

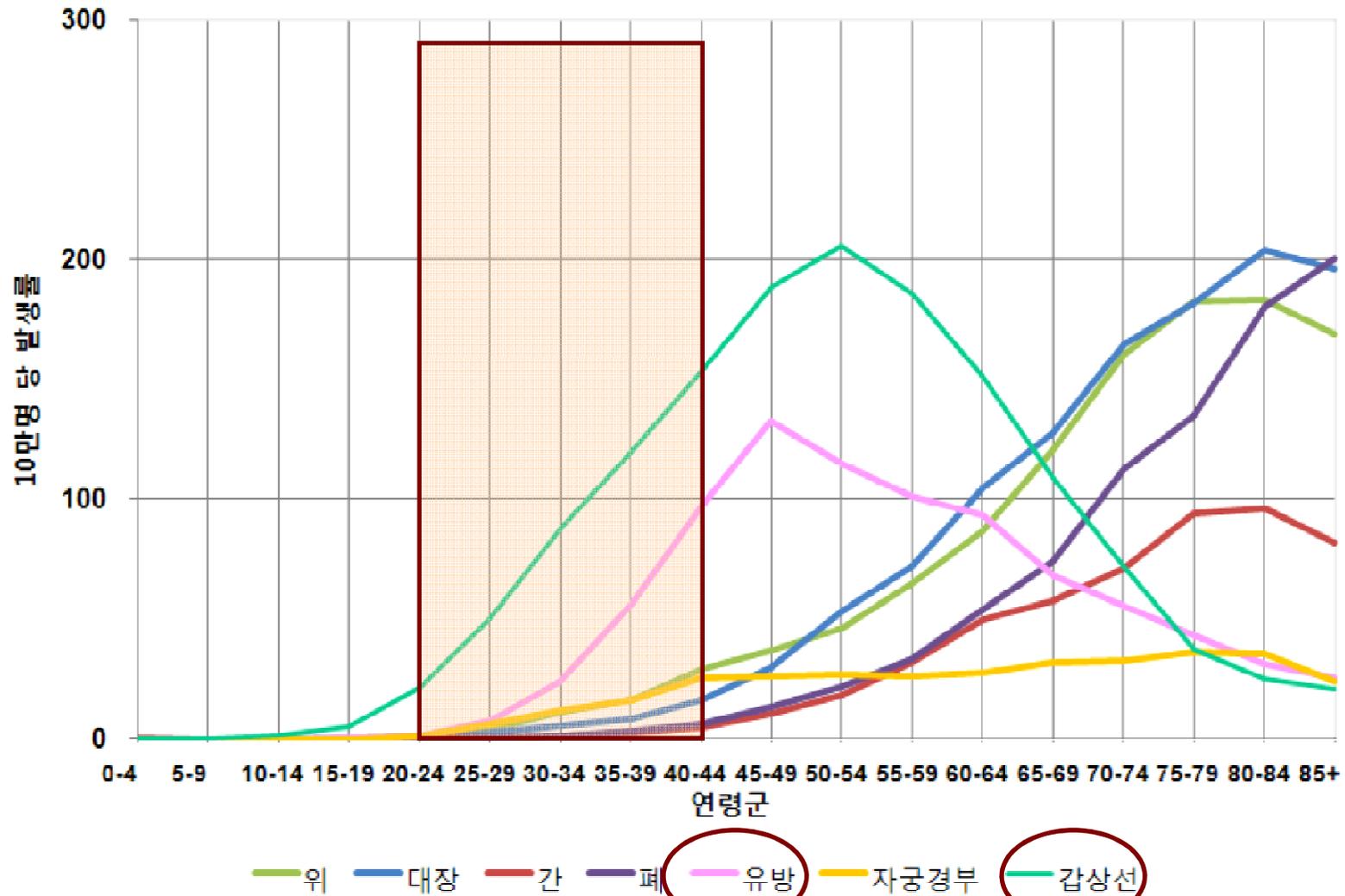
# Cryopreservation and Transplantation of Human Ovarian Tissue

