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Esco Viecical gears up

for the **38th ESHRE Annual Meeting**

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Two years since the Vienna edition of the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE) transpired, the annual gathering finally returns to a face-to-face setup this year. The 38th edition of ESHRE is happening on July 03 – 06, 2022 at the Milano Convention Center in Milan, Italy.

Due to the global impact of the Covid pandemic, the annual meeting was transformed into a virtual/ online event for two consecutive years. So this year's live event is an exciting celebration where everyone is given the opportunity to resume from the last point two years ago.

ESHRE 2022 intends to be a platform for several essential concerns on matters concerning "pregnancy, human

reproduction, andrology, embryology, reproductive medicine, and reproductive surgery". Based on the released program, some of the notable topics that will be discussed during the congress include: "Advanced sperm selection techniques under the evidence-based medicine scrutiny", "Revisiting standards in the IVF laboratory: optimizing outcomes with precision treatment", "Infertility: explaining the unexplained", "Controversies in reproductive genetics", "How to master ovarian stimulation for journey towards precision medicine, automation, machine learning and artificial intelligence" and many more.

Esco Medical is equally delighted to be back at the exhibitor's hall of ESHRE.



Esco Medical gears up for the 38th ESHRE Annual Meeting

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To date, Esco Medical will be showcasing the biggest line of its existing and new products. From its multiroom incubators (MIRI®, MIRI® II-12, Mini MIRI® Dry and Humidity) to its time-lapse incubators (MIRI® TL 6/12) to its workstations (MAW), the Esco Medical booth is expected to be packed with these innovative fertility solutions.

Esco Medical new products like the MIRI® Evidence (a traceability tool), a new AI for our MIRI® TL, a new model of the MIRI® in the form of MIRI® Humidity, some consumables (ICSI pipettes), and the MIRI® Laminar Flow (a new model of the workstation) will all be exhibited.

Moreover, these various Esco Medical products go beyond being displayed in our booth. We have prepared some interactive activities wherein our visitors are in for product demonstrations and will be given the chance to work on and manipulate our devices. We have also prepared some exciting freebies/ giveaways. Let us together celebrate the world's largest in-person occasion in reproductive science and medicine. So come and join us in this highly anticipated annual meeting and as one, let us relish the enjoyment of science and the enchantment of Milan, Italy. You can find Esco Medical at **Booth A73-B86** of the Milano Convention Center.



Esco Medical to Launch a Series

of **On-Demand** Webinars

To keep up with delivering accessible and relevant information in today's world, Esco Medical is launching a series of on-demand webinars on its website, esco-medical.com, this coming July 2022. Such addition to the Esco Medical website aims to provide a fascinating and informative platform for new and existing customers that will bring in valuable content. We believe this is another excellent way to further our relationships and create awareness on relevant matters concerning IVF and ART.

What is "On-demand Webinars"? These are informative, pre-recorded videos that audiences can watch or attend on their own time. Accessibility to such is easy, simple, and usually automated since these videos are recorded live, edited, uploaded, and published online to a specific hosting platform (in our case, the Esco Medical website).

Benefits of On-demand Webinars: Aside from being 'on demand' and accessible anytime and anywhere (so long as there is an internet connection), webinars are also deemed more convenient as they do not depend on time-zone scheduling. In contrast, technical concerns like internet lag or sudden power interruption can be avoided in live events. Moreover, these on-demand webinars digitally transform face-toface events, especially when anything digital is one of the primary options for human connection.

Esco Medical hopes that with these on-demand webinars, we can revolutionize our global accessibility. Watch for our first two webinars on HEPA/VOC filters and the Implementation of Time-lapse Incubators in a Clinical Setting.

² Med**News**

Spermbots: A Futuristic Approach to Solving Infertility

A German research team from the Institute for Integrative Nanosciences at IFW Dresden in Germany has created small robot suits that can help sperm become more mobile. Their recently published research in the Journal Nano Letters addresses one of the most common reasons of male infertility. Furthermore, the material discusses how spermbots could be a new alternative for couples struggling to conceive.

These 'spermbots' are tiny metal helices that wrap around the tail of a single sperm and aid it in its journey to the egg. The bots are propelled by a magnetic field that is controlled by the scientists. The metal casing can reverse course and detach itself once the sperm has reached its objective and been implanted in the egg. All of the trials so far have been conducted with bull sperm on a petri dish. These tiny bots are 50 microns long, 5-8 microns in diameter, and constructed of iron and titanium nanoparticles (1,000 microns equals a millimeter). Simply put, spermbots are made up of a small micromotor and a spiraling piece of metal that wraps around a sperm's tail and acts as an on-board power supply.

The research team's inspiration for creating the spermbots are their natural counterparts, namely the flagella and cilia, which are employed by live microorganisms to propel themselves. This effort began roughly two years ago, with the team doing trials in the lab with oocytes or female gametocytes, which are germ cells involved in reproduction.

Unless successful fertilization is achieved in the lab, human trials for spermbots are not yet feasible and allowed. There will also be various technical and biological challenges to overcome that must be thoroughly addressed before moving on to clinical trials. While there are currently no plans to conduct human trials, this remains a significant goal of the research. While the research is still in its early stages, the new spermbots might theoretically provide couples with a more effective and less expensive alternative to artificial insemination and in vitro fertilization, where the egg is evacuated from the body before being fertilized.

Spermbots are a significant advancement in the rapidly expanding field of nanotechnology, more specifically micromotors and nanomotors that are used in drug delivery, single cell manipulation, microsensors, and lab-on-a-chip devices. The passionate development of hybrid micromotors that harness biological power sources for medically suitable nano/microdevices has recently attracted a lot of attention from the international research community looking for a solution for microscale actuation and mobility.

While there are compelling barriers to clinical trials, its current state is a promising start.



Battling the Psychological Impact of Infertility

Infertility is a significant life event that causes various social and psychological issues. The nature and severity of these issues may vary according to socio-cultural contexts, geographical places, sex, and gender. It is a serious problem because it can take a toll on one's physical and mental well-being.

Infertility is described as the inability to conceive or reproduce after one year (or more) of unprotected sex. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), infertility is a worldwide health problem that affects more than 48 million couples and 186 million people globally.

While it's not a disease, infertility (and the treatments for it) can lead to a variety of psychological disorders and emotional repercussions, such as anxiety, frustration, sadness, hopelessness, guilt, feelings of worthlessness, and depression.

The more common knowledge about infertility is its biological causes, wherein each or both partners are incapable of reproducing due to hormonal disorders, genetic disorders, and disruption of testