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PLENARY LECTURES

Intravenous immunoglobulin therapy in reproductive failure

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Intravenous Immunoglobulins (IVIg) are widely used off label in the treatment of reproductive failure. Intravenous Immunoglobulins, first given to recurrent aborters with anti phospholipid syndrome (APS), have been administered to unexplained aborters since 1986. In APS-associated reproductive loss, there is encouraging Level II and III evidence and a pilot Level I trial. More recently, it has been suggested that IVIG may improve the success rate of in vitro fertilization and embryo transfer (IVF) in patients with prior IVF failures. A rationale for use of IVIG is provided by a review of mechanisms of IVIG action and a two-year own experience of IVIG treatment of women with recurrent miscarriage and implantation failure in IVF.

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