



Università degli Studi di Padova  
Dipartimento di Scienze Ginecologiche e della Riproduzione Umana  
Scuola di Specializzazione in Ginecologia e Ostetricia  
Direttore Prof. Giovanni Battista Nardelli

# ***HPV-DNA sperm infection and infertility: Systematic review.***

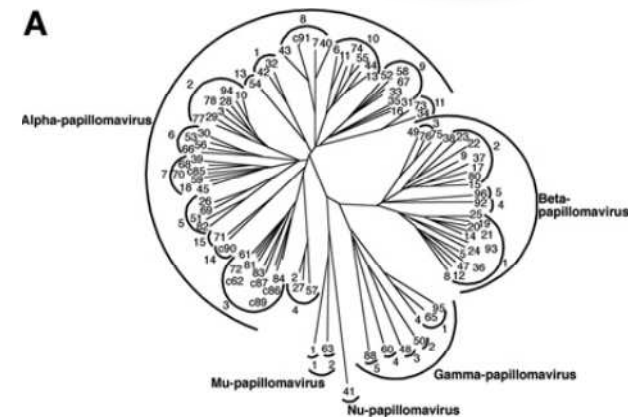
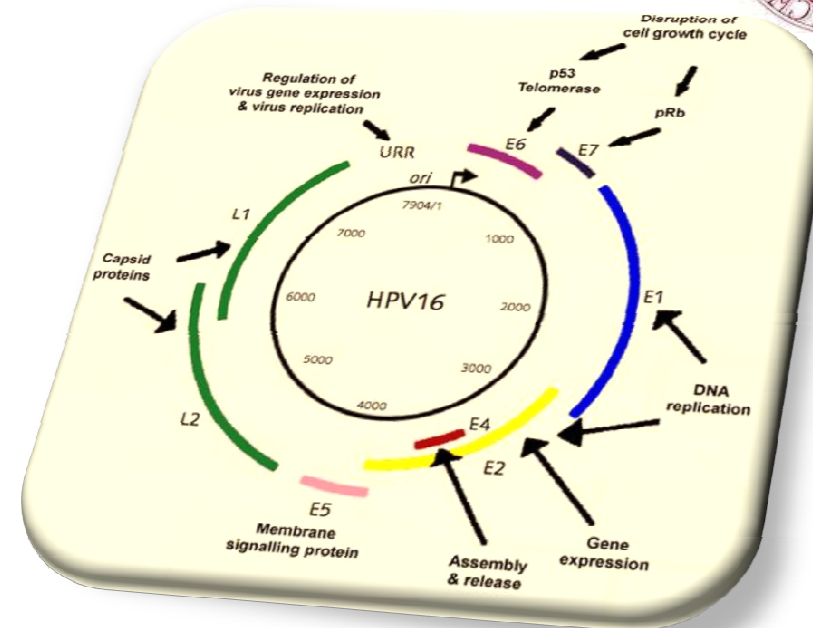
*Dott. Marco Noventa*

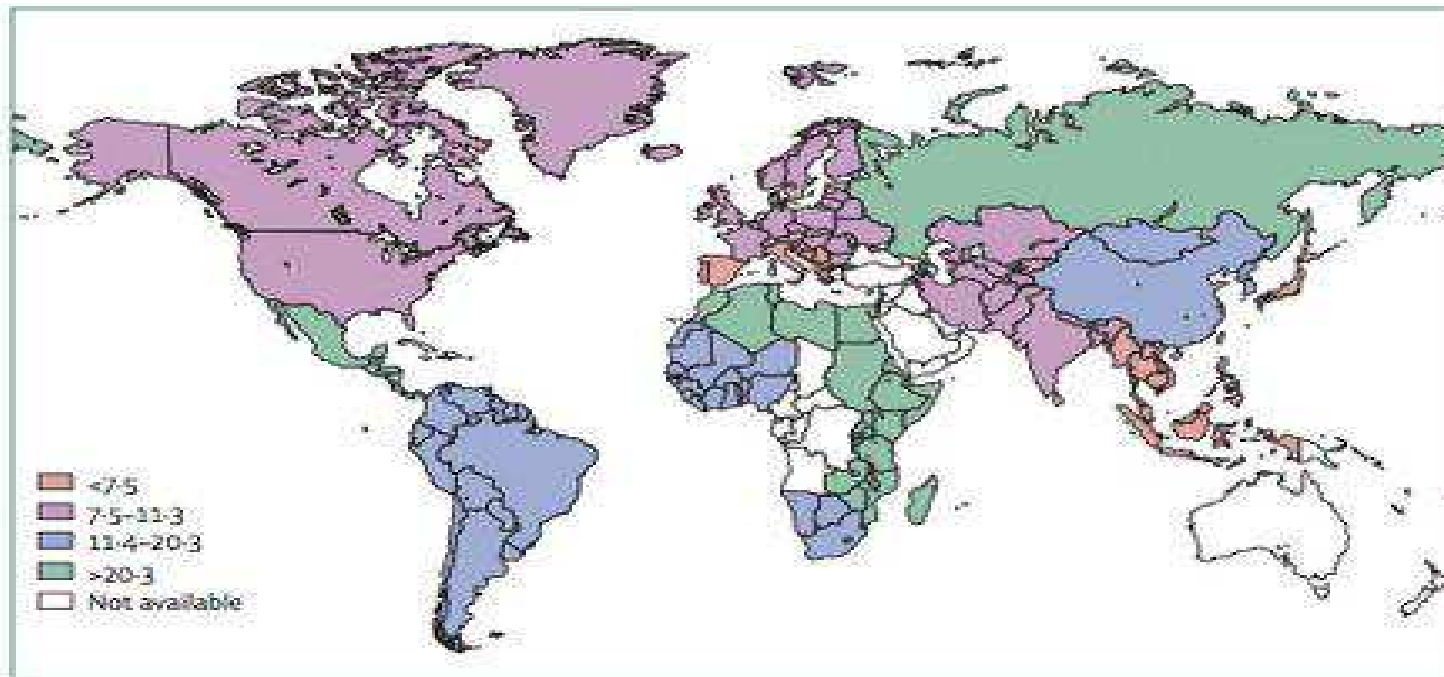
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Genus + Species	Type Species	SCC Cervix	Adeno Cervix	Category
Alpha 1	HPV32			low risk
Alpha 2	HPV42			low risk
	HPV3			cutaneous
	HPV10			cutaneous
	HPV28			cutaneous
	HPV29			cutaneous
	HPV77			cutaneous
	HPV78			cutaneous
	HPV94			cutaneous
Alpha 3	HPV61			low risk
	C62			
	HPV72			low risk
	HPV81	0.04%		low risk
	HPV83	0.04%		low risk
	HPV84			low risk
	C86			
	C87			
	C89			
Alpha 4	HPV2			cutaneous
	HPV27			cutaneous
	HPV57			cutaneous
Alpha 5	HPV26	0.22%		high risk
	HPV51	0.75%	0.54%	high risk
	HPV69			
Alpha 6	HPV82	0.26%		high risk
	HPV30			
	HPV53	0.04%		high risk
	HPV56	1.09%		high risk
	HPV66	0.19%		high risk
Alpha 7	HPV18	11.27%	37.30%	high risk
	HPV45	5.21%	5.95%	high risk
	HPV59	1.05%	2.16%	high risk
	HPV39	0.82%	0.54%	high risk
	HPV68	0.37%		high risk
	HPV70			
	C85			
Alpha 8	HPV7			cutaneous (mucosal)
	HPV40			cutaneous (mucosal)
	HPV43			cutaneous (mucosal)
	C91			
Alpha 9	HPV16	54.38%	41.62%	high risk
	HPV31	3.82%	1.08%	high risk
	HPV33	2.06%	0.54%	high risk
	HPV35	1.27%	1.08%	high risk
	HPV52	2.25%		high risk
	HPV58	1.72%	0.54%	high risk
	HPV67			
Alpha 10	HPV6	0.07%		low risk
	HPV11	0.07%		low risk
	HPV13			low risk
	HPV44			low risk
	HPV55	0.04%		low risk
	HPV74			
Alpha 11	HPV34			high risk
	HPV73	0.49%		high risk
Alpha 12				
Alpha 13	HPV54			low risk
Alpha 14	C90			low risk
Alpha 15	HPV71			low risk

