

Appendix

National Guidelines on Number of Embryos to Transfer, 2006

Recommended limits on number of 2-3 day old embryos to transfer

Embryos	age <35	age 35-37	age 38-40	age >40
favorable	1 or 2	2	3	5
unfavorable	2	3	4	5

Recommended limits on number of 5-6 day old embryos to transfer

Embryos	age <35	age 35-37	age 38-40	age >40
favorable	1	2	2	3
unfavorable	2	2	3	3

Potential Risks in Singleton IVF-conceived Pregnancies

	Absolute Risk (%) in IVF-conceived Pregnancies	Relative Risk (vs. non IVF-conceived Pregnancies)
Pre-eclampsia	10.3%	1.6 (1.2--2.0)
Placenta previa	2.4%	2.9 (1.5--5.4)
Placental abruption	2.2%	2.4 (1.1--5.2)
Gestational diabetes	6.8%	2.0 (1.4--3.0)
Cesarean delivery	26.7%	2.1 (1.7--2.6)

In this table, the Absolute risk is the percent of IVF Pregnancies in which the risk occurred. The Relative Risk is the risk in IVF versus the risk in non-IVF pregnancies; for example, a relative risk of 2.0 indicates that twice as many IVF pregnancies experience this risk as compared to non-IVF pregnancies. The numbers in parentheses (called the "Confidence Interval") indicate the range in which the actual Relative Risk lies.

Potential Risks in Singleton IVF Pregnancies

	Absolute Risk (%) in IVF Pregnancies	Relative Risk (vs. non-IVF Pregnancies)
Preterm birth	11.5%	2.0 (1.7--2.2)
Low birth weight (< 2500 g)	9.5%	1.8 (1.4--2.2)
Very low birth weight (< 1500 g)	2.5%	2.7 (2.3--3.1)
Small for gestational age	14.6%	1.6 (1.3--2.0)
NICU admission	17.8%	1.6 (1.3--2.0)
Stillbirth	1.2%	2.6 (1.8--3.6)
Neonatal mortality	0.6%	2.0 (1.2--3.4)
Cerebral palsy	0.4%	2.8 (1.3--5.8)
Genetic risks		
-imprinting disorder	0.03%	17.8 (1.8--432.9)
-major birth defect	4.3%	1.5% (1.3--1.8)
-chromosomal abnormalities (after ICSI):		
-of a sex chromosome	0.6%	3.0
-of another chromosome	0.4%	5.7

In this table, the Absolute risk is the percent of IVF Pregnancies in which the risk occurred. The Relative Risk is the risk in IVF versus the risk in non-IVF pregnancies; for example, a relative risk of 2.0 indicates that twice as many IVF pregnancies experience this risk as compared to non-IVF pregnancies. The numbers in parentheses (called the "Confidence Interval") indicate the range in which the actual Relative Risk lies.

References:

General IVF overviews available on the internet

<http://www.sart.org/>

<http://www.cdc.gov/art/>

<http://www.resolve.org/site/PageServer>

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