분당서울대학교병원

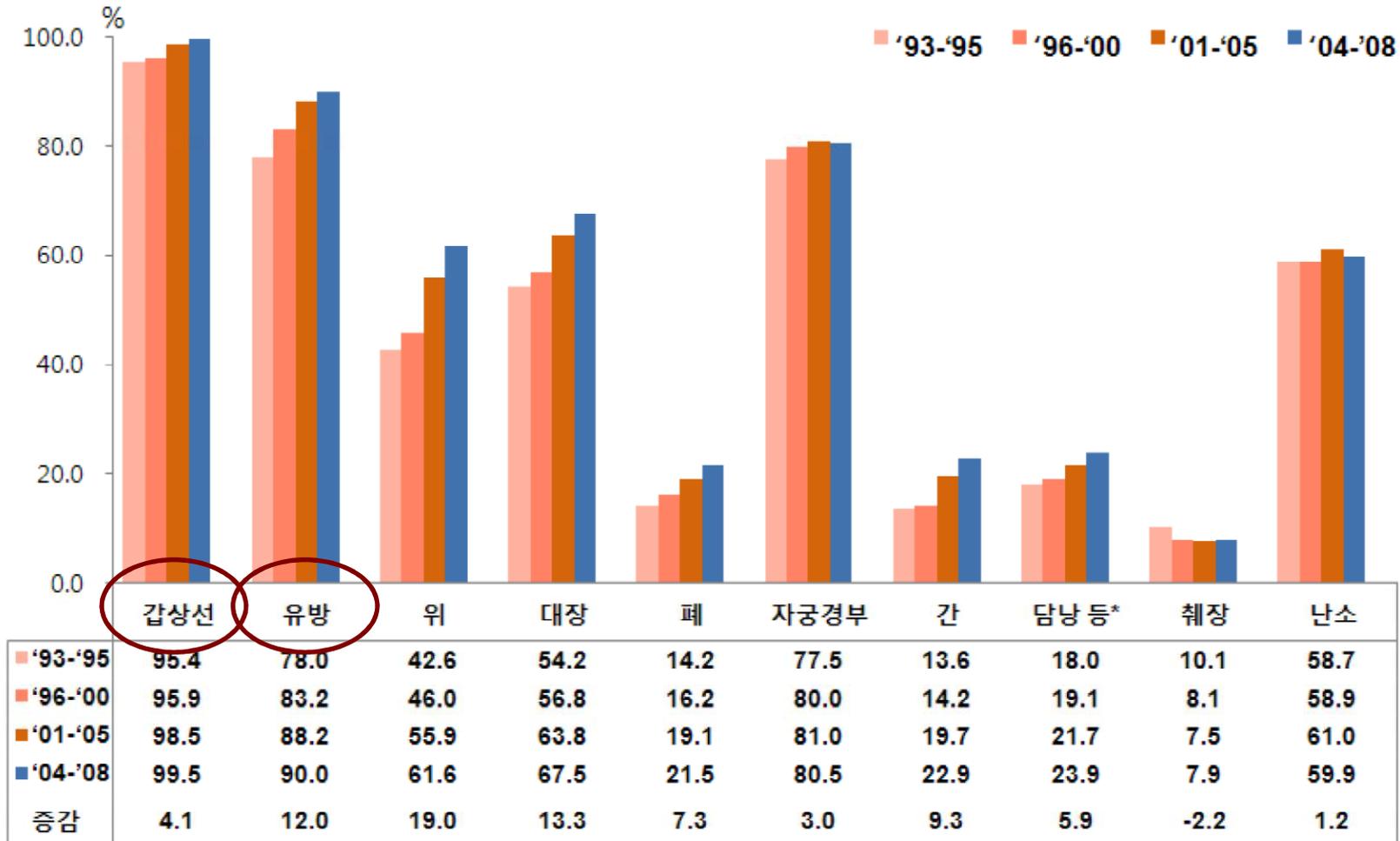
산부인과 불임연구실

염혜원

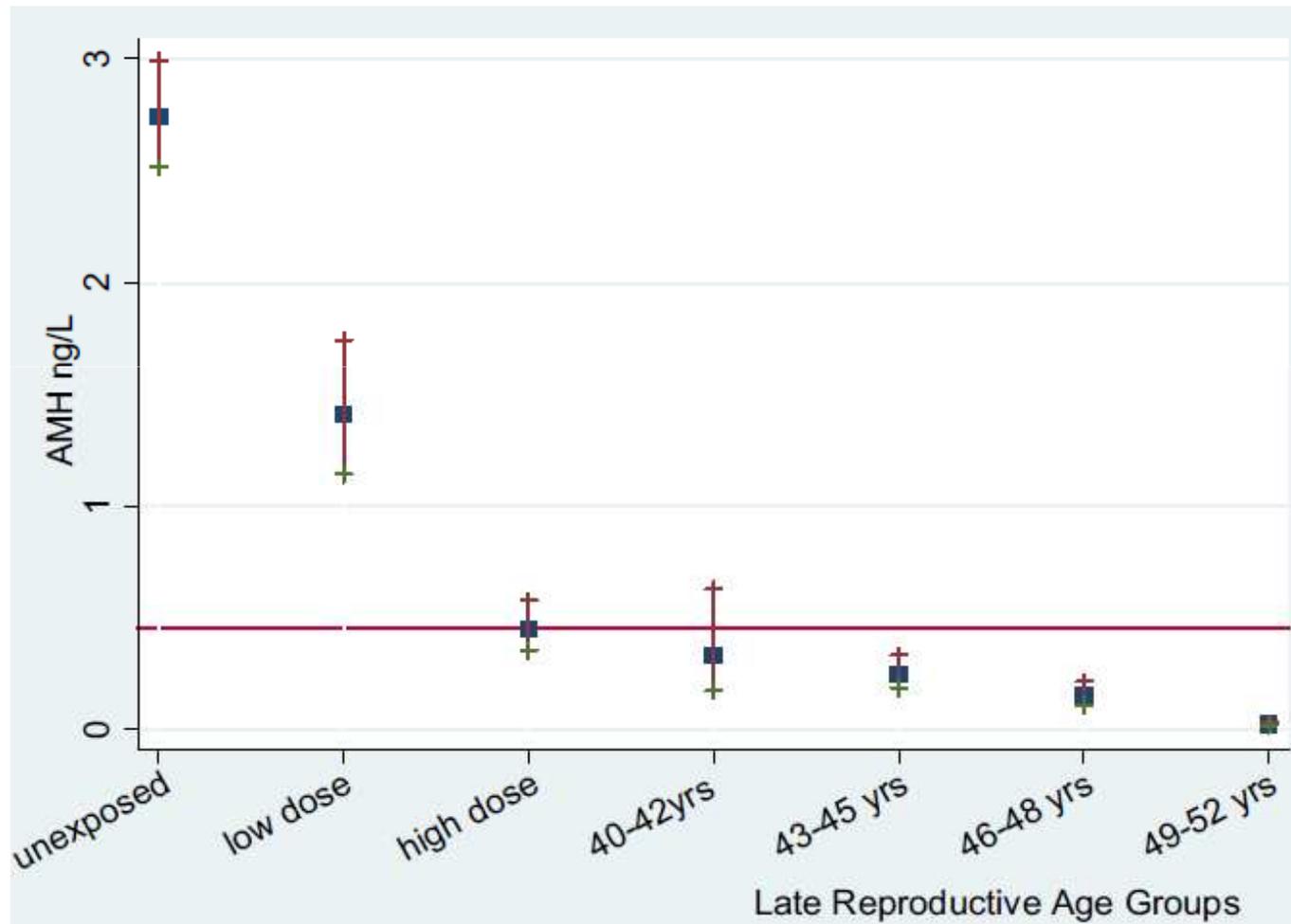
# Female Cancer Incidence According to Age



