

## Fertility preservation among male survivors of childhood cancer

Alireza. Kheradmand Urologist Andrology Fellowship



Oncofertility is a subfield that bridges oncology and reproductive research to explore and expand options for the reproductive future of cancer survivors.

The name was coined in 2006 by

Teresa K. Woodruff at the

**Oncofertility Consortium** 



پسر ۱٦ ساله ای بدنبال کانسر بیضه ارکیکتومی شده و جهت اقدامات حفظ باروری ارجاع شده است

بیمار بالغ است و اظهار میدارد که خروج سیمن دارد.

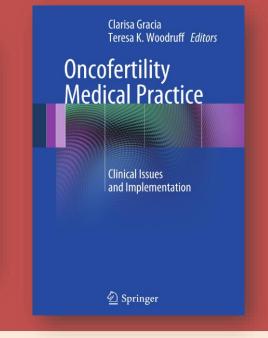
وی آگاهیهای لازم برای تهیه نمونه را دارد و از نظر فرهنگی نیز مشکلی ندارد.

سوال

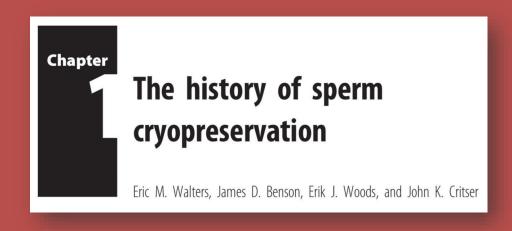
آیا نسبت به sperm banking اقدام کنیم؟

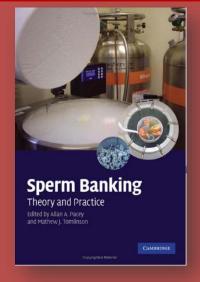
Chapter 9
Addressing the Three Most Frequently
Asked Questions of a Bioethicist
in an Oncofertility Setting

Lisa Campo-Engelstein



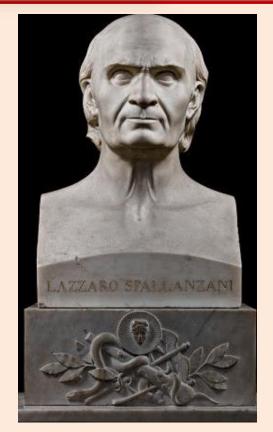
If a boy has reached puberty, then sperm banking is a relatively easy and established method of fertility preservation

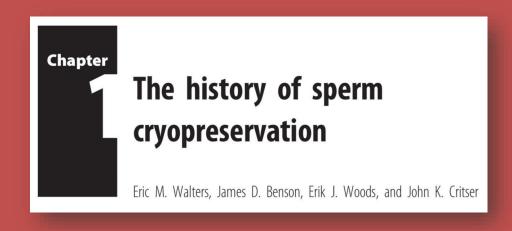


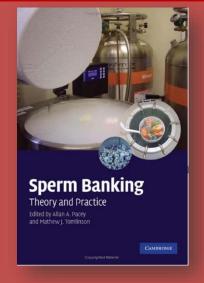


It is believed that Lazzaro Spallanzani performed the first successful cryopreservation 1776.

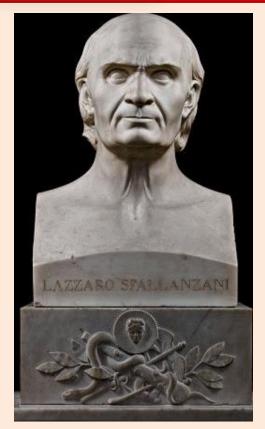
At that time Lazzaro Spallanzani first reported that sperm cooled by snow became motionless.





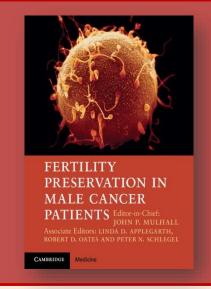


Spallanzani inseminated a confined bitch in heat by depositing semen in the uterus with a syringe. This resulted in the birth of three pups 62 days later



### **Chapter 8 Sperm Cryopreservation**

Takeshi Shin, Mai Fukushima, Akane Miyata, and Hiroshi Okada



The first human pregnancies with frozen sperm were reported in 1953, when Bunge and Sherman froze human sperm and reported three pregnancies following with the thawed sperm



Nathalie Rives, Blandine Courbière, Thierry Almont, Diana Kassab, Claire Berger, Michaël Grynberg, Aline Papaxanthos, Christine Decanter, Elisabeth Elefant, Nathalie Dhedin, et al.