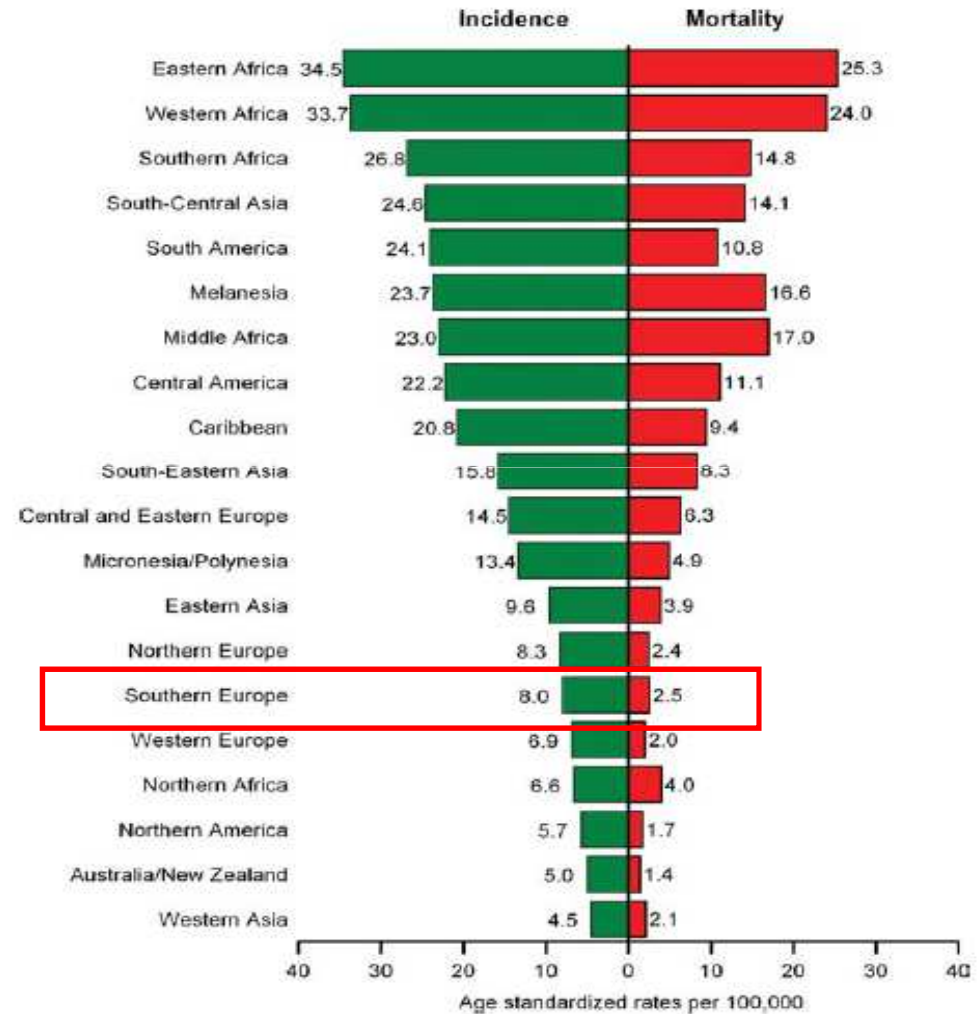
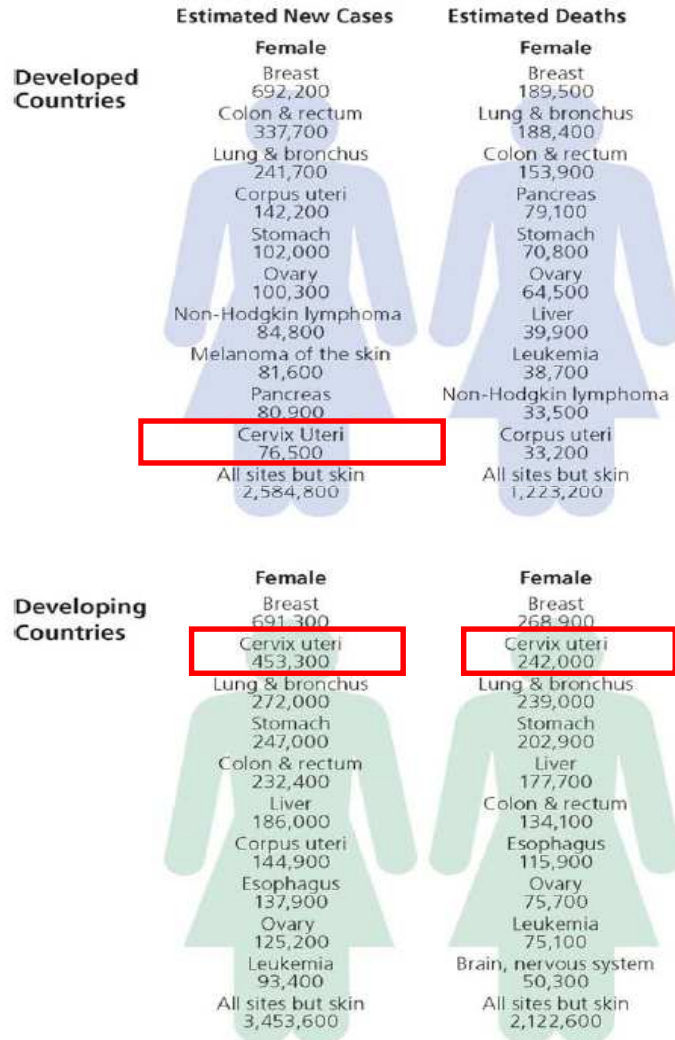




**Figure 1: Estimated HPV DNA prevalence in the world regions**

Estimates are based on a meta-analysis of 78 studies including 157 879 women with normal cytology. Colours represent the adjusted prevalence in the region and denote the quartile distribution of all the estimates.