# Trends in Female Cancer Survival Rate



# Ovarian Reserve after Cancer Therapy



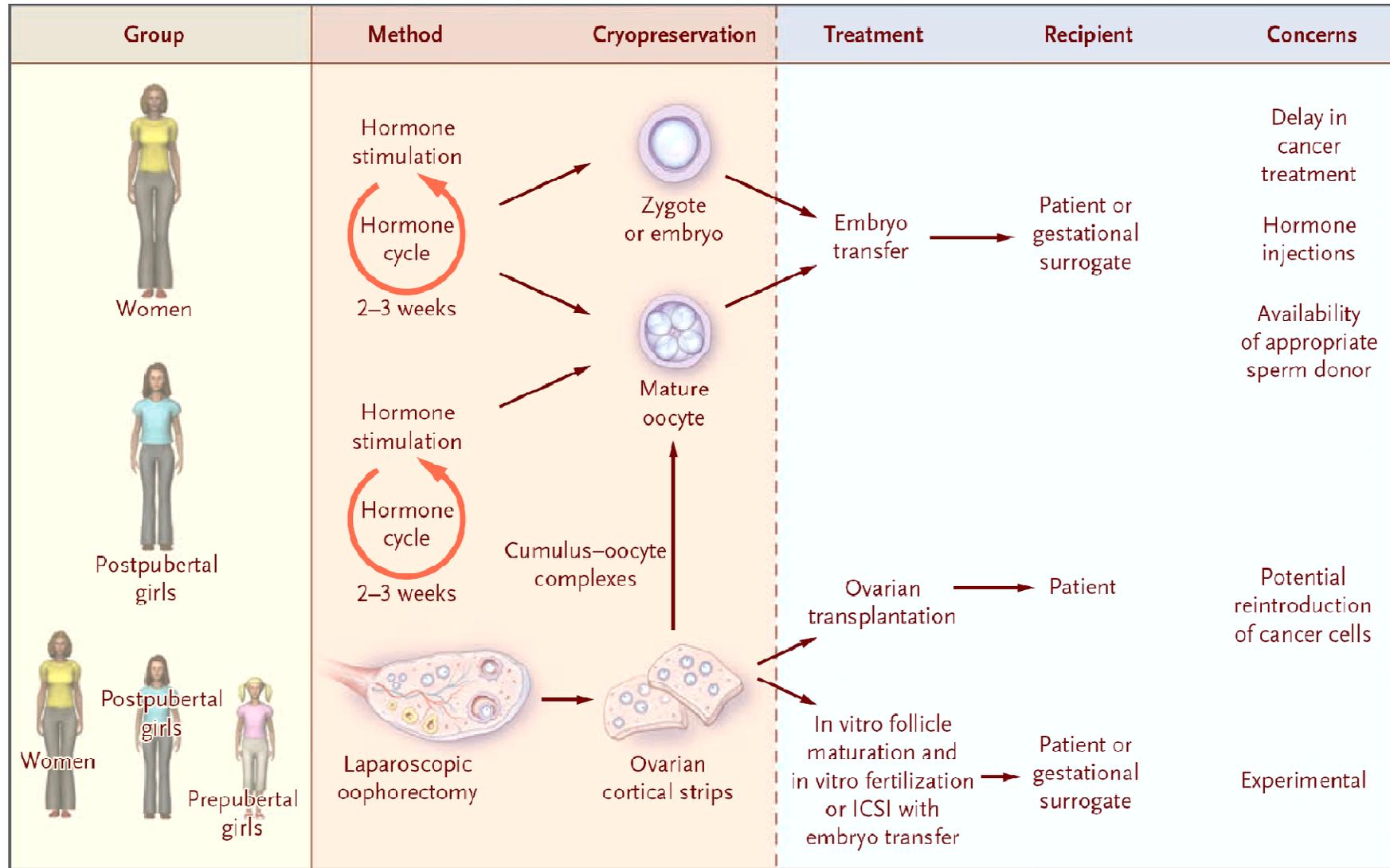
# Fertility Preservation Options

- Ovarian protection (GnRH-a, Oophorectomy)
- Oocyte / Embryo freezing
- **Ovarian tissue cryopreservation**
  - autotransplantation, in vitro culture

## Limitation

- **Cryoinjury** : many different cell types → difficult to optimize conditions
- **Ischemic injuries** after transplantation → no vascular anastomosis

# Options for Female FP



# Worldwide Frozen Ovarian Cortex Transplantation Pregnancy

**TABLE 2**

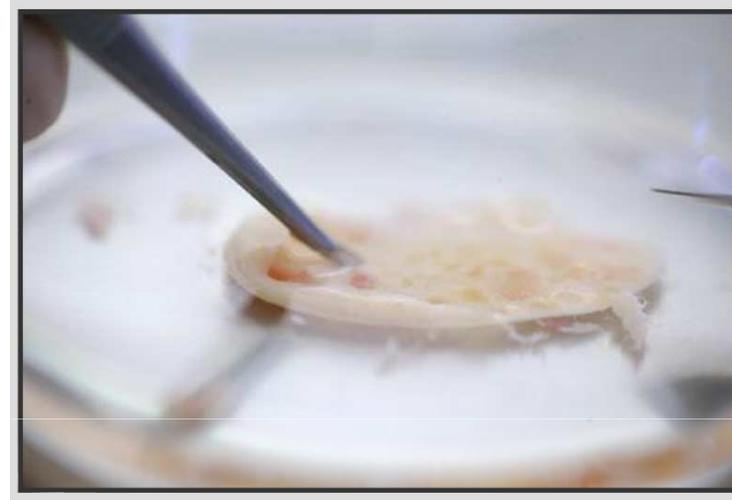
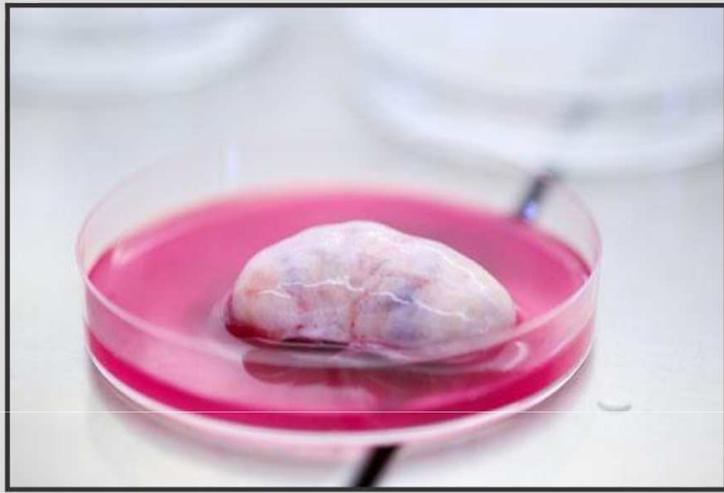
Series of 20 live births after transplantation of frozen-thawed ovarian cortex.

References	Cryopreservation procedure	Graft site	Live birth	
			Spontaneous	IVF
Donnez et al., 2004 (9), 2008 (20), 2011 (4,32)	SF	Peritoneal window (2 steps) Ovarian medulla	+ ++ (+)*	+ (+)*
Meirow et al., 2005 (17)	SF	Beneath the ovarian cortex	—	+
Demeestere et al., 2007 (24)	SF	Ovarian and peritoneal windows (2 steps)	++	—
Andersen et al., 2008 (18); Ernst et al., 2010 (33); Schmidt et al., 2011 (29)	SF	Subcortical ovarian pocket Ovarian medulla	+ +	+ +
Silber et al., 2008 (34), 2010 (35)	SF	Ovarian medulla	+ +	—
Piver et al., 2009 (25); Roux et al., 2010 (11)	SF	Ovarian and peritoneal windows (1 and 2 steps)	+ +	—
Sanchez-Serrano et al., 2010 (36)	SF	Ovarian medulla	—	++ (twins)
Revel et al., 2011 (37)	SF	Peritoneal window	—	+
Dittrich et al., 2012 (38)	SF	Ovarian medulla	—	+
Revelli et al., 2012 (39)	SF	Ovarian medulla	+	

\* Parentheses indicate ongoing pregnancy at the present time.

Donnez. Live birth after bilateral oophorectomy. *Fertil Steril* 2012.

