± 0.4 <sup>c</sup>    | <0.001  |
| <b>Fragmented PB</b> | 21.9 ± 0.7 <sup>a</sup>   | 27.1 ± 0.5 <sup>b</sup> | 31.1 ± 0.4 <sup>c</sup>         | 33.9 ± 1.9 <sup>c</sup>   | <0.001  |

# RESULTS - Influence of lifestyle and nutrition on the outcomes of ICSI

| Predictor variables    | Retrieved oocytes                        | Mature oocyte rate                       | Fertilization rate                       | Blastocyst development                     | High-quality blastocysts                 | Implantation rate                       | Pregnancy rate                          | Miscarriage rate                         |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Cigarette smoking      | B: -0.7<br>CI: -1.1 - -0.3<br>p<0.001    | B: 3.9<br>CI: -19.1 – 27.0<br>p: 0.734   | B: -11.8<br>CI: -23.2 - -0.3<br>p: 0.044 | B: -79.8<br>CI: -141.0 - -18.6<br>p: 0.011 | B: -31.0<br>CI: -77.6 – -15.6<br>p<0.001 | B: -0.8<br>CI: -1.1 - -0.5<br>p<0.001   | OR: 0.8<br>CI: 0.7 – 0.9<br>p: 0.007    | OR: 2.5<br>CI: 1.8 – 5.6<br>p: 0.013     |
| Alcoholic beverages    | B: -1.5<br>CI: -2.0 - -1.2<br>p<0.001    | B: -1.1<br>CI: -9.3 – 7.0<br>p: 0.783    | B: -2.5<br>CI: -11.1 – 6.1<br>p: 0.575   | B: 2.7<br>CI: -5.8 – 11.1<br>p: 0.536      | B: -3.7<br>CI: -17.9 – 10.4<br>p: 0.605  | B: -0.2<br>CI: -0.2 - -0.1<br>p<0.001   | OR: 0.5<br>CI: 0.09 – 3.1<br>p: 0.484   | OR: 1.8<br>CI: 0.3 – 9.5<br>p: 0.479     |
| Refined sugar          | B: -9.0<br>CI: -12.8 - -5.3<br>p<0.001   | B: -7.2<br>CI: -18.6 – 4.2<br>p: 0.215   | B: -25.7<br>CI: -46.0 - -5.3<br>p: 0.013 | B: -32.9<br>CI: -63.5 - -2.4<br>p: 0.035   | B: -17.8<br>CI: -58.1 – 22.5<br>p: 0.387 | B: -0.9<br>CI: -1.0 - -0.8<br>p<0.001   | OR: 0.07<br>CI: 0.006 - 0.9<br>p: 0.045 | OR: 2.0<br>CI: 0.1 – 36.3<br>p: 0.639    |
| Artificial sweetener   | B: -22.7<br>CI: -29.2 - -16.2<br>p<0.001 | B: -0.2<br>CI: -1.4 – 0.9<br>p: 0.698    | B: -36.2<br>CI: -70.2 - -2.2<br>p: 0.037 | B: 8.7<br>CI: -3.6 – 21.2<br>p: 0.167      | B: -12.7<br>CI: -56.3 – 30.9<br>p: 0.567 | B: -0.3<br>CI: -0.4 - -0.1<br>p<0.001   | OR: 0.6<br>CI: 0.2 – 1.5<br>p: 0.252    | OR: 17.1<br>CI: 0.2 – 1216.4<br>p: 0.191 |
| Fruits                 | B: 7.5<br>CI: 2.9 – 12.1<br>p: 0.001     | B: -17.7<br>CI: -56.9 – 21.5<br>p: 0.375 | B: -3.2<br>CI: -30.4 – 24.0<br>p: 0.818  | B: -20.7<br>CI: -65.3 – 23.8<br>p: 0.362   | B: -14.7<br>CI: -47.1 – 17.6<br>p: 0.372 | B: -1.2<br>CI: -17.0 – 14.6<br>p: 0.885 | OR: 0.8<br>CI: 0.5 – 1.4<br>p: 0.507    | OR: 0.2<br>CI: 0.04 – 1.5<br>p: 0.123    |
| Legumes and vegetables | B: 11.8<br>CI: 5.4 – 18.1<br>p<0.001     | B: 56.4<br>CI: 14.0 – 98.7<br>p: 0.009   | B: 9.2<br>CI: -25.1 – 43.6<br>p: 0.598   | B: 27.6<br>CI: -22.1 – 77.3<br>p: 0.277    | B: 18.6<br>CI: -19.3 – 56.5<br>p: 0.336  | B: 12.4<br>CI: 2.7 – 22.1<br>p: 0.013   | OR: 2.4<br>CI: 1.1 – 5.2<br>p: 0.028    | OR: 0.7<br>CI: 0.2 – 1.8<br>p: 0.423     |
| Physical activity      | B: 10.2<br>CI: 5.4 – 15.0<br>p<0.001     | B: -5.1<br>CI: -39.1 – 28.8<br>p: 0.767  | B: 8.5<br>CI: -16.7 – 33.7<br>p: 0.510   | B: 44.03<br>CI: 25.89 - -6.7<br>p: 0.089   | B: 18.2<br>CI: -1.1 – 37.5<br>p: 0.064   | B: 0.03<br>CI: -0.07 – 0.1<br>p: 0.528  | OR: 1.9<br>CI: 0.6 – 5.9<br>p: 0.282    | OR: 1.1<br>CI: 0.1 – 9.9<br>p: 0.916     |

# RESULTS

## Comparison of ICSI outcomes amongst non-smoker and smokers, according to self-reported frequency

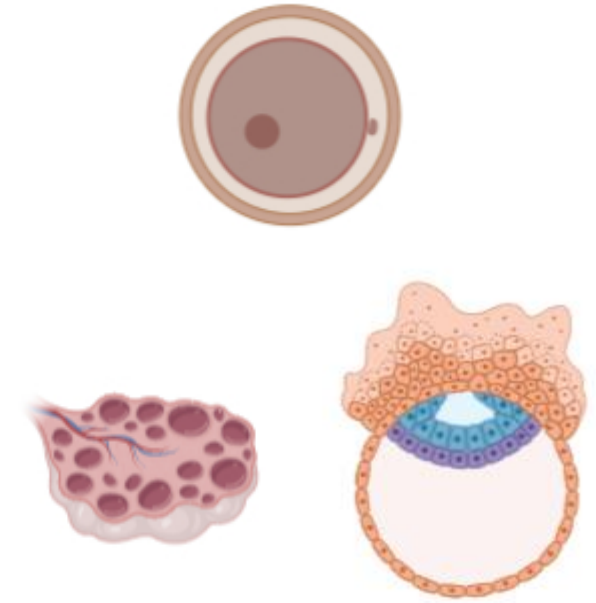
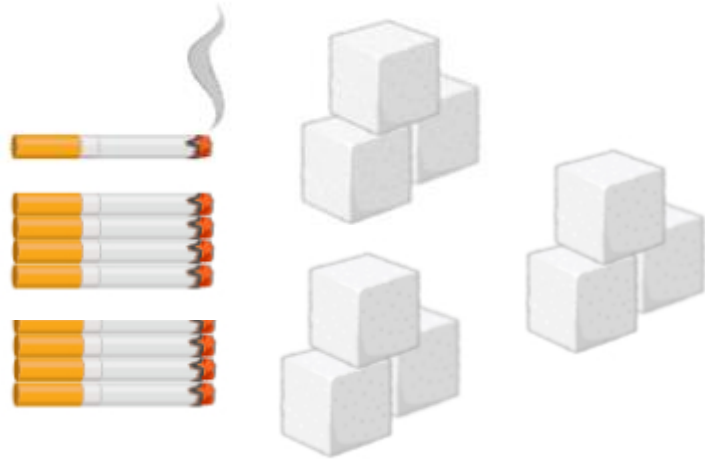
| Outcomes                  | Smoking habit           |                                |                                          |                                     | p-value |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
|                           | Non-smoker (n= 407 )    | Up to 5 cigarettes/day (n= 66) | Between 5 and 10 cigarettes/day (n= 50 ) | More than 10 cigarettes/day (n= 38) |         |
| <b>Fertilization rate</b> | 83.7 ± 1.9 <sup>a</sup> | 74.6 ± 0.5 <sup>b</sup>        | 71.5 ± 1.4 <sup>b</sup>                  | 60.0 ± 0.7 <sup>c</sup>             | <0.001  |
| <b>Implantation rate</b>  | 33.3 ± 3.3 <sup>a</sup> | 20.1 ± 0.2 <sup>b</sup>        | 17.5 ± 0.5 <sup>c</sup>                  | 15.1 ± 0.6 <sup>d</sup>             | <0.001  |