**Worldwide prevalence : 40% (male and female)**





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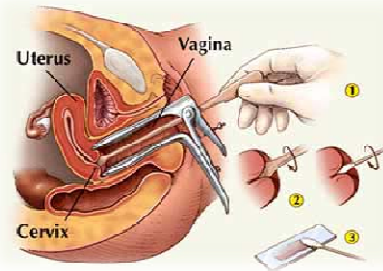
# Screening



## Prevention



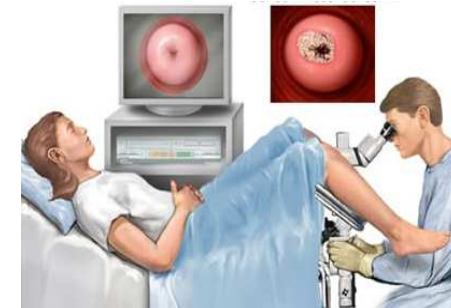
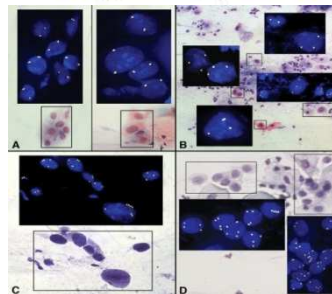
## I Livello



## II Livello

### HPV DNA TEST

#### Hybrid Capture II





**Relation to ano-genital warts and different type of neoplasia (cancers of penis, anal canal, oral cavity, head and neck)**

**Prevalence of HPV in male: 1.3–72.9% (higher than that in females )**

**It does not tend to decline with age**

**Relation to Infertility in some cases?**

Lenzi et al. BMC Public Health 2013, 13:117  
<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/13/117>



**CORRESPONDENCE**

**Open Access**

Rome consensus conference - statement; human papilloma virus diseases in males

Andrea Lenzi<sup>1\*</sup>, Vincenzo Mirone<sup>2</sup>, Vincenzo Gentile<sup>3</sup>, Riccardo Bartoletti<sup>4</sup>, Vincenzo Ficarra<sup>5</sup>, Carlo Foresta<sup>6</sup>, Luciano Mariani<sup>7</sup>, Sandra Mazzoli<sup>8</sup>, Saverio G Parisi<sup>9</sup>, Antonio Perino<sup>10</sup>, Mauro Picardo<sup>11</sup> and Carla Maria Zotti<sup>12</sup>

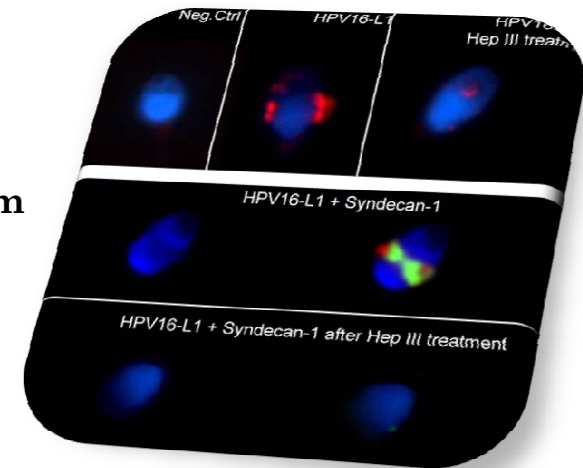
Nielson CM et al. Human papillomavirus prevalence and type distribution in male anogenital sites and semen. *Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev.* 2007

Giuliano AR et al. Age-specific prevalence, incidence, and duration of human papillomavirus infections in a cohort of 290 US men. *J Infect Dis.* 2008

Garolla et al. Human papillomavirus sperm infection and assisted reproduction: a dangerous hazard with a possible safe solution. *Hum Reprod.* 2012



- Prevalence highly variable from 3% to 65% (18-40 years)
- HPV binds two distinct site along the equator of the sperm head (Syndecan-1)
- Related to spermatic parameters modification?
  - sperm motility reduction
  - pH alterations
  - spermatozoa DNA fragmentation.
- HPV-infected sperm is able to fertilize oocyte transferring the viral genome?
- Infected oocytes interfere with implantation and pregnancy development?