Sperm cryopreservation must be systematically offered to any male who has reached puberty who is to undergo cancer treatment, regardless of toxicity (Grade A)

پسر ۱٦ ساله ای بدنبال کانسر بیضه ارکیکتومی شده و جهت اقدامات <mark>حفظ باروری ارجاع</mark> شده است.

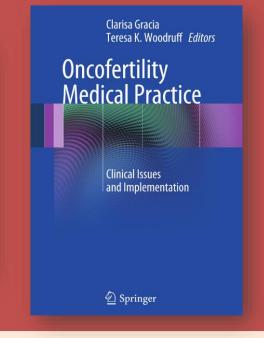
بیمار بالغ است ولی اظهار میدارد که خروج سیمن نداشته است. وی آگاهیهای لازم برای تهیه نمونه را ندارد و از نظر فرهنگی نیز برای تهیه نمونه و انجام masturbation آمادگی لازم را ندارد.

سوال

آیا نسبت به sperm banking اقدام کنیم؟

Chapter 9
Addressing the Three Most Frequently
Asked Questions of a Bioethicist
in an Oncofertility Setting

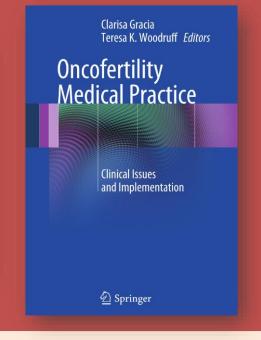
Lisa Campo-Engelstein



Discussing masturbation can be difficult and awkward, as most boys will probably be embarrassed.

Parents too can often feel embarrassed and may not be comfortable discussing their son's sexuality. Chapter 9
Addressing the Three Most Frequently
Asked Questions of a Bioethicist
in an Oncofertility Setting

Lisa Campo-Engelstein



Depending on their cultural and religious beliefs, the parents may believe masturbation is a sin or that sexual behavior in teenagers and/or unmarried individuals should not be encouraged.



Nathalie Rives, Blandine Courbière, Thierry Almont, Diana Kassab, Claire Berger, Michaël Grynberg, Aline Papaxanthos, Christine Decanter, Elisabeth Elefant, Nathalie Dhedin, et al.

All adolescent patients with cancer referred for sperm cryopreservation must be seen alone and accompanied by their legal representative.



Nathalie Rives, Blandine Courbière, Thierry Almont, Diana Kassab, Claire Berger, Michaël Grynberg, Aline Papaxanthos, Christine Decanter, Elisabeth Elefant, Nathalie Dhedin, et al.

The practical sperm collection and cryopreservation procedures are specified to the patient.

It should be taken into consideration that the patient may not have any experience with masturbation. پسر ۱۳ساله ای بدنبال لوکمی حاد کاندید کموتراپی است و جهت اقدامات اندرولوژی ارجاع شده است. بیمار علایم اولیه بلوغ را دارد است ولی تابحال خروج سیمن

وی آگاهیهای لازم برای تهیه نمونه را ندارد ولی از نظر فرهنگی مشکلی ندارد.

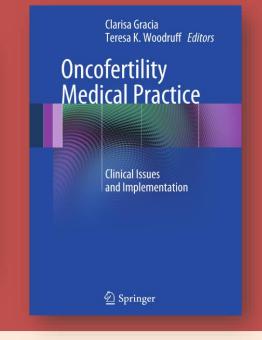
نداشته است.

سوال

آیا نسبت به sperm banking اقدام کنیم؟

Chapter 9
Addressing the Three Most Frequently
Asked Questions of a Bioethicist
in an Oncofertility Setting

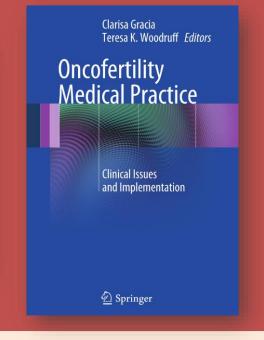
Lisa Campo-Engelstein



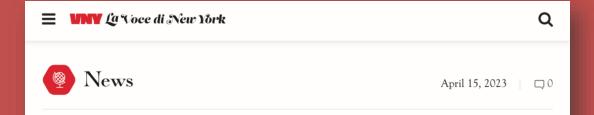
Since sperm production begins around the age of 12–13, adolescent boys who are unable to produce a specimen via ejaculation can undergo electroejaculation or testicular sperm extraction under anesthesia

Chapter 9
Addressing the Three Most Frequently
Asked Questions of a Bioethicist
in an Oncofertility Setting

Lisa Campo-Engelstein



Although surgical removal of the gonads are a low-risk procedure, some may be concerned about exposing children with cancer to yet another treatment, especially one that is addresses with a quality of life issue that probably will not affect the children for at least a decade.