# RESULTS

**Comparison of ICSI outcomes amongst refined sugar's non-consumers and consumers, according to self-reported frequency**

| Outcomes                  | Refined sugar consumption |                         |                                 |                           | p-value |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|
|                           | Non-consumer (n= 77)      | Up to 2x/week (n= 236)  | Between 3x and 6x/week (n= 47 ) | More than 6x/week (n=201) |         |
| <b>Fertilization rate</b> | 80.4 ± 1.4 <sup>a</sup>   | 78.3 ± 0.8 <sup>a</sup> | 71.9 ± 3.0 <sup>b</sup>         | 61.1 ± 0.7 <sup>b</sup>   | <0.001  |
| <b>Implantation rate</b>  | 25.7 ± 0.6 <sup>a</sup>   | 18.7 ± 0.3 <sup>b</sup> | 20.0 ± 1.0 <sup>b</sup>         | 15.3 ± 0.3 <sup>c</sup>   | <0.001  |

# COMMENTS



Exposed x Non-exposed

# COMMENTS

## Background – Maternal smoking habit

Human Reproduction Update, Vol.15, No.1 pp. 31–44, 2009  
Advanced Access publication on October 15, 2008 doi:10.1093/humupd/dmn046

human  
reproduction  
update

### Smoking and infertility: a committee opinion

#### Effects of cigarette s clinical outcomes of reproduction: a meta-analysis

Practice Committee of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine  
American Society for Reproductive Medicine, Birmingham, Alabama

A.L. Waylen<sup>1,6</sup>, M. Metwally<sup>2</sup>, G.L. Jones<sup>3</sup>, A.J. Wilkinson<sup>4</sup>,  
and W.L. Ledger<sup>5</sup>

Meta-analysis of 21 studies  
45% ↓CPR, LBR, ↑MR

Smoking habit should be discouraged;

Clinicians should provide support to ease smoking cessation.

Earlier onset of menopause, one year delay in time to pregnancy,  
60% increase in the odds of female infertility

# COMMENTS

## Background – Maternal nutrition

 **frontiers**  
in Public Health

MINI REVIEW  
published: 31 July 2018  
doi: 10.3389/fpubh.2018.00211



### **The Influence of Diet on Fertility and the Implications for Public Health Nutrition in the United States**



## Background – Maternal nutrition

Sun *et al. Reproductive Biology and Endocrinology* (2019) 17:73  
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12958-019-0520-9>

Reproductive Biology  
and Endocrinology

### RESEARCH

### Open Access

## Mediterranean diet improves embryo yield in IVF: a prospective cohort study



Hongmei Sun<sup>†</sup>, Yihua Lin<sup>†</sup>, Dongxia Lin, Change Zou, Xiangli Zou, Lan Fu, Fanhua Meng and Weiping Qian<sup>\*</sup>