## Aim of the Review

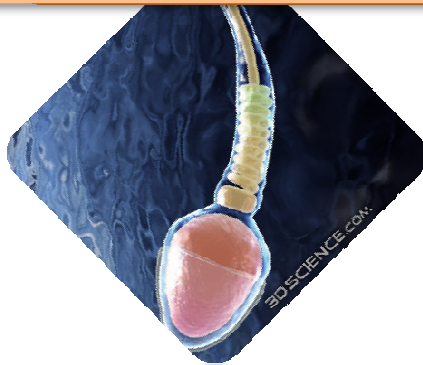


**Investigate the HPV sperm infection implications on male and couple fertility**

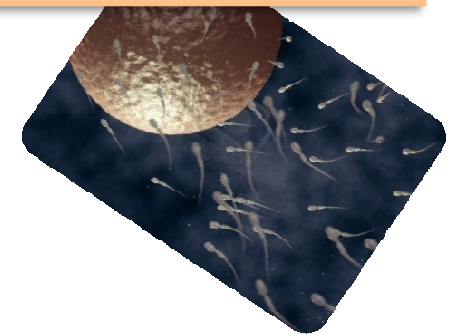


**Clinical impact of HPV infection on early pregnancy development and pregnancy loss**

**Impact of HPV-infected sperm on fertilized oocyte, blastocyst implantation, apoptosis.**



**Spermatic parameters alteration and spermatozoa molecular changes HPV-related**

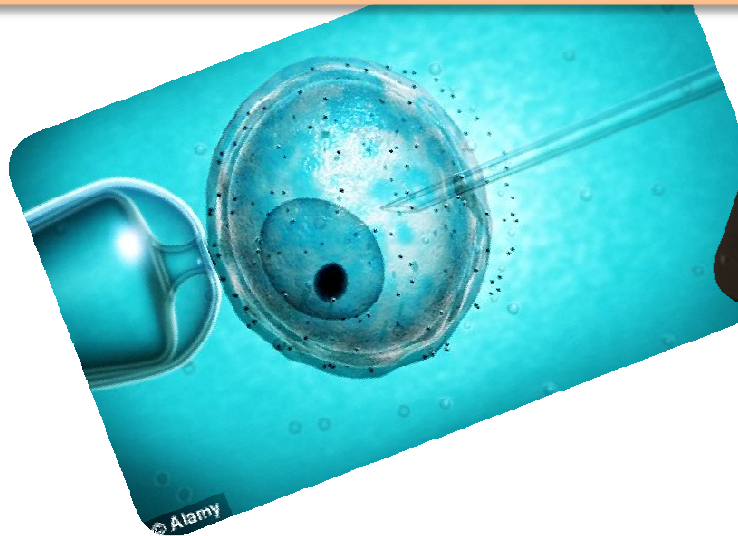
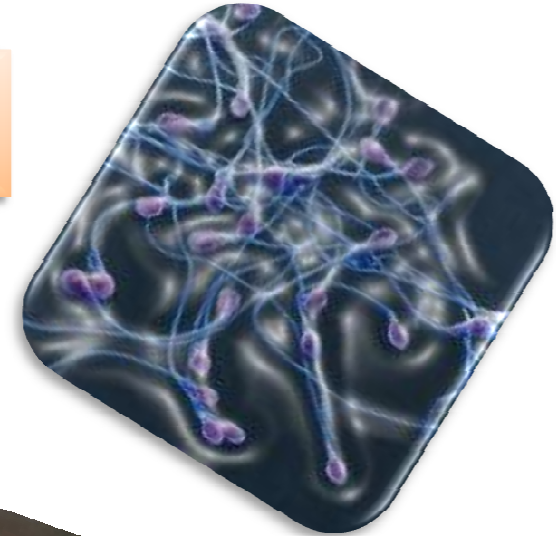






**Feasibility and clinical efficacy of all the available options to detect and treat HPV-infected sperm.**

**Finally we evaluated the implication of all these data in relation to sperm banking and ART cycle.**





➤ Interval time from 1994 to 2013

➤ Key search terms:

- HPV sperm infection
- Male infertility and HPV
- Sperm parameters and HPV
- HPV infected sperm and fertilization
- HPV and fertility outcome
- HPV and sperm/blastocyst apoptosis



dreamstime.com

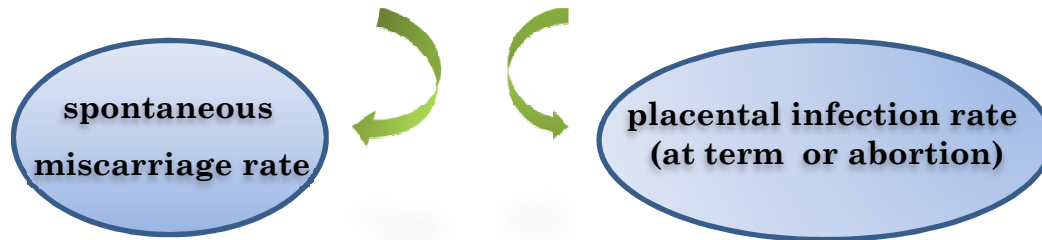
➤ Outcomes

- Clinical impact of HPV infection and fertility outcomes
- HPV-related spermatogenic modifications and their impact on fertility
- Ability of infected semen to vehicle exogenous HPV-DNA and its impact on pregnancy evolution

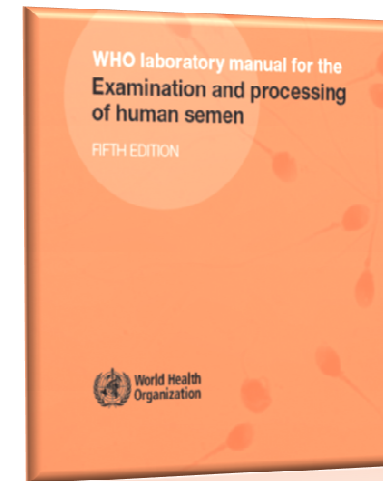




Clinical impact of HPV-DNA infection (in male, female and couples) in relation to :

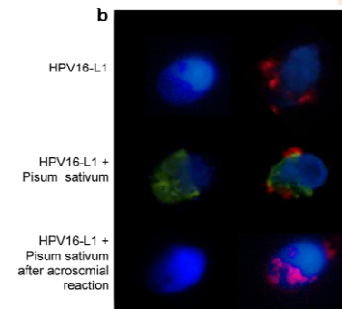
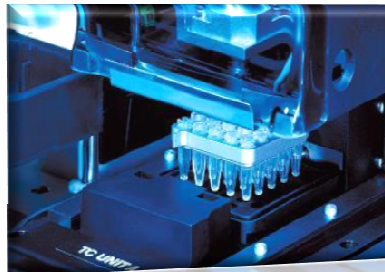