#### Spanish Star Ana Obregon's New Baby at 68– Conceived with Her Dead Son's Sperm

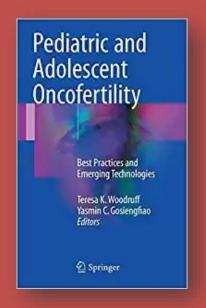
She says she is completing her dying son's last wish





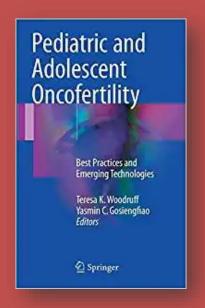
Some opponents are concerned about the misuse of parents or others about these sperms in the case of treatment failure and child death.

Although this issue is so important but it not only for children. Ethical Issues in Pediatric and Adolescent Fertility Preservation



With the increase in successful treatment of cancer patients, medical teams must now focus not only on the short-term treatments, but also anticipate long-term quality of life issues for their patients in the world beyond the "cure."

Ethical Issues in Pediatric and Adolescent Fertility Preservation



While it is understood that it is important to protect children from excessive risks in research, it is also important to consider that an overestimation of the risks will prevent important advances in pediatric treatments



Nathalie Rives, Blandine Courbière, Thierry Almont, Diana Kassab, Claire Berger, Michaël Grynberg, Aline Papaxanthos, Christine Decanter, Elisabeth Elefant, Nathalie Dhedin, et al.

In adolescents, sperm cryopreservation must be proposed from 11 years of age after conducting a physical examination checking that the pubertal development corresponds to at least Tanner stage III or is accompanied by a testicular volume greater than 5 ml.

However, it is necessary to conduct a prior assessment of psychosexual maturity (Grade C).



Nathalie Rives, Blandine Courbière, Thierry Almont, Diana Kassab, Claire Berger, Michaël Grynberg, Aline Papaxanthos, Christine Decanter, Elisabeth Elefant, Nathalie Dhedin, et al.

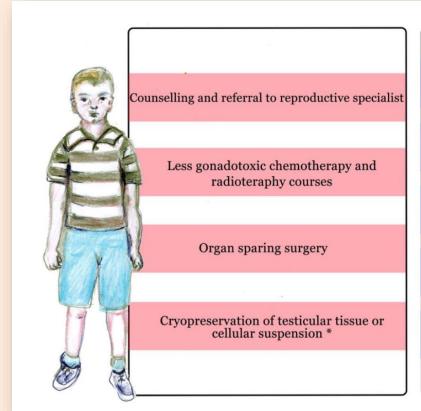
Testicular biopsy, penile vibratory stimulation or endorectal electrostimulation are a possible alternative to failure to ejaculate by masturbation or in cases of patient's unability (Grade C).

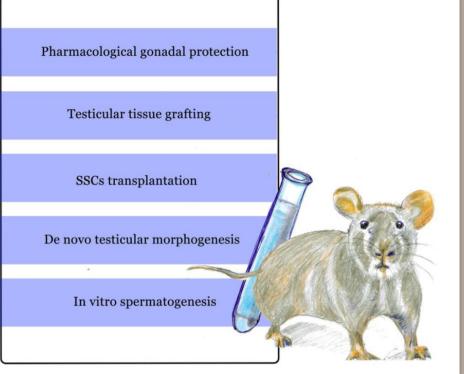
کودک ۸ ساله ای بعلت کانس هماتولوژیک کاندید کموتراپی است. وی برای مشاوره حفظ باروری ارجاع شده است. هیچ علامتی از بلوغ در معاینه وی وجود ندارد.

### سوال بيمار:

برای این بیمار چه اقدامی توصیه میشود؟

#### Fertility Preservation and Restoration Options for Pre-Pubertal Male Cancer Patients: Current Approaches





DOI: 10.1002/pbc.30407

#### **HOW I APPROACH**









## Fertility preservation in pediatric leukemia and lymphoma: A report from the Children's Oncology Group

For prepubertal boys, the only option for fertility preservation is testicular tissue cryopreservation (TTC).

With TTC, a wedge biopsy of testicular tissue is obtained under general anesthesia and then cryopreserved for future reimplantation or maturation in vitro.



Nathalie Rives, Blandine Courbière, Thierry Almont, Diana Kassab, Claire Berger, Michaël Grynberg, Aline Papaxanthos, Christine Decanter, Elisabeth Elefant, Nathalie Dhedin, et al.