# Preparation of Ovarian Tissue for Cryopreservation

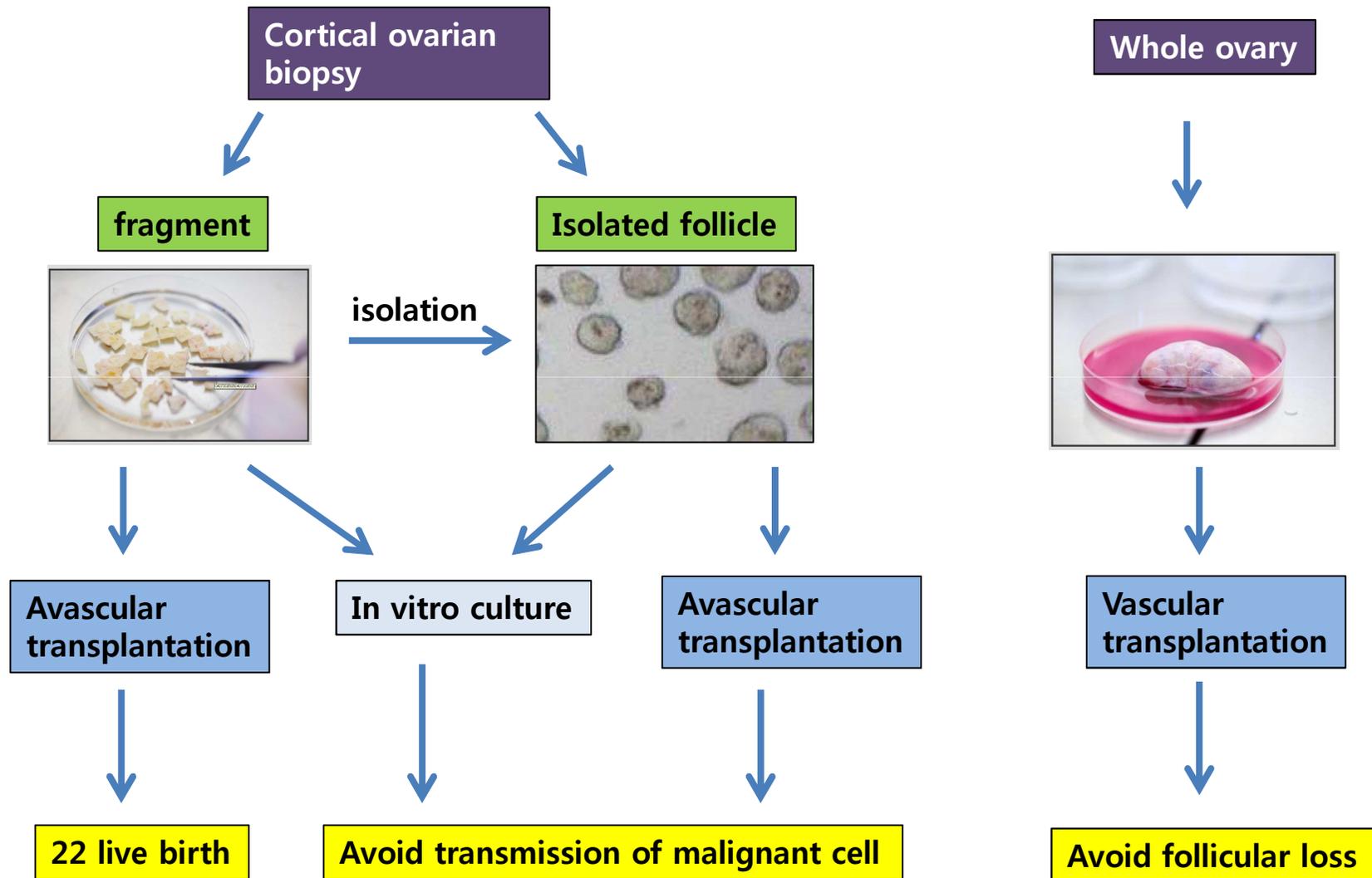


# Ovarian Cortex

- the 1mm outer layer of ovary
- contain more than 90 % of the primordial follicles
- allows effective cryopreservation of follicles
- active follicles constitute the organ function



# Cryopreservation of Ovarian Tissues : 3 Options



# Freezing Methods for Reproductive Cells

## 1) Slow freezing

cryoprotectants : 1.0-1.5 M and low  
cooling rates : low (0.3~2°C/min)

## 2) Vitrification

cryoprotectants : 3M and high  
cooling rate : high (over 20,000°C/min)

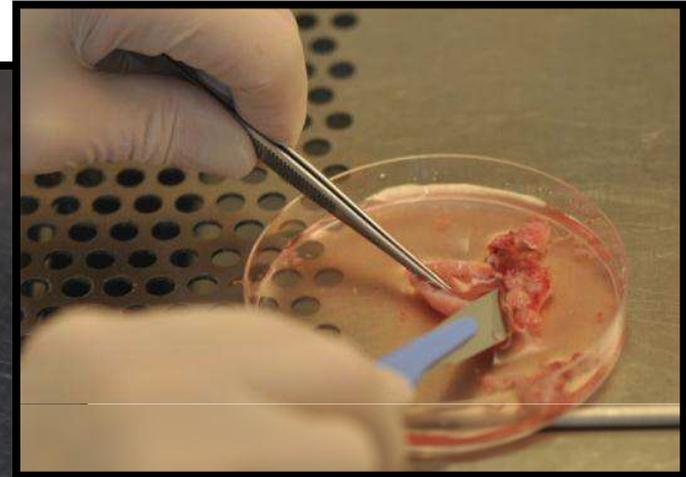
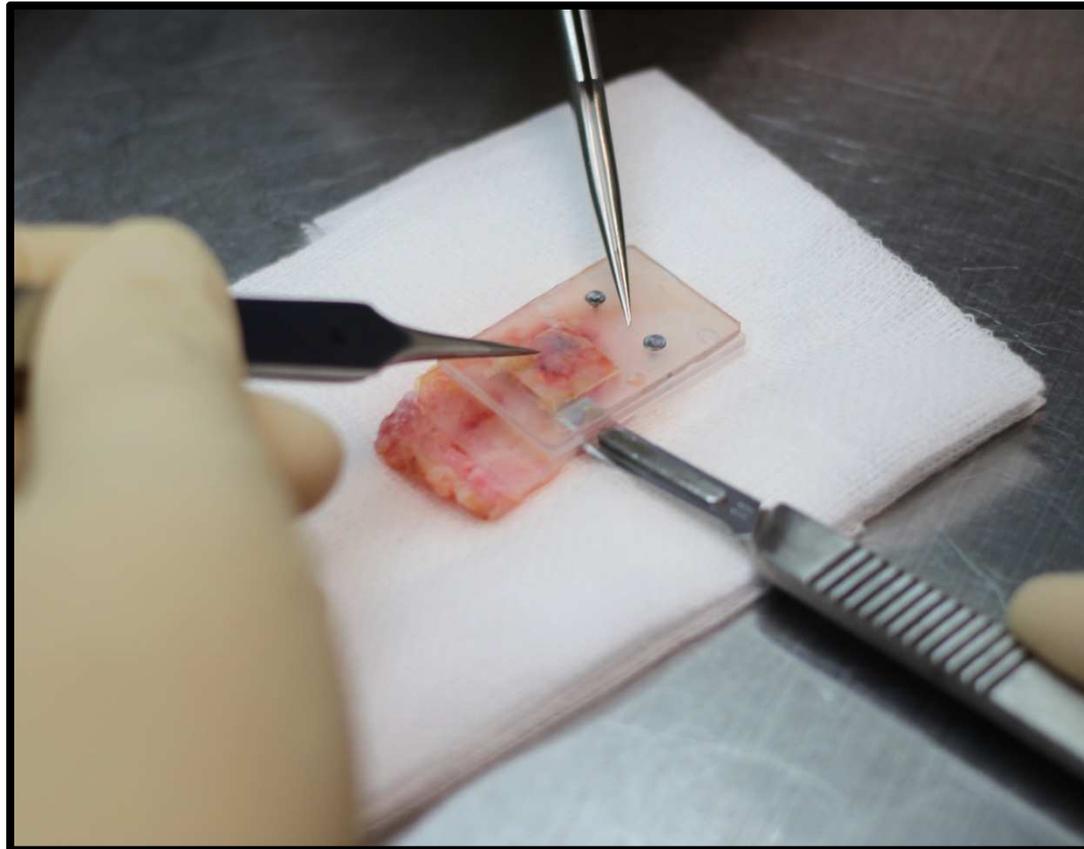
# Ovarian Cortex Freezing Protocol

Reference	Slow freezing	Vitrification
Donnez et al. (2012)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ovarian tissue cut : 8-10 x 4-5 x 1(mm)</li> <li>Cryoprotectant : 10% DMSO (20-30min, 4°C)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ovarian tissue cut : 1 x 1 x 1 (mm)</li> <li>Cryoprotectant : 38% EG + 0.5M trehalose (3min, RT)</li> </ol>
Silber et al. (2012)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ovarian tissue cut : multiple x 1 (mm)</li> <li>Cryoprotectant 1.5M PROH + 0.1M sucrose (30min, 37°C) 1.5M PROH + 0.2M sucrose (5min)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ovarian tissue cut : 10 x 10 X 1(mm)</li> <li>Cryoprotectant 7.5% EG + 7.5% DMSO (25min, RT) 20% EG + 20% DMSO (15min, RT)</li> </ol>
SNUBH	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ovarian tissue cut : 5 x 1-5 x 1(mm)</li> <li>Cryoprotectant 1.5M DMSO + 0.1M sucrose (20min, RT)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ovarian tissue cut : 10 x 10 X 1(mm)</li> <li>Cryoprotectant 20% EG (10min, RT) 40% EG ++ 18% Ficoll + 0.3M sucrose (5min, RT)</li> </ol>

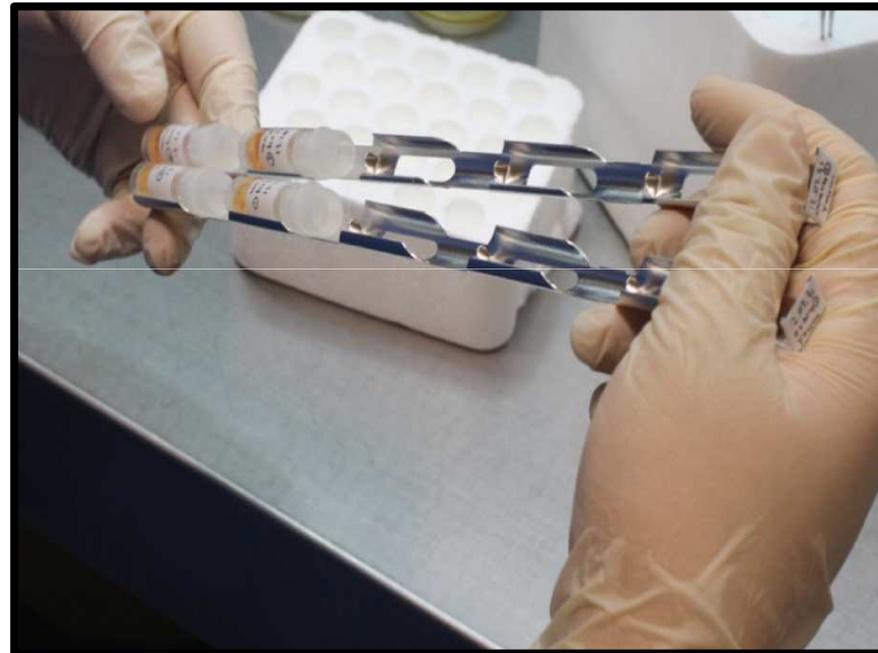
# Oocyte Collection From Ovarian Cortex



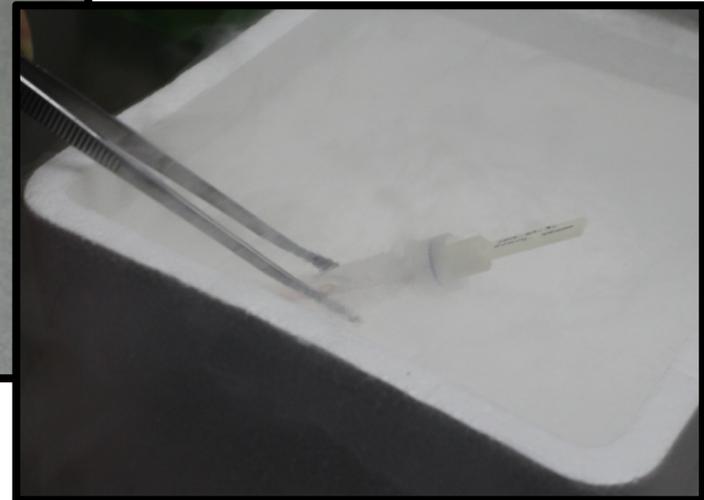
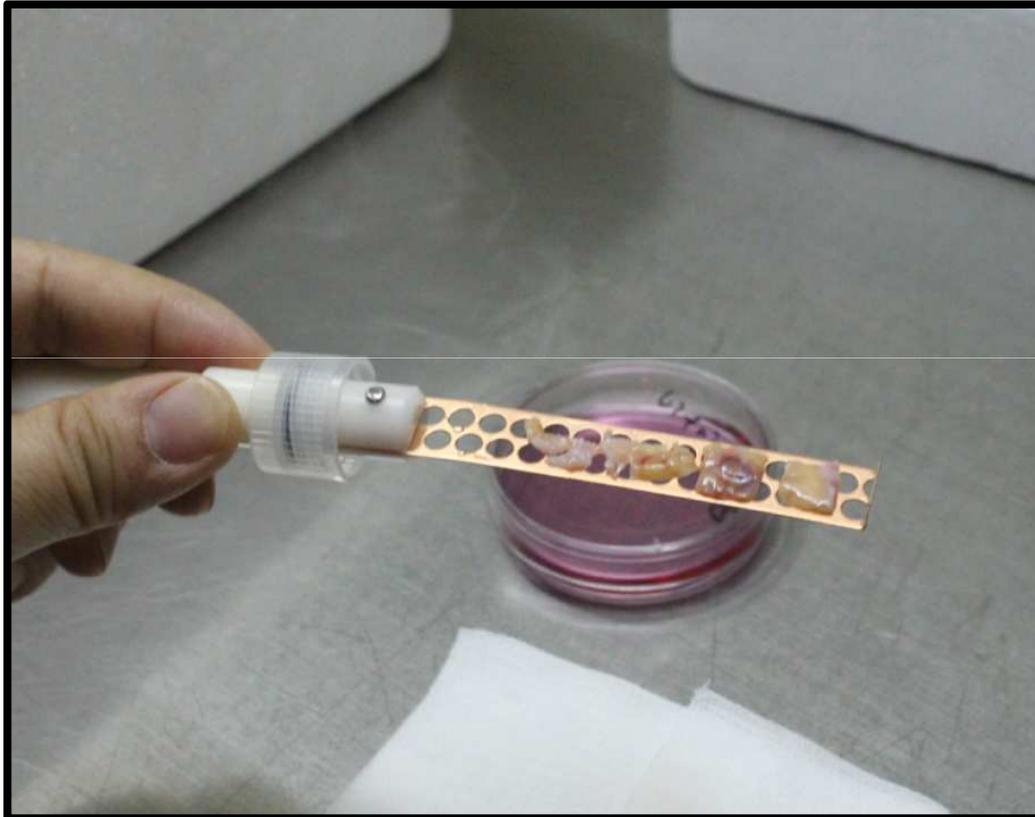
# Preparation of Ovarian Tissue for Cryopreservation



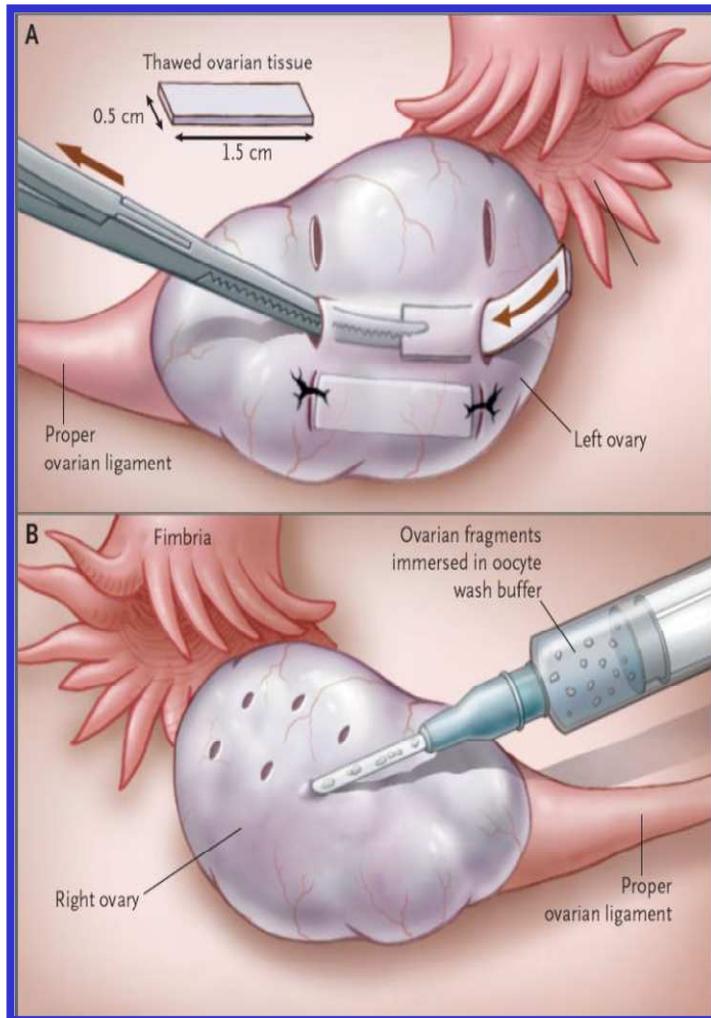
# Slow Freezing of Ovarian Cortex



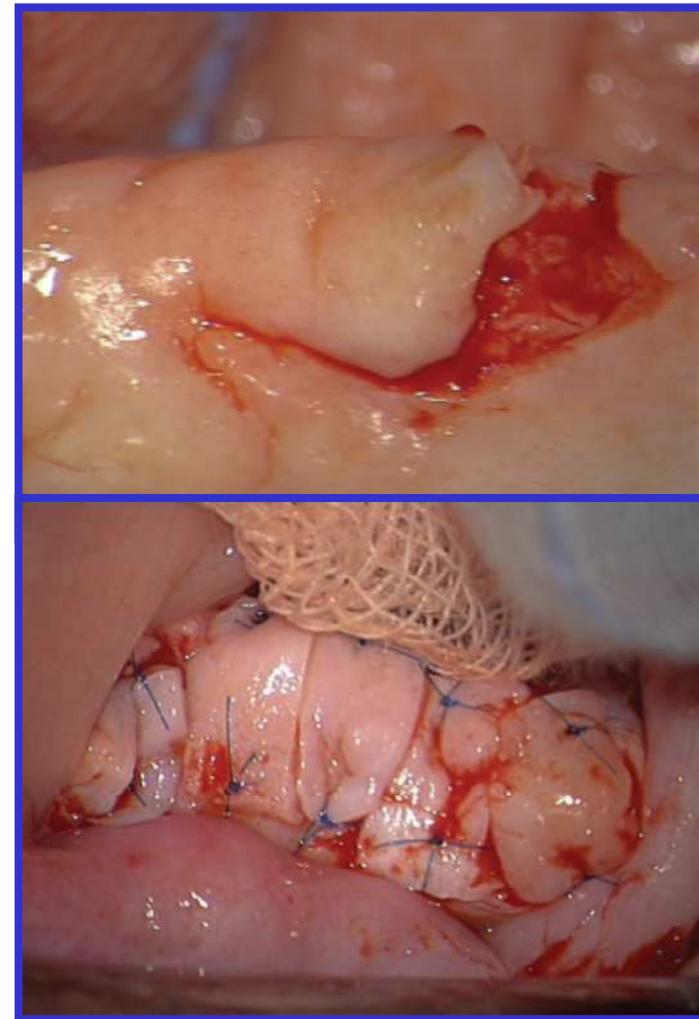
# Vitrification of Ovarian Cortex



# Transplantation of Human Ovarian Tissue



Meirow et al., NEJM 2005;353:318



Donnez et al., Hum Reprod Update 2006;12:519

# Available Tests before Transplantation

- Before grafting schedule :
  - 1 piece of cryopreserved cortex
  - thawing
  - evaluation of follicular density
    - normal :  $n > 15-20$  follicles/mm<sup>3</sup>**
- **Malignant potential** : type & stage dependent
  - Histology, RT-PCR,
  - Long-term xenografting (6 months)
  - **So far, no relapse due to grafting out of 56 transplantations. (Dolmans, ISFP 2011)**

# Ovarian Tissue Viability Test

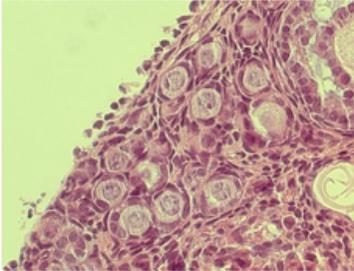
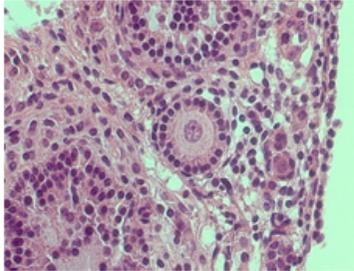
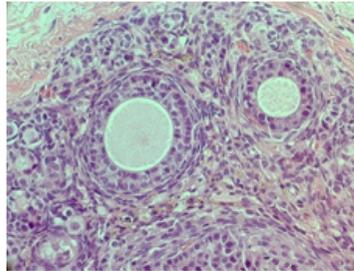
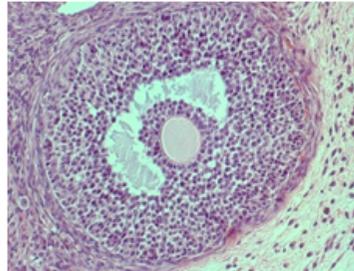
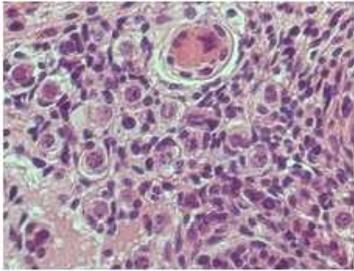
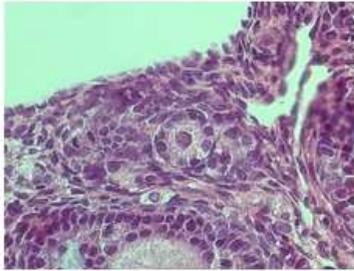
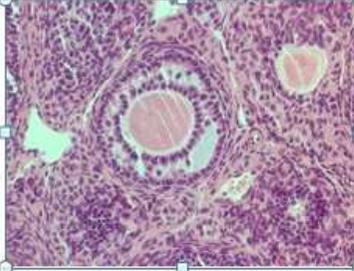
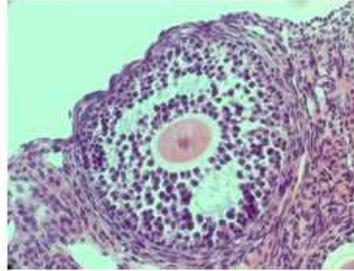
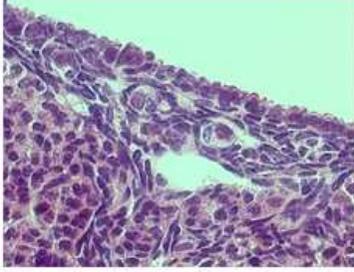
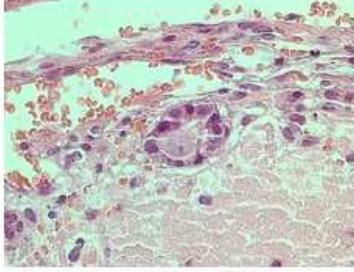
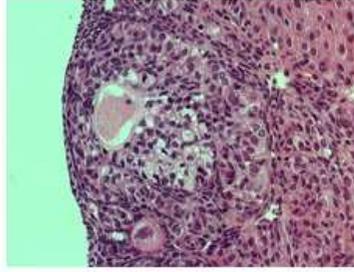
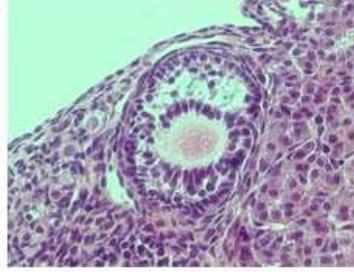
## histological signs of cell death

- loss of cell membrane integrity and attachment
- cell shrinkage
- nuclear fading & nuclear shrinkage
- nuclear fragmentation

## Live/Dead cytotoxicity kit assay

- **Calcein AM** : live cell, green
- **Ethidium-homodimer 1** : dead cell, red

# Morphologic Classification of Mouse Ovarian Follicles (SNUBH OBGY)

	Primordial	Primary	Secondary	<u>Antral</u>
G1				
G2				
G3				

## Optimal condition of vitrification method for cryopreservation of human ovarian cortical tissues

Hye Jin Chang<sup>1</sup>, Jeong Hee Moon<sup>2</sup>, Jung Ryeol Lee<sup>2</sup>, Byung Chul Jee<sup>2,3</sup>,  
Chang Suk Suh<sup>2,3</sup> and Seok Hyun Kim<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Health Promotion Center, Seoul National University Bundang Hospital, <sup>2</sup>Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Seoul National University Bundang Hospital, Seongnam, and <sup>3</sup>Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, College of Medicine, Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea

### Results:

**336 follicles** were cryopreserved and thawed.

**Grade 1 follicle** : 3.6%, **34.7%**, 13.8%, and **20.0%** in the 5-min, **10-min**, 20-min vitrification, and **slow-freezing** groups, respectively

**Ration of TUNEL positive** : 52.1%, **31.5%**, 53.1%, and **46.7%** in the 5-min, **10-min**, 20-min, vitrification and **slow-freezing** groups, respectively

**Conclusions:** The **10-min exposure group for vitrification** showed better results compared with other conditions and the slow-freezing group.

# Duration of fertility after fresh and frozen ovary transplantation

Sherman Silber, M.D.,<sup>a</sup> Nori Kagawa, Ph.D.,<sup>b</sup> Masashige Kuwayama, Ph.D.,<sup>b</sup> and Roger Gosden, Ph.D., D.Sc.<sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Infertility Center of St. Louis, St. Luke's Hospital, St. Louis, Missouri; <sup>b</sup> Kato Ladies Clinic, Tokyo, Japan; and <sup>c</sup> Center for Reproductive Medicine and Infertility, Weill Medical College of Cornell University, New York, New York

**Conclusion(s):** Ovarian transplantation in humans is a robust procedure, even after cryopreservation, and vitrification might prove to be more effective than slow freezing. (*Fertil Steril*® 2010;94:2191–6. ©2010 by American Society for Reproductive Medicine.)

**TABLE 2**

**Survival of small oocytes after enzymatic isolation from ovarian tissues following cryopreservation by vitrification or slow freezing.**

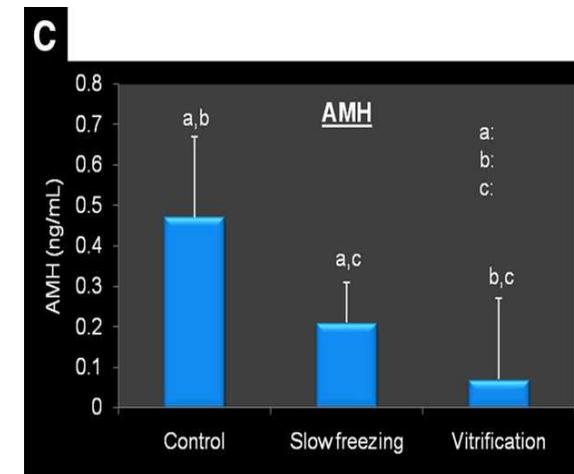
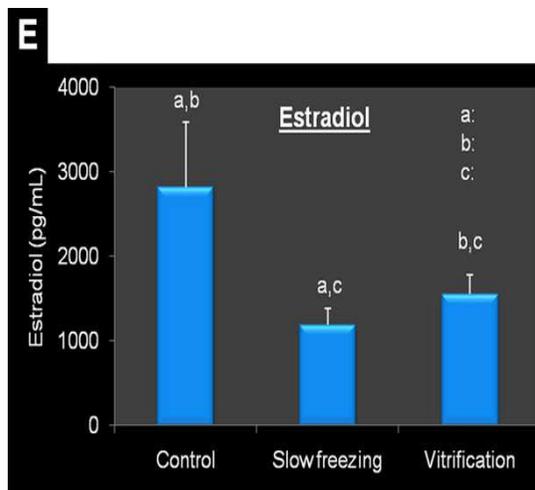
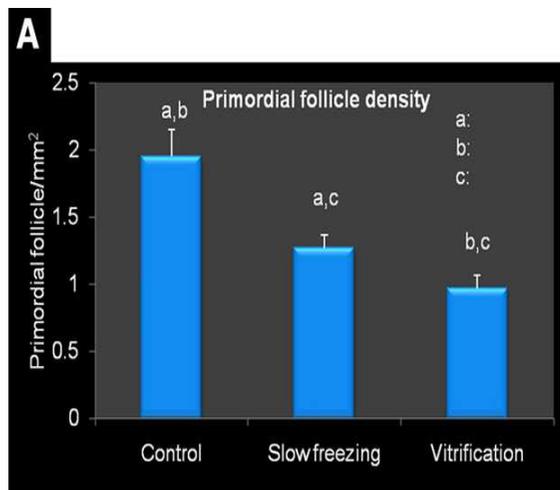
Group	No. of ovaries	No. of oocytes harvested	No. of surviving oocytes (%)
Fresh	2	358	329 (91.9%) <sup>a</sup>
Vitrified	8	1,122	1,000 (89.1%) <sup>a</sup>
Cryopreserved	6	821	342 (41.7%) <sup>b</sup>

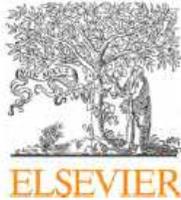
<sup>a,b</sup>Groups with the same superscripts are not significantly different ( $P > .05$ ), whereas those with different superscripts are significantly different ( $P < .01$ ).