Sperm parameters were analysed according to



HPV-DNA detection and localization

PCR



FISH



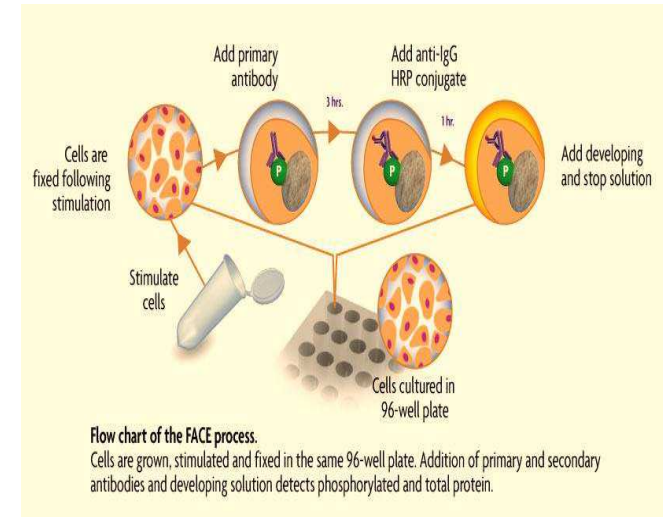
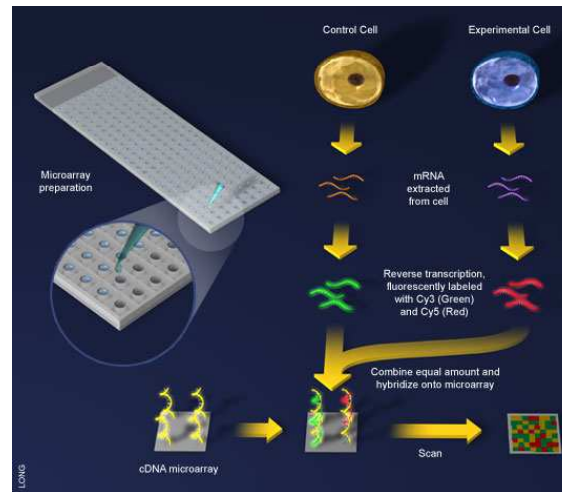
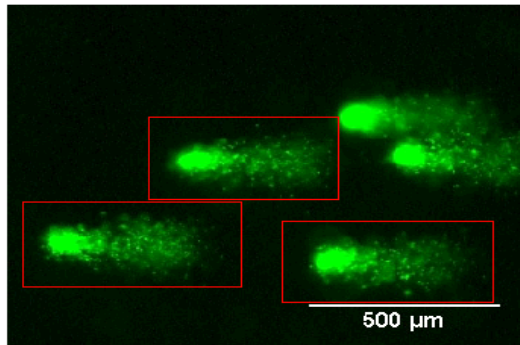
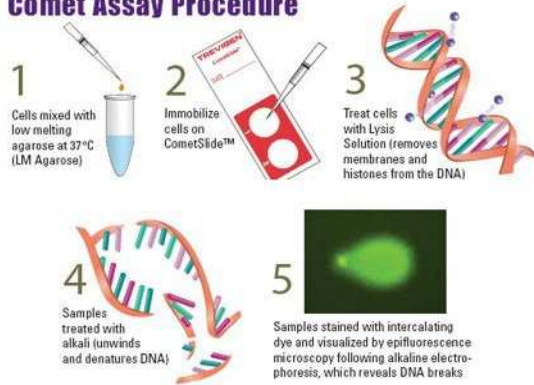
To detect HPV-related apoptosis

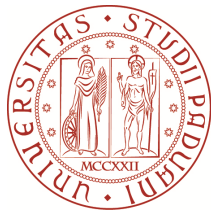
Comet assay

Cell Death Detection ELISA

DNA disc chip assay

### Comet Assay Procedure





## Clinical impact of HPV infection and fertility outcomes

*5 manuscript focused on this topic*

Authors (Year)	N° of samples	Spontaneous aborted products: HPV +/HPV-	Electively aborted products: HPV +/HPV-	Incidence of miscarriages in pregnant exposure to Gardasil	Samples of placentas at term: HPV +/HPV-	Incidence of miscarriages in couple with male partner: HPV +/HPV-	Incidence of miscarriages in couple with female partner: HPV +/HPV-	Incidence of miscarriages in couple with both partner: HPV +/HPV-
Hermonat et al. (1997)	40	60%/40%	20%/80%					
Matovina et al. (2004)	108	7,4%/92,6%						
Dana et al. (2009)	517			6,9%				
Skoczynski et al. (2011)	129	17.7%/82,3 %			24,4%/75,6%			
Perino et al. (2011)	199 (couple)					66,7%/15%	40%/13%	100%/15,9%

Matovina M et al Fertil Steril. 2004 Mar  
Hermonat PL,et al. Virus Genes 1997.

Dana A et al Obstet Gynecol. 2009  
Skoczynski et al. Acta Obstet Gynecol Scand. 2011



### Human papillomavirus infection in couples undergoing in vitro fertilization procedures: impact on reproductive outcomes

A prospective study was performed to assess the relationship between human papillomavirus (HPV) infection in 199 infertile couples and outcome of assisted reproductive technologies (ART). A highly statistically significant correlation between pregnancy loss rate (proportion of pregnancies detected by  $\beta$ -HCG that did not progress beyond 20 weeks) and positive HPV DNA testing in the male partner of infertile couples, compared with HPV negatives, was observed (66.7% vs. 15%). (Fertil Steril® 2011;95:1845-8. ©2011 by American Society for Reproductive Medicine.)

**Key Words:** Abortion, ART, HPV infection, infertility, pregnancy loss

**TABLE 1**  
Frequency of miscarriage by sociobehavioral and clinical characteristics: univariate and multivariate analyses.

Characteristic	No. of pregnancies (total = 66)	No. of miscarriages		OR (95% CI)	Adjusted OR (95% CI)
		n	%		
Age of men (y)					
≤38 <sup>a</sup>	54	8	14.8	1.00	1.00
>38	12	5	41.7	4.11 (0.80-19.5)	5.36 (1.20-24.0)
Age of women (y)					
≤35 <sup>a</sup>	41	6	14.6	1.00	
>35	25	7	28.0	2.27 (0.55-9.42)	
No. of oocytes					
≥3 <sup>a</sup>	23	4	17.4	1.00	
<3	43	9	20.9	1.26 (0.30-6.33)	
Cause of infertility <sup>b</sup>					
Unexplained	10	1	10.0	1.00	
Female	15	0	0	22.7 (3.46-149.3)	
Male	38	8	21.1	2.40 (0.26-21.80)	
Couple	3	0	0	0.90 (0.03-27.86)	
HPV + male					
No	60	9	15.0	1.00	1.00
Yes	6	4	66.7	11.33 (1.32-134.9)	14.72 (2.11-102.7)
HPV + female					
No	51	7	13.7	1.00	
Yes	15	6	40.0	4.20 (0.91-18.50)	
HPV + couples					
No	63	10	15.9	1.00	
Yes	3	3	100.0	35.8 (1.7-742.8)	

Note: OR = odds ratio; CI = confidence interval.

**IMPORTANT**

increase in the risk of pregnancy loss when HPV infection was diagnosed in sperm cells of the male partner. When both partners resulted infected, the miscarriage rate detected was 100%



