

**I NUTRACEUTICI AL FEMMINILE.
RAZIONALE PER UNA UTILE
SUPPLEMENTAZIONE NELLA VITA DELLA
DONNA**



Ferrara, 20 marzo 2015

**ALIMENTAZIONE,
NUTRACEUTICA
ED INFERTILITA'
FEMMINILE**

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INFERTILITA'

Problematica che interessa il 10-15% della popolazione nei Paesi industrializzati.

Il personale medico e sanitario frequentemente viene interpellato dalle coppie in cerca di una gravidanza, sui problemi relativi loro potenziale riproduttivo.

Sempre più spesso le coppie si rivolgono al medico per avere informazioni sui comportamenti più adeguati anche in epoca preconcezionale.

Queste coppie sono molto **motivate** a seguire i consigli relativi all'impatto che determinati fattori o stili di vita possono avere sulla fertilità, oltre che sulla salute in generale.

INFERTILITA'

È risaputo che alcuni fattori o stili di vita hanno effetti quantitativamente piccoli, ma cumulativi nel tempo, che possono portare ad un prolungamento del tempo di ricerca della gravidanza.

È altrettanto noto che le modificazioni di questi fattori sembrano migliorare le capacità riproduttive della coppia.



STILE DI VITA ED INFERTILITA'

Aumento dell'età materna
Ritardo nell'inizio delle terapie
Fumo di sigaretta
Body Mass Index
Consumo di alcohol e caffeina
Interferenti Endocrini
Infezioni del tratto genitale
Stress

NON ci sono in letteratura **trials clinici randomizzati** su larga scala che esaminino in modo accurato l'effetto che questi fattori potrebbero avere sulla fertilità.

La maggior parte degli studi in merito sono **osservazionali** ed, in quanto tali, soggetti potenzialmente a molti *bias*.

BMI

La maggior parte degli studi riporta che BMI maggiori di 27 kg/m² o BMI minori di 17 kg/m² sono associati ad infertilità per disordini ovulatori.

Elevato BMI: insulino resistenza, iperinsulinismo. Elevati valori di Leptina.

Basso BMI : anovulazione. Influenza della leptina?

PMA: > rischio di cancellazione dei cicli di stimolazione e dei transfer



Peggior outcome delle tecniche di PMA



ALCOHOL



Low intake:	<2 drinks/day (1 drink = 10 g of ethanol)
Moderate intake:	3 to 13 drinks per week
Heavy intake:	≥14 drinks per week

Low intake: no or minimal adverse effects on fertility

Moderate alcohol use may affect fertility and IVF success rates

Heavy female drinkers: - longer time to achieve a pregnancy
- higher risk of infertility evaluation

ALCOHOL

Le donne che sono alla ricerca di una gravidanza dovrebbero ***evitare il consumo di alcohol***, considerando che non ci sono evidenze su quali siano i livelli di consumo alcolico effettivamente sicuri in epoca prenatale e nella gravidanza iniziale.



CAFFEINE

INCONSISTENT EVIDENCE

- High caffeine use (>5–7 cups per day) has been associated with decreased natural fertility in some investigations (dose related)
- > 50 mg/day is linked to lower number of eggs, lower pregnancy rates in IVF patients.



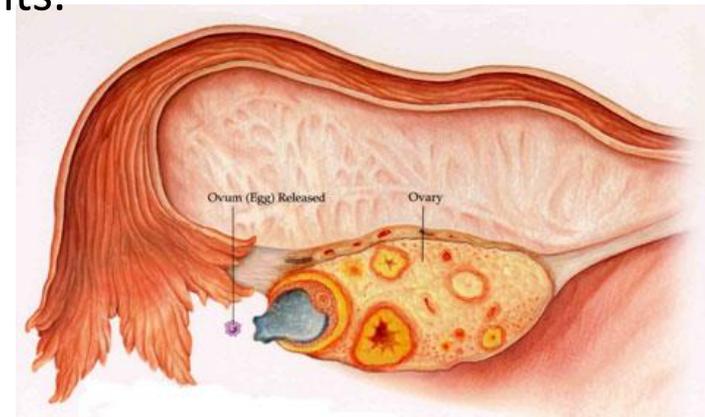
FERTILITY DIET?