# COMMENTS

## Background – Maternal nutrition

Molecular Human Reproduction  
Advanced Access publication

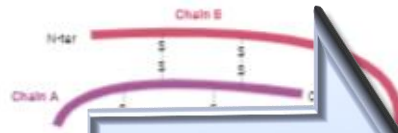
MHR

### Telomere length as a marker of cellular ageing is associated with prevalence and progression of metabolic syndrome

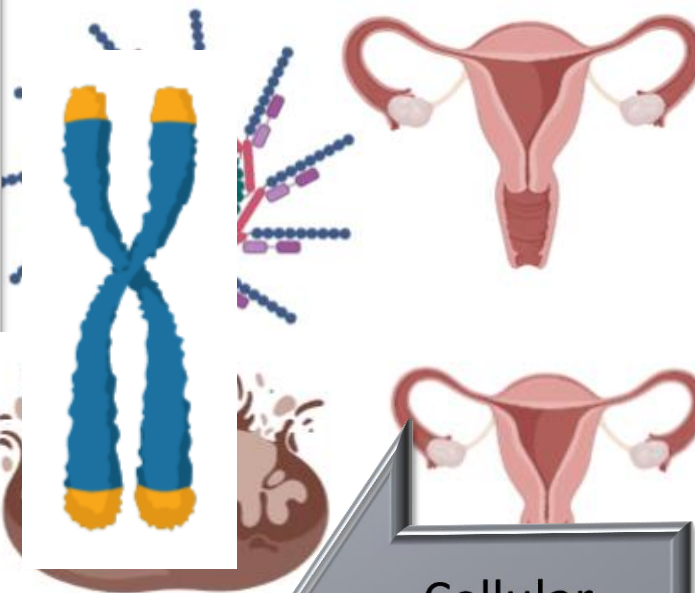
Dóra Révész, MSc, Yuri Milaneschi, PhD, Josine E. V. Banda, PhD, Brenda W.J.H. Penninx, PhD

Robyn A. North<sup>4</sup>, Lesley M.E. McCowan<sup>5</sup>, and Claire T. Roberge<sup>6</sup> on behalf of the SCOPE Consortium

ORIGINAL ARTICLE  
Endocrine Research



Shortening  
of telomeres



Cellular  
ageing

### Maternal Glucose Concentration Influences Fetal Growth, Gestation, and Pregnancy Complications

Theresa O. Scholl,<sup>1</sup> MaryFran Sowers,<sup>2</sup> Xinhua Chen,<sup>1</sup> and Carine Lenders<sup>3</sup>

Vol. 154, No. 6  
Printed in U.S.A.