## Results



### HPV-related spermatic modifications and their impact on fertility.

9 eligible studies aimed on this field

AUTHORS (YEAR)	TYPE OF STUDY	PATIENTS	TOTAL MOTILITY (%)	PROGRESSIVE MOTILITY %	AMPLITUDE LATERAL HEAD (MM)	PERCENTAGE HYPERACTIVE (%)	STRAIGHT T-LINE VELOCITY (MM/SEC)	CURVILINEAR VELOCITY (M/S)	AVERAGE PATH VELOCITY (MM/SEC)	LINEARITY (%)
Lee et al (2002)	case control study	control subjects	74.0 ± 0.6	17.3 ± 0.2	3.0 ± 0.0	2.3 ± 0.1		58.4 ± 0.2		
		Patients HPV-DNA 16	38.4 ± 1.1	6.0 ± 0.2	1.3 ± 0.1	1.4 ± 0.1		40.1 ± 0.7		
		Patients HPV-DNA 18	56.1 ± 0.5	9.1 ± 0.2	2.9 ± 0.0	2.3 ± 0.1		53.0 ± 0.2		
		Patients HPV-DNA 6/11	47.1 ± 0.5	7.0 ± 0.2	2.1 ± 0.0	3.3 ± 0.1		51.4 ± 0.4		
		Patients HPV-DNA 31	53.4 ± 0.6	8.6 ± 0.1	2.7 ± 0.0	2.4 ± 0.1		52.0 ± 0.4		
		Patients HPV-DNA 33	46.0 ± 1.3	10.8 ± 0.4	3.0 ± 0.0	2.9 ± 0.1		47.3 ± 1.3		
		controls DQA1	47.0 ± 0.6	8.5 ± 0.1	2.7 ± 0.0	4.3 ± 0.3		49.6 ± 1.0		
Brossfield et al (1999)	case control study	L1 HPV DNA	51.5 ± 0.15	15.5 ± 0.11	1.9 ± 0	0.5 ± 0.02	23.5 ± 0.02	43.5 ± 0.02	34.0 ± 0.04	57.0 ± 0.04
		Control sperm washed	75.0 ± 0.45	19.0 ± 0.04	3.1 ± 0	4.0 ± 0.09	24.5 ± 0.07	57.5 ± 0.02	41.0 ± 0	44.5 ± 0.11
		Transfected centrifuge-washed	90.0 ± 0	38.5 ± 0.61	4.1 ± 0.03	8.0 ± 0.38	31.5 ± 0.2	73.5 ± 0.05	47.5 ± 0.05	44.5 ± 0.14
		Transfected Isolate-washed	93.0 ± 0.10	33.5 ± 0.05	3.6 ± 0.12	1.0 ± 0.10	26.0 ± 0.10	56.5 ± 0.25	37.5 ± 0.25	47.0 ± 0
		Transfected, TYB-washed	94.0 ± 0.40	37.0 ± 0.70	3.7 ± 0.01	4.0 ± 0	26.0 ± 0.10	58.5 ± 0.05	36.0 ± 0.20	46.5 ± 0.35
Connelly et al (2001)	case control study	Patients HPV-DNA 16	48.0 ± 0.2	5.5 ± 0.2	1.8 ± 0	1.0 ± 0.1		38.5 ± 0.3	28.0 ± 0.1	56.0 ± 0.2
		Patients HPV-DNA 18	47.5 ± 0.1	11.0 ± 0.2	2.7 ± 0	1.0 ± 0.1		55.5 ± 0.7	36.0 ± 0.5	47.5 ± 0.2
		Patients HPV-DNA 6b/11	36.5 ± 0.1	6.5 ± 0.1	1.8 ± 0	0 ± 0		31.5 ± 0.1	23.0 ± 0	57.0 ± 0.2
		Patients HPV-DNA 31	55.0 ± 0.5	14.5 ± 0.1	2.8 ± 0.1	2.0 ± 0		45.5 ± 0.3	30.5 ± 0.1	52.5 ± 0.5
		Patients HPV-DNA 33	48.5 ± 0.7	13.0 ± 0.3	2.7 ± 0	0 ± 0		42.5 ± 0.4	28.5 ± 0.3	52.5 ± 0.2
		Patients DQA1	37.5 ± 0.2	11.0 ± 0.4	3.1 ± 0	2.0 ± 0		47.5 ± 0.2	31.5 ± 0.1	49.0 ± 0.4



Lee et al

gynecology: Oncology 85: 511-516 (2002)  
doi:10.1097/gyc.2002.0662

Differential Effects of Human Papillomavirus DNA Types on p53 Tumor-Suppressor Gene Apoptosis in Sperm

Cathy A. Lee, M.D.,\* Christopher T. F. Huang, M.D.,\* Alma King, M.D.,\* and Philip J. Chan, Ph.D., H.C.L.D.\*††  
\*Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics and †Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, Loma Linda University School of Medicine, Loma Linda, California 92310

- Sperm motility was reduced in the presence of hrHPV-DNA E6–E7 fragments,
- the percentages of progressive motility were lower in sperm exposed to the all HPV-DNA [except genotype 33],
- the amplitude of lateral head displacement was decreased after exposure to HPV-DNA type 16 and lr-HPV-DNA.

Brossfield et al

Connelly et al

slight increase in motility

- Observation was made after two hours of incubation.
- This data suggests that HPV-DNA required an adequate interval time to determine molecular changes in regulation of sperm motility apparatus.

ANDROLOGY

Tenacity of Exogenous Human Papillomavirus DNA in Sperm Washing

JERALYN E. BROSSFIELD,<sup>1</sup> PHILIP J. CHAN,<sup>1,2,3</sup> WILLIAM C. PATTON,<sup>2</sup> and ALAN KING<sup>1</sup>

*Human sperm deoxyribonucleic acid fragmentation by types of papillomavirus*

††Cathy A. Connelly, MD, Philip J. Chan, PhD, HCLD, William C. Patton, MD, and Alan King, MD  
Loma Linda, California