There is **no strong evidence that dietary variations** such as vegetarian diets, lowfat diets, and vitamin or antioxidant **enriched diets improve fertility.**

- "FERTILITY DIET": - higher monounsaturated to trans fat ratio
- high % of protein from vegetable rather than animal sources
 - low glycemic index carbohydrates
 - high fat dairy foods
 - iron and multivitamin supplements.



risk of ovulatory disorder infertility.



OXIDATIVE STRESS

Agarwal et al. *Reproductive Biology and Endocrinology* 2012, 10:49
<http://www.rbej.com/content/10/1/49>

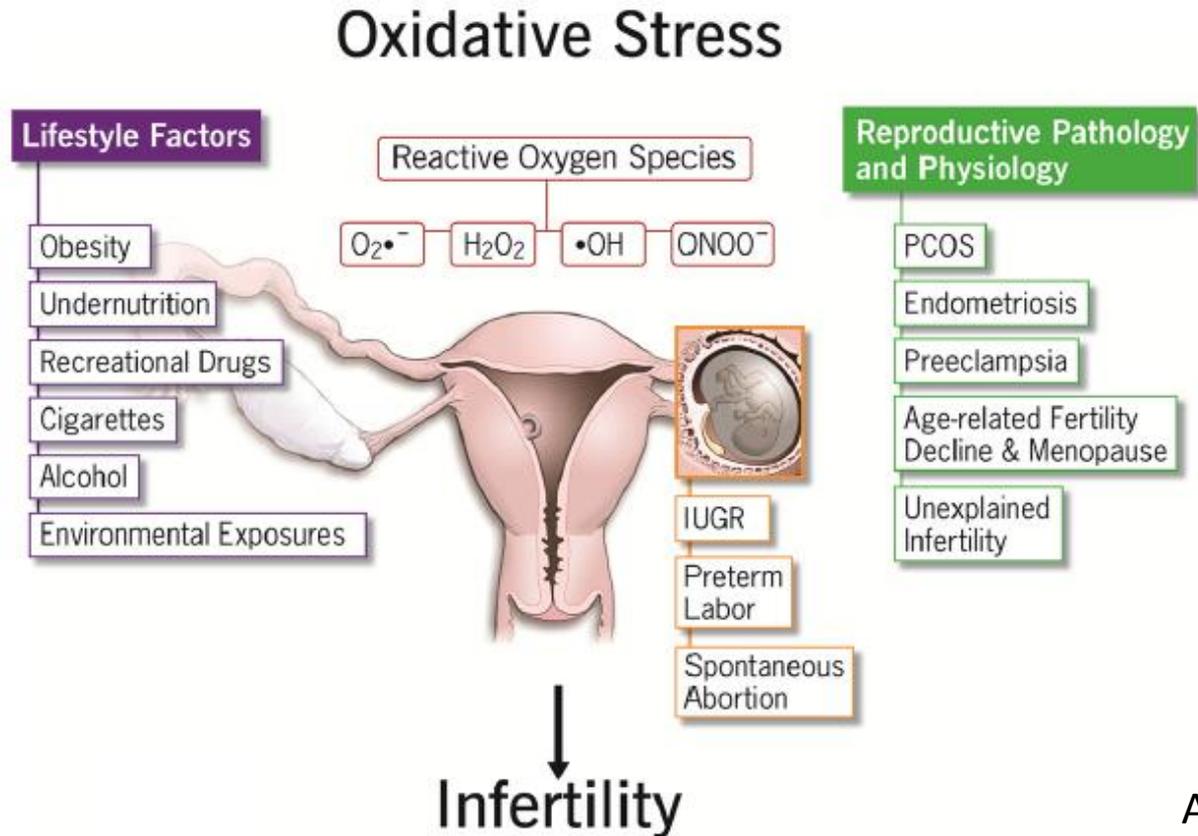


REVIEW

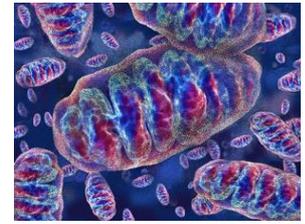
Open Access

The effects of oxidative stress on female reproduction: a review

Ashok Agarwal¹, Anamar Aponte-Mellado, Beena J Premkumar, Amani Shaman and Sajal Gupta



DIETARY VARIATIONS AND MITOCHONDRIAL FUNCTION



Maturitas 74 (2013) 309–312



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Maturitas

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/maturitas



Review

Nutrition and reproduction: Is there evidence to support a “Fertility Diet” to improve mitochondrial function?