FERTILITY

# COMMENTS

## Background – Maternal nutrition



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Article

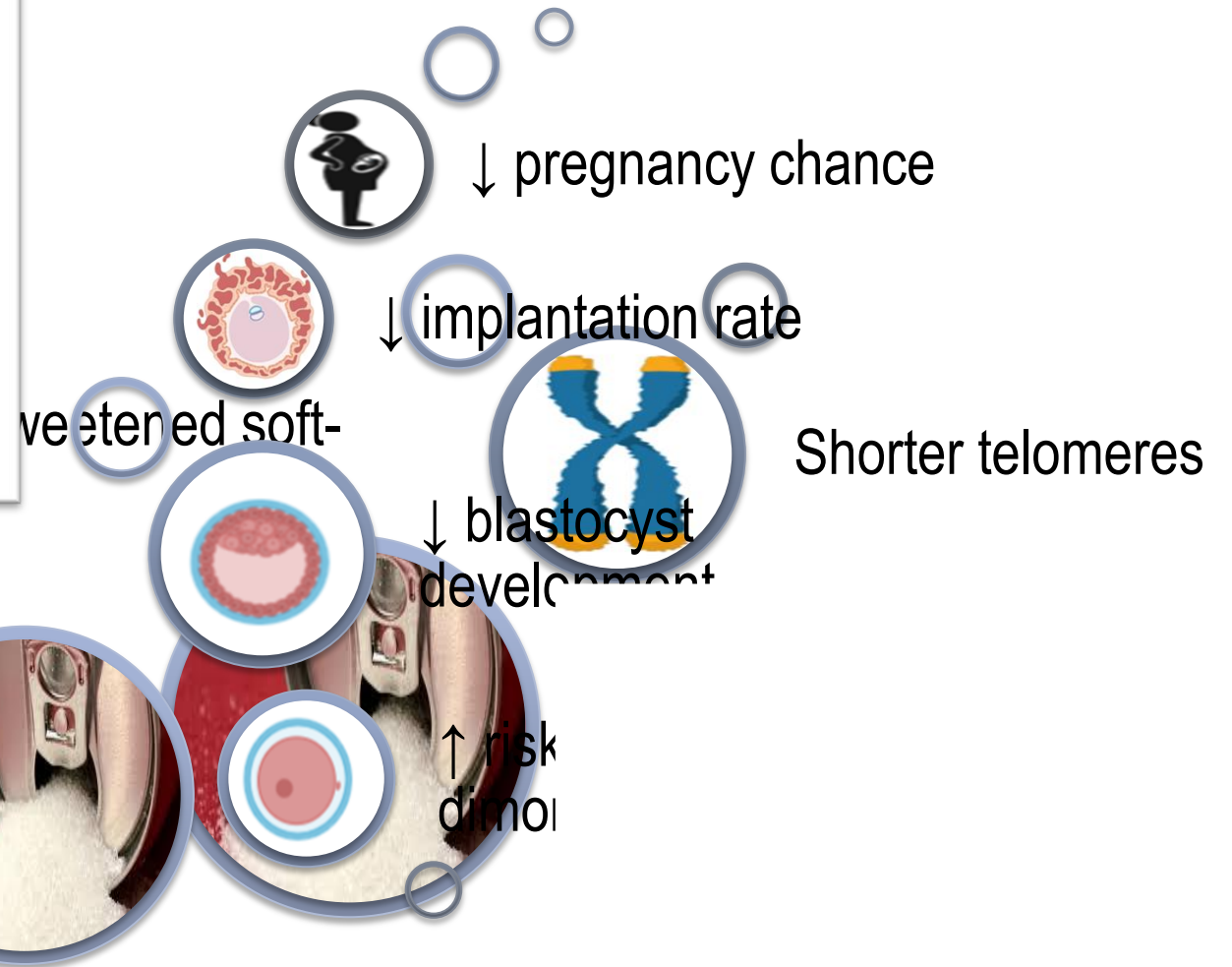
**Is there an association between artificial sweetener consumption and assisted reproduction outcomes?**

Amanda Souza Setti <sup>a,b</sup>, Daniela Paes de Almeida Ferreira Braga <sup>a,b</sup>, Gabriela Halpern <sup>a</sup>, Rita de Cássia S Figueira <sup>a</sup>, Assumpto Iaconelli Jr <sup>a</sup>, Edson Borges Jr <sup>a,b,\*</sup>

**Telomeres and human reproduction**

Keri Horan Kalmbach, M.S.,<sup>a</sup> Danielle Mota Fontes Antunes, M.S.,<sup>a,b</sup> Roberta Caetano Dracxler, M.D.,<sup>a,c</sup> Taylor Warner Knier, B.A.,<sup>a</sup> Michelle Louise Seth-Smith, B.S.,<sup>a</sup> Fang Wang, Ph.D.,<sup>a</sup> Lin Liu, Ph.D.,<sup>d</sup> and David Lawrence Keefe, M.D.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, New York University, Langone Medical Center, New York City, New York; <sup>b</sup> Graduate Program in Pathology, Fluminense Federal University, Rio de Janeiro, and CAPES Foundation, Ministry of Education of Brazil, Brasília, Brazil; <sup>c</sup> São Paulo University, São Paulo, Brazil; and <sup>d</sup> College of Life Sciences, Nankai University, Tianjin, People's Republic of China



# COMMENTS

Strengths and limitations

- Novelty
- Casuistic

# CONCLUSION

Maternal lifestyle factors and nutritional habits, mainly cigarette smoking and the consumption of refined sugar, appear to reduce oocyte quality and the outcomes of ICSI