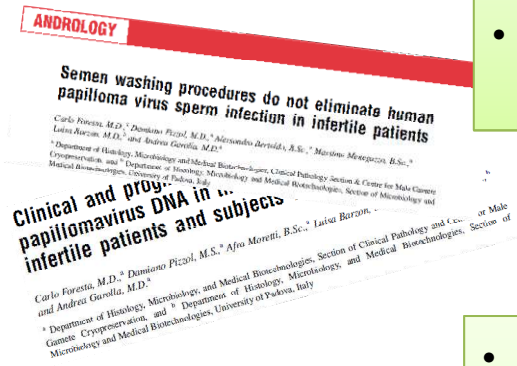


Autors (year)	Study type	Patients	Sperm Concentration (10 <sup>6</sup> /ml)	Semen Volume (ml)	Total sperm count (10 <sup>6</sup> )	pH	Progressive motility %	Normal morpholgy %	Viability %
Garolla et al. (2013)	Cross-sectional clinical	Infertile HPV-infected patients n=61	32.0 ± 11.2		94.2 ± 36.5		29.0 ± 11.4	18.8 ± 6.2	80.0 ± 7.1
		Infertile non-infected patients n=104	34.6 ± 9.8		108.8 ± 44.5		47.8 ± 11.0	18.5 ± 4.3	83.2 ± 5.1
		Control subjects n=92	51.3 ± 8.4		156.0 ± 42.9		53.4 ± 11.4	21.3 ± 4.7	83.6 ± 5.1
Garolla et al. (2012)	Case-control	HPV-infected patients n=22	29.0 ± 10.3	3.1 ± 0.9	87.7 ± 36.3	7.6 ± 0.2	29.6 ± 14.2	19.0 ± 6.3	81.3 ± 6.3
		Control subject n=13	30.5 ± 9.8	3.3 ± 1.0	98.8 ± 46.7	7.5 ± 0.3	42.4 ± 22.7	21.1 ± 7.5	83.8 ± 8.3
		L1-incubated sperm (pool)					22.6 ± 8.7	20.9 ± 6.5	82.8 ± 8.7
Foresta et al. (2010 a)	Cross-sectional clinical	sexually active subjects HPV(+) n=10	57.5 ± 30.4	2.9 ± 1.6	174.3 ± 115.8	7.7 ± 0.3	37.7 ± 16.8	31.5 ± 8	83.5 ± 7.9
		sexually active subjects HPV(-) n=90	60.2 ± 31.0	2.4 ± 1.6	175.8 ± 154.5	7.6 ± 0.2	53.7 ± 18.2	33.1 ± 11.1	84.6 ± 8.6
		virgin subjects n=100	58.3 ± 29.1	2.7 ± 1.5	174.5 ± 164.7	7.6 ± 0.3	53.7 ± 19.0	32.8 ± 10.6	83.6 ± 7.6
Foresta et al. (2011 c)	Cross-sectional clinical	infected infertile patients n=32	32.4 ± 21.1	3.0 ± 1.1	100.2 ± 73.4	7.6 ± 0.3	29.7 ± 13.8	17.8 ± 9.1	78.3 ± 11.6
Foresta et al. (2010 b)	Cross-sectional clinical	Patients with genital warts HPV (+) n=14	53.5 ± 30.0	2.6 ± 1.7	167.6 ± 111.7	7.7 ± 0.2	36.2 ± 18.7	32.6 ± 10.7	80.2 ± 9.1
		Patients with genital warts HPV (-) n=12	56.2 ± 33.8	0.8 ± 1.8	177.1 ± 126.4	7.4 ± 0.3	56.2 ± 19.8	36.3 ± 14.4	81.3 ± 10.5
		subjects with HPV+ partner HPV(+) n=27	48.5 ± 23.0	2.8 ± 1.2	172.8 ± 110.2	7.6 ± 0.2	38.4 ± 13.2	31.8 ± 11.2	82.4 ± 8.8
		subjects with HPV+ partner HPV(-) n=39	50.1 ± 22.3	2.5 ± 1.3	178.4 ± 102.3	7.7 ± 0.4	53.8 ± 16.5	31.9 ± 11.2	82.4 ± 8.8
		Infertile patients HPV (+) n=11	30.0 ± 21.5	2.9 ± 1.9	99.4 ± 88.8	7.7 ± 0.3	33.9 ± 15.9	32.9 ± 13.9	79.8 ± 8.6
		Infertile patients HPV (-) n=97	35.2 ± 23.0	3.0 ± 1.5	102.9 ± 100.9	7.6 ± 0.3	51.7 ± 16.2	33.1 ± 11.1	84.6 ± 10.7
		Fertile controls HPV (+) n=2	60.5 ± 31.5	2.5 ± 1.6	175.5 ± 131.6	7.6 ± 0.2	55.5 ± 17.6	33.5 ± 10.6	81.7 ± 9.4
		Fertile controls HPV (-) n=88	58.7 ± 30.8	2.6 ± 1.6	176.0 ± 139.6	7.7 ± 0.2	54.2 ± 17.9	33.0 ± 13.5	83.9 ± 8.0
Rintala et al. (2004)	case control	High-risk HPV DNA (+) n=10		3.07		7.37	54,2		65,2
		High-risk HPV DNA(-) n=55		4.03		7.51	56,5		69,6



Foresta et al

- Significant reduction of sperm motility in HPV-DNA infected men
- HPV-DNA was detected frequently in exfoliated cells [77.8–100%]
- Spermatozoa infection was found in 72% of infertile men
- All the remaining spermatic parameters resulted comparable between infected or not-infected patients

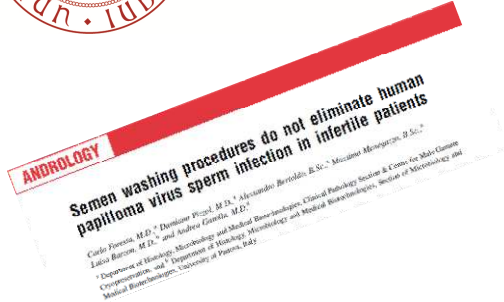


Garolla et al.

- Found a reduction of mean progressive motility in HPV-DNA positive sperm
- Infertile sperm men had ASAs (anti sperm antibodies) more frequently than fertile men
- HPV-DNA infected men with positive sperm-Mar test (ASAs presence) had at 24 months lower motility than negative ones.
- Many cases of reported idiopathic asthenozoospermia do not presented any risk factor except for the positivity to HPV-DNA genome



# Results



## Sperm washing procedures



### Direct swim-up

reduces only 24% the HPV sperm infection



### Discontinuous Density Gradients (Ficoll)

reduces only 30% the HPV sperm infection

### Modified swim-up

slight decrease of sperm motility viability and DNA integrity



sperm infection cannot be removed by classic washing procedures

**IMPORTANT**



### **Ability of infected semen to vehicle exogenous HPV-DNA and its impact on pregnancy evolution.**

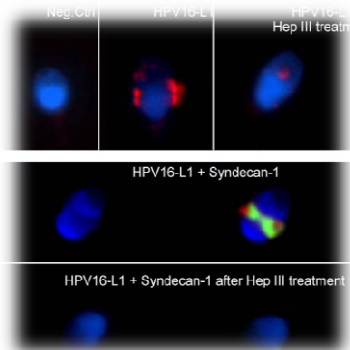
*11 studies (all in-vitro) analyzed the ability of sperm to carry exogenous HPV-DNA infection into oocyte and embryos, the blastocyst expression of viral genome and its impact in terms of fertility, implantation and embryonic effects.*

#### **Main Outcomes**

- **Increased incidence of apoptosis (integrity of exon 5 and 8 of p53) in sperm cells exposed to E6/E7 region derived from the HPV-DNA types 16 and 18.**(Connely et al. 2001 and Lee et al 2001)
- **HPV-DNA infected sperm is able to transfer HPV-DNA into blastocyst and at cells of the reproductive tract.** (Chan et al 1996)
- **In the Blastocysts the exogenous HPV-DNA is present both in the the inner cell mass and throphoblast cells.** (Cabrera et al 1997)



## Foresta et al



HPV is localized at the equatorial region of sperm head  
(interaction L1 and Sydecan-1)

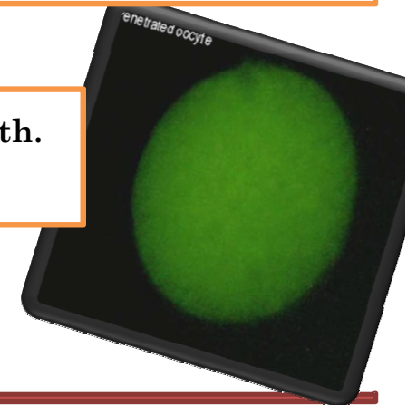
HPV infected sperm is able to transfer both the capsid protein L1 and E6/E7  
viral genes to the oocyte with a subsequent gene expression by transfected  
blastocyst

## Calinisan et al

Transfecting blastocysts with E6-E7 region of HPV genotype 16,18,31,33, observed the  
presence of DNA fragmentation only in subgroups of blastocysts infected by HPV-  
DNA type 16.