## It is recommended to perform bilateral testicular biopsy for testicular tissue preservation.

(Grade B)

Accepted: 17 April 2023

DOI: 10.1002/pbc.30407

#### **HOW I APPROACH**









## Fertility preservation in pediatric leukemia and lymphoma: A report from the Children's Oncology Group

At this time, TTC is considered an experimental method of fertility preservation and tought to be performed under Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval.

C1-C3

**COMMENTARY** 

Reproduction

**®**Fertility

## A fertile future: Fertility preservation special series

Although cryopreservation of testicular tissue or cell suspension is offered in the context of experimental protocols in several centers around the world, however there is still no certainty about which are the best methods and the potential damage to sperm quality.

DOI: 10.1002/pbc.30407

#### **HOW I APPROACH**









## Fertility preservation in pediatric leukemia and lymphoma: A report from the Children's Oncology Group

TTC should only be offered to high-risk patients, and families must be fully aware of the experimental nature of this procedure.

Additionally, for patients with hematologic malignancies, there is a risk that reimplanted tissue may be contaminated with cancer cells.

Received: 19 January 2023

Revised: 13 April 2023

Accepted: 17 April 2023

DOI: 10.1002/pbc.30407

#### **HOW I APPROACH**









## Fertility preservation in pediatric leukemia and lymphoma: A report from the Children's Oncology Group

Performing TTC once the patient has achieved a minimal residual disease (MRD) state may limit this risk; however, at this time there is no widely accepted way to screen the testicular tissue for malignancy prior to reimplantation, and thus the risk persists.

**ORIGINAL ARTICLE Andrology** 

Childhood cancer and hematological disorders negatively affect spermatogonial quantity at diagnosis: a retrospective study of a male fertility preservation cohort

At this time there have been no human births from this method so, we still await the first report of successful restoration of fertility and livebirth in humans using these cryopreserved tissues.

however, there have been many promising animal models including non-human primates.



Nathalie Rives, Blandine Courbière, Thierry Almont, Diana Kassab, Claire Berger, Michaël Grynberg, Aline Papaxanthos, Christine Decanter, Elisabeth Elefant, Nathalie Dhedin, et al.

The patient and his legal representative must be informed that subsequent use of cryopreserved testicular tissue is currently under research.

(Grade A)



والدين پسربچه ۸ ساله فوق سوال ميكنند:

آیا برداشتن قسمتی از بیضه در آینده باعث عدم رشد بیضه نخواهد شد؟

#### ORIGINAL ARTICLE Andrology

# Development of the testis in pre-pubertal boys with cancer after biopsy for fertility preservation

M. Uijldert<sup>1,2</sup>, A. Meißner<sup>1,2</sup>, A.A. de Melker<sup>1</sup>, A.M.M. van Pelt<sup>1</sup>, M.D. van de Wetering<sup>3</sup>, R.R. van Rijn<sup>4</sup>, M. van Wely<sup>1</sup>, F. van der Veen<sup>1</sup>, and S. Repping<sup>1,\*</sup>

In this study 73 boys underwent testicular tissue cryopreservation.

During follow-up period after biopsy, testicular growth was not impeded due to the biopsy.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE Andrology

# Development of the testis in pre-pubertal boys with cancer after biopsy for fertility preservation

M. Uijldert<sup>1,2</sup>, A. Meißner<sup>1,2</sup>, A.A. de Melker<sup>1</sup>, A.M.M. van Pelt<sup>1</sup>, M.D. van de Wetering<sup>3</sup>, R.R. van Rijn<sup>4</sup>, M. van Wely<sup>1</sup>, F. van der Veen<sup>1</sup>, and S. Repping<sup>1,\*</sup>

Acute adverse effects occurred in 3.9% of the boys and all were temporary.

Only 6% of the patients had intratesticular fibrotic lesions attributable to surgery after 1 year.

#### ORIGINAL ARTICLE Andrology

# Development of the testis in pre-pubertal boys with cancer after biopsy for fertility preservation

M. Uijldert<sup>1,2</sup>, A. Meißner<sup>1,2</sup>, A.A. de Melker<sup>1</sup>, A.M.M. van Pelt<sup>1</sup>, M.D. van de Wetering<sup>3</sup>, R.R. van Rijn<sup>4</sup>, M. van Wely<sup>1</sup>, F. van der Veen<sup>1</sup>, and S. Repping<sup>1,\*</sup>

Thus it can be concluded that testicular biopsy for fertility preservation of pre-pubertal boys with cancer is a safe procedure with no consequences for the further development of the biopsied testis.