Katherine M. Shaum^a, Alex J. Polotsky^{b,*}

The wide array of dietary influences on ovulatory dysfunction suggests a complex balance of nutrition for optimal fertility and confirms the dictum that there is **no “one size fits all” dietary intervention** to boost fertility.

DIETARY VARIATIONS AND MITOCHONDRIAL FUNCTION



Normal function of mitochondria plays an essential role in enabling reproductive capacity.

Table 1
Dietary interventions potentially relevant for targeting mitochondrial function for fertility enhancement.

Shaum 2013

Nutrient	Experimental setting	Specific aspect of mitochondria biology impacted
Carnitine	Boar sperm Human sperm and serum Blood and sperm of patients with epididymitis	Improved sperm quality, morphology. Improved sperm motility, decreased oxidative stress. Reduced reactive oxygen species, increased sperm viability, increased spontaneous pregnancy.
Coenzyme Q10	Oocytes of mice receiving ovarian stimulation.	Improved oocyte mitochondrial activity.
N-acetylcysteine	Human luteal cells	Impaired mitochondrial metabolism and cell survival.
Proanthocyanidins	Human endothelial cells	Protection from apoptosis after exposure to advanced glycation end products, a diabetic model.
	Mouse fibroblasts	Decreased oxidative stress after toxic exposure.
	Adipose tissue of rats with diet-induced obesity	Protection from weight gain, enhancement of brown adipose tissue mitochondrial function, decreased triglycerides and increased oxidative capacity.
	Skeletal muscle of a rat model of genetic obesity	Improved muscle mitochondrial function, decreased reactive oxygen species production.
	Myocardium and blood of diabetic mice	Fewer advanced glycation end products, inflammatory cytokines, decreased mitochondria degeneration.
	Metabolic markers of rats with fructose-induced metabolic syndrome	Lowered serum glucose, total cholesterol, blood pressure and triglycerides, decreased inflammatory markers.
Vitamin E	Human placental mitochondria Adipose and connective tissue of vitamin E deficient rats	Decreased lipid peroxidation. Decreased mitochondrial activity in brown adipose tissue, decreased endurance capacity.
Omega-3 Fatty Acids	Mouse oocytes	Decreased mitochondrial aggregation in oocytes and improved oocyte quality with advanced maternal age.

DIETARY ANTIOXIDANT INTAKE

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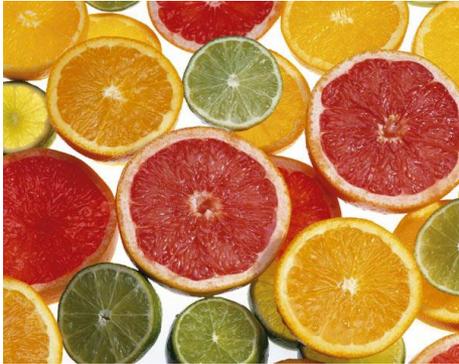
Fertil Steril. 2014 March ; 101(3): 759–766. doi:10.1016/j.fertnstert.2013.11.008.

Female dietary antioxidant intake and time to pregnancy among couples treated for unexplained infertility

Elizabeth H. Ruder, Ph.D., M.P.H.¹, Terry J. Hartman, Ph.D., M.P.H.², Richard H. Reindollar, M.D.³, and Marlene B. Goldman, Sc.D.^{3,4}

increased intake of certain antioxidants is associated with shorter time to pregnancy (TTP), but the relationship varied among patients

DIETARY ANTIOXIDANT INTAKE



VITAMIN C

shorter time to pregnancy among women with
BMI < 25 kg/m²
< 35 y of age.



B-CAROTENE

shorter TTP among women with
BMI < 25 kg/m²
BMI ≥ 25 kg/m²
age < 35 y



VITAMIN E

Shorter TTP in women ≥ 35y

FOLATES



Original Research

Dietary Folate and Reproductive Success Among Women Undergoing Assisted Reproduction