## You et al

HPV-16 oncogenes genes may be responsible of Throbhoblast death.  
(placenta alteration? → Spontaneous miscarriage?)





## Results



**Henneberg et al**

**Demonstrated the differences of HPV-DNA growth inhibition effects related to the embryo-stage cells.**

- **25,9% less Blastocyst formed with HPV 16 exposure**
- **25.9-31.8% more degenerated embryos with HPV 16 exposure**
- **The direct effect of growth inhibition was found only at 2-cell embryo-stage but not at the 4–8 cells one**

**Gomez et al**

**The rates of apoptosis in HPV transfected trophoblast cell were 3-fold [2.4–3.7] and 5.8-fold [5.6–5.9] greater if compared with negative controls at 3 and 12 days.**

**The invasion of transfected trophoblast cells progressively and significantly decreased from day 3 until 15 after transfection [25.2–57.6% lower than negative controls]**



**Sperm is able to vehicle the viral genome in fertilized oocytes and blastocysts**

**HPV genomes are expressed in fertilized oocytes, blastocysts and trophoblast cells.**

**The viral genome could induce cell changes such as:**

- **zygote growth inhibition**
- **blastocyst formation decrease**
- **DNA fragmentation and apoptosis, resulting often lethal for early embryo development**

**Main Outcomes**

**HPV extravillous trophoblast infection induces cell death and may reduce placental invasion into the uterine wall.**

**HPV infection may cause placental dysfunction and could be associated with adverse pregnancy outcomes, (such as early pregnancy loss)**

**It is unknown whether these in vitro findings might apply to in-vivo.**

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## Conclusion



In infected semen samples, HPV can be localized at different levels: in sperm, in exfoliated cells or in both sites.

HPV was present on the surface of sperm cells, located at two distinct binding sites along the equatorial region of the sperm head (L1-Sydecan-1)

A significant reduction of mean sperm motility was found in those subjects with HPV infected semen

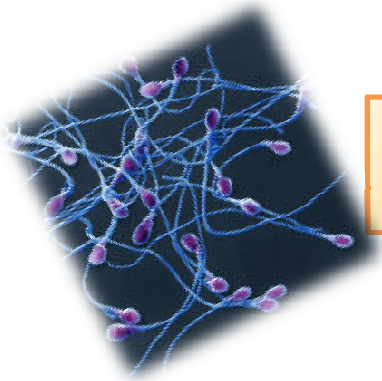
No difference in seminal volume, viscosity, pH count, viability, and normal morphology in HPV-infected and non-infected semen samples.

WHO laboratory manual for the  
Examination and processing  
of human semen

FIFTH EDITION

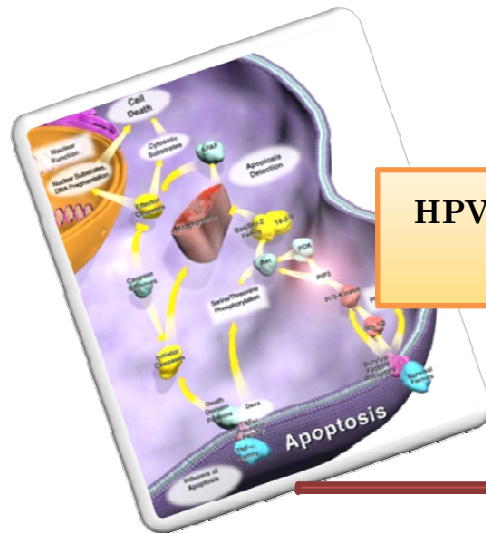
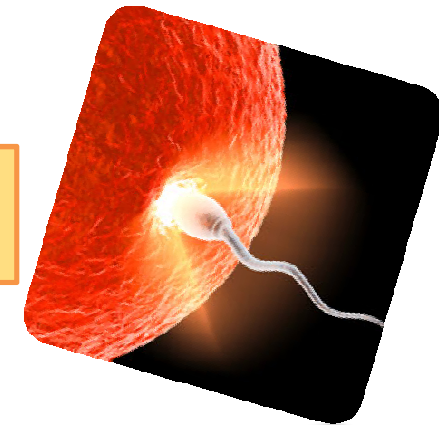
World Health  
Organization





**HPV, inducing an alteration of sperm motility, may play a major role in cases of idiopathic asthenozoospermia and thus in male infertility.**

**Oocytes penetrated by transfected sperm expressed the viral genes, suggesting an active transcription of viral genes by the infected oocyte**



**HPV-transfected blastocyst/trophoblast cells have an increased rate of apoptosis and a reduced placental invasion into the uterine wall compared with controls**

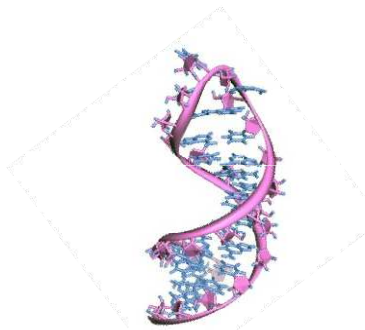


## Concerning ART cycles

Significant persistence of infected sperm after sperm washing procedures



HPV sperm infection cannot be removed by classic washing procedures



HPV-DNA semen screening (PCR) can help to define the best timing [regression of semen infection] to start ART cycles.

HPV male vaccination should be considered a possible strategy for the prevention of HPV semen impairment and improvement of couple fertility outcomes





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Thanks for your attention



Title page

Update on HPV-DNA sperm infection role on male and couple fertility:  
molecular mechanism, clinical outcomes and further implications.

Systematic review.

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*Grazie*

*Dipartimento di salute della Donna e del Bambino  
U.O.C di Ginecologia e Ostetricia – Direttore Prof. G. B. Nardelli*