

Use of cervical mucus enhancers to facilitate achieving pregnancy

Research Project Overview

Project title:	Use of cervical mucus enhancers to facilitate achieving pregnancy
Project duration:	8 weeks (32 hours per week)
Description:	<p>The Natural Fertility Services unit of Mater Mothers' Hospital Brisbane has been treating couples presenting with infertility using: fertility-awareness, mucus enhancers, and restorative reproductive medical and surgical techniques, with the goal of achieving pregnancy.</p> <p>The aim of this project is to assess the current stepwise approach to the enhancement of cervical mucus, and whether this has a beneficial effect on the quality and quantity of cervical mucus and reduction in time to fall pregnant. Assessment of mucus will be drawn from charts of the woman's menstrual cycle using the Symptothermal method of fertility-awareness. Data has been collected over the past 6 years and couples are still being recruited at this tertiary referral service for the current and other sub-projects.</p> <p>This is a sparsely researched clinical area and the results of this project are expected to provide useful knowledge in the field of reproductive medicine at both primary (General Practice) and referral (Specialist) levels.</p>
Expected outcomes and deliverables:	<p>Scholars will gain experience in data collation and interrogation in a tertiary hospital environment. Research will be supported by a multidisciplinary team including Specialist Obstetrician/Gynaecologist, GPs, Midwives, and Fertility-Awareness teachers. The student will gain insight into current fertility awareness methods and restorative reproductive medicine. Expected research findings will be novel, with the aim of producing a written report as the basis for a peer-reviewed publication. There may be the opportunity for findings to be presented at a clinical/research conference.</p>
Suitable for:	<p>Medical students in year's three to four at UQ with an interest in fertility/infertility, or those with a previous research background including undergraduate Honours and/or postgraduate qualifications. Other UQ students with experience in fertility awareness methods.</p>
Primary Supervisor:	Dr Luke McLindon
Further info:	<p>The supervisor Dr Luke McLindon <u>must</u> be contacted by students prior to submission of an application.</p> <p>Email: lukemclindon@bigpond.com Mobile: 0438 760 265</p>