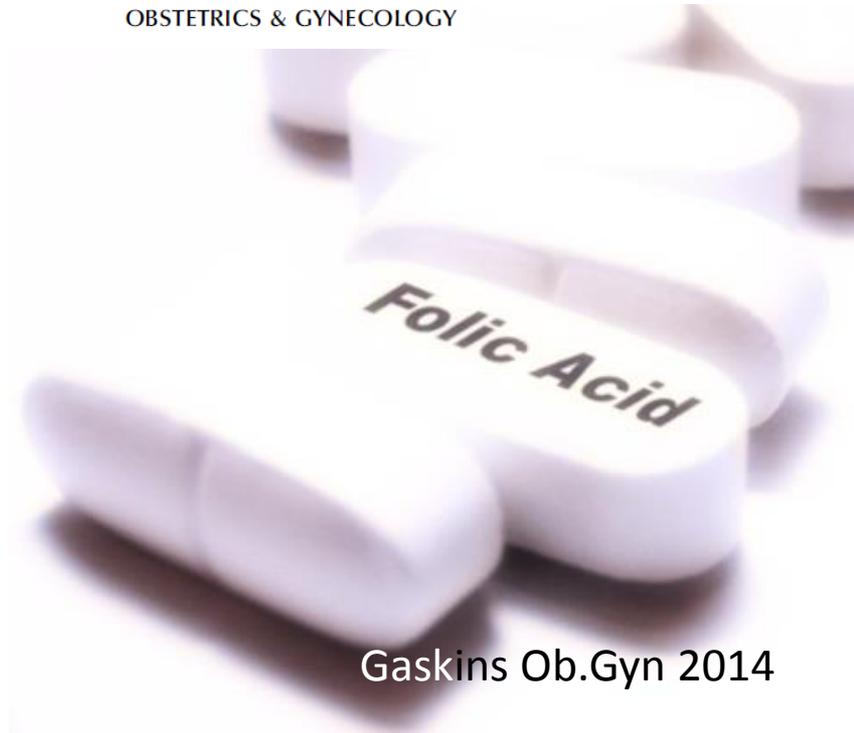
*Audrey J. Gaskins, ScD, Myriam C. Afeiche, PhD, Diane L. Wright, PhD, Thomas L. Toth, MD,
Paige L. Williams, PhD, Matthew W. Gillman, MD, ScM, Russ Hauser, MD, ScD,
and Jorge E. Chavarro, MD, ScD*

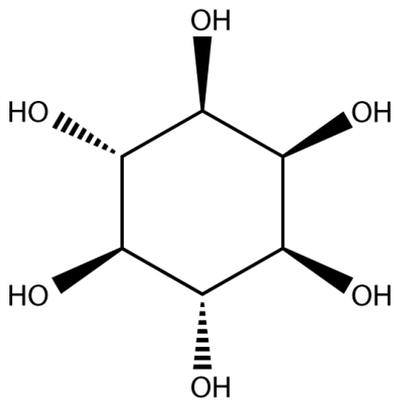
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OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

- Better-quality oocytes
- Higher degree of mature oocytes.

Supplemental folate (800-1000 mcg/d)
is preferable to food folate for
reproductive benefits.





MYO-INOSITOL

Lisi et al. *Reproductive Biology and Endocrinology* 2012, **10**:52
<http://www.rbej.com/content/10/1/52>



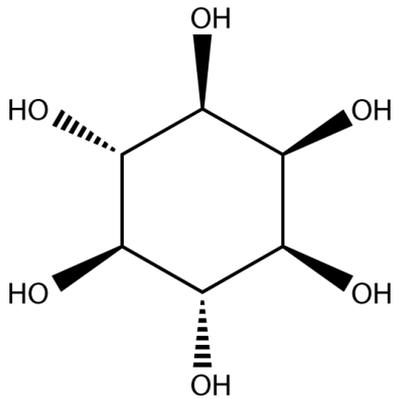
RESEARCH

Open Access

Pretreatment with myo-inositol in non polycystic ovary syndrome patients undergoing multiple follicular stimulation for IVF: a pilot study

Franco Lisi^{1*}, Piero Carfagna¹, Mario Montanino Oliva¹, Rocco Rago¹, Rosella Lisi¹, Roberta Poverini¹, Claudio Manna², Elena Vaquero³, Donatella Caserta⁴, Valeria Raparelli⁵, Roberto Marci⁶ and Massimo Moscarini⁴

Physiological and therapeutic role of myo-inositol in human reproduction and in particularly in oogenesis, playing an important role in cell morphogenesis and cytogenesis, lipid synthesis, structure of cell membranes and cell growth



MYO-INOSITOL

NON-PCOS patients, daily dose of:

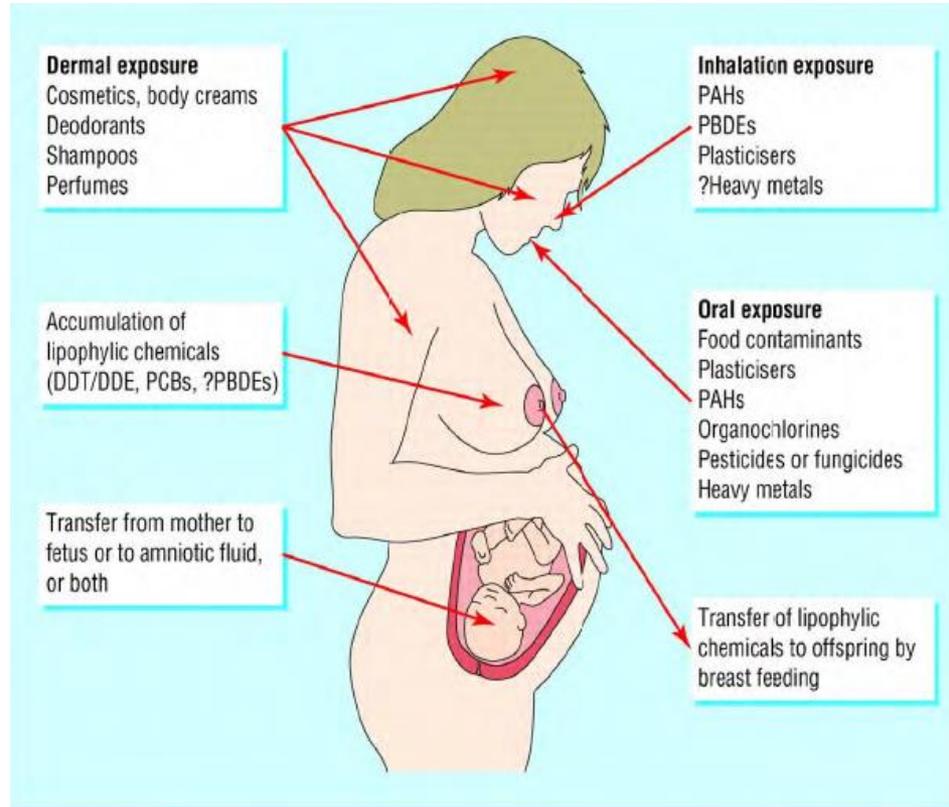
4,000 mg of myo-inositol 2 admin + 400 µg of folic acid

for the 3 months before and during rFSH administration, following the long protocol.

The addition of myo-inositol :

- reduces gonadotropin dosage
- reduces the number of MII oocytes retrieved
- same clinical pregnancy rate
- apparently increased implantation rate

INTERFERENTI ENDOCRINI

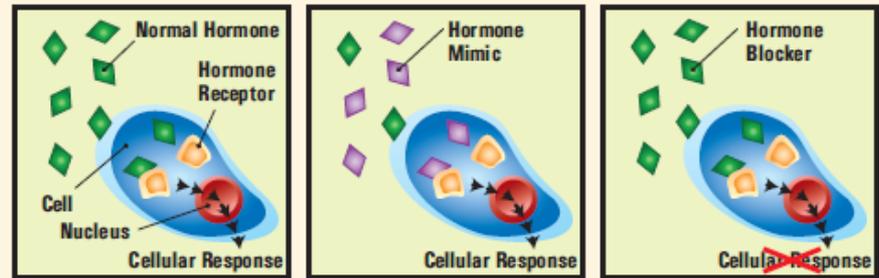


Una vasta categoria di sostanze o miscele di sostanze, che alterano la funzionalità del sistema endocrino, causando effetti avversi sulla salute di un organismo, oppure della sua progenie o di una (sotto)popolazione. Queste interferenze possono provocare tumori, difetti alla nascita, e altri disturbi dello sviluppo.



ENDOCRINE DISRUPTORS

- Effetto dato da piccole dosi
- Effetti ad ampio spettro
- Persistenza nel tempo
dell'effetto biologico
- Ubiquitari



When absorbed in the body, an endocrine disruptor can decrease or increase normal hormone levels (left), mimic the body's natural hormones (middle), or alter the natural production of hormones (right).

KEY POINTS

- Stili di vita ed abitudini alimentari possono avere un impatto significativo sulla capacità di ottenere una gravidanza nelle donne infertili
- Nonostante gli sforzi nell'educazione delle pazienti, spesso le stesse non seguono le raccomandazioni ed i consigli
- Ruolo attivo del personale sanitario nell'educazione ed informazione delle pazienti