Silber. *Fertility after ovary transplantation. Fertil Steril* 2010.

# Vitrified human ovaries have fewer primordial follicles and produce less antimüllerian hormone than slow-frozen ovaries

Slow-freezing and vitrification methods of human ovarian tissue cryopreservation were compared in terms of **primordial follicle count and in vitro antimüllerian hormone (AMH) and estradiol production**. Compared with fresh and slow-frozen ovaries, **vitrified ovaries contained statistically significantly fewer primordial follicles** and produced statistically **significantly less AMH in vitro**. Estradiol production from slow-frozen and vitrified ovaries was similar but statistically significantly lower than from fresh cultured strips. (Fertil Steril® 2011;95:2661–4. ©2011 by American Society for Reproductive Medicine.)

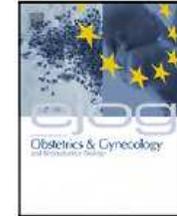




Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

## European Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Reproductive Biology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ejogrb](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ejogrb)



### Effect of sphingosine-1-phosphate supplementation on follicular integrity of vitrified-warmed mouse ovarian grafts

Byung Chul Jee<sup>a,b</sup>, Jung Ryeol Lee<sup>a</sup>, Hyewon Youm<sup>a</sup>, Chang Suk Suh<sup>a,b,c</sup>, Seok Hyun Kim<sup>b,c,\*</sup>, Shin Yong Moon<sup>b,c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Seoul National University Bundang Hospital, 300 Gumi, Bundang, Seongnam, Gyeonggi, Republic of Korea

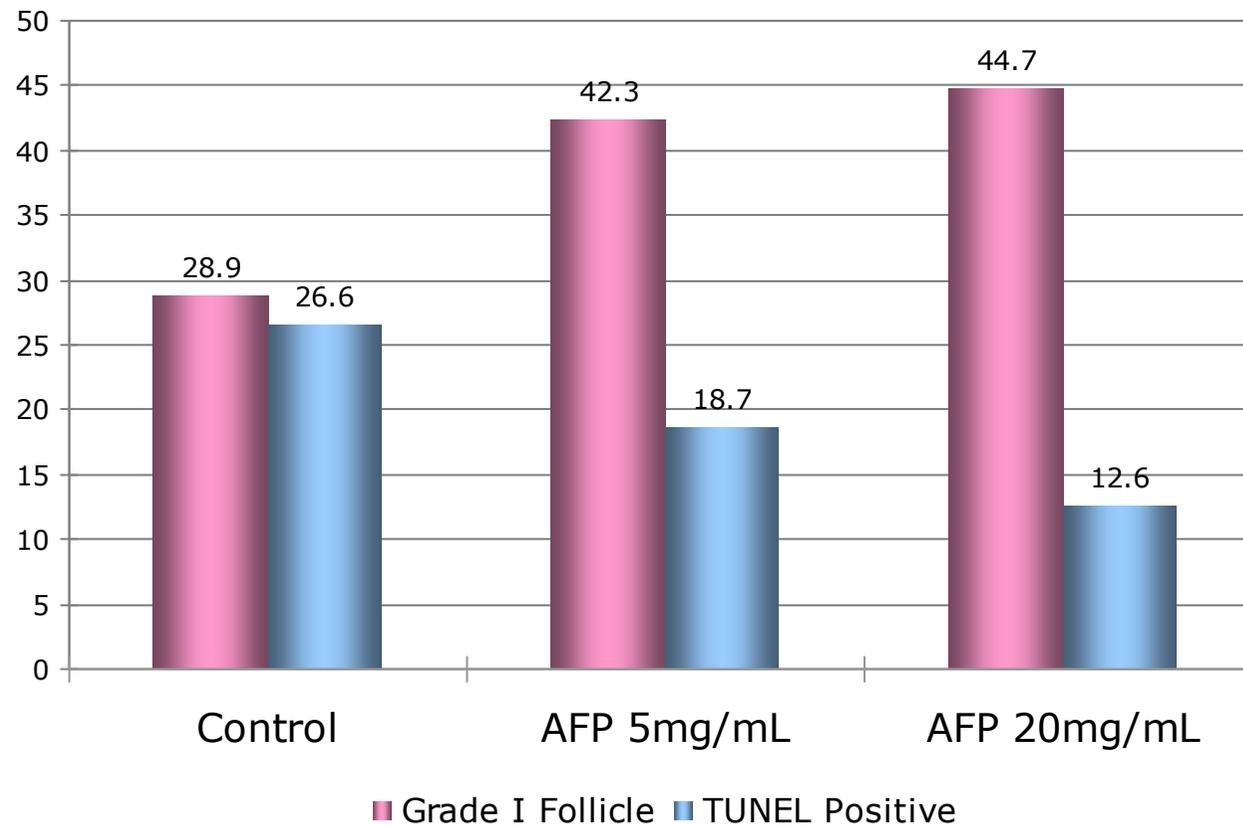
<sup>b</sup> Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Seoul National University College of Medicine, 28 Yeongeon, Chongno, Seoul, Republic of Korea

<sup>c</sup> Institute of Reproductive Medicine and Population, Medical Research Center, Seoul National University, 28 Yeongeon, Chongno, Seoul, Republic of Korea

**Results:** During vitrification and warming, inclusion of 2  $\mu$ M S1P into the vitrification solution significantly raised the rate of morphologically intact follicles compared to controls (36.6% vs. 30.8%,  $p = 0.047$ ). This protective effect was profound especially in primordial follicles (45.5% vs. 34.6%,  $p = 0.034$ ). After transplantation of vitrified-warmed ovaries, the morphological integrity of primordial follicles was superior in the S1P-treated group (55.0% vs. 39.4%,  $p = 0.035$ ). The rates of non-apoptotic follicles (TUNEL-negative) were similar in the two groups in either non-transplanted or transplanted ovaries.

**Conclusion:** Inclusion of S1P in the vitrification solution during transplantation of vitrified-warmed ovary had a beneficial effect on preservation of the primordial follicular pool.

# AFP Effect on mouse ovarian follicles after vitrification and warming



unpublished

# Conclusions

1. Ovarian cryopreservation is now a clinical option.
2. Transplanted frozen/thawed tissue restores ovarian function and maintain function for prolonged periods. But the efficacy is probably not high and refinement needed.
3. Results are encouraging for a continued research effort to reduce..

## Cryoinjury

- Optimazation of cryopreservation method
- Supplementation of protective agents

## Ischemic injuries after transplantation

- Supplementation of protective agent
- Supplementation of agent for enhancing revascularization



Thank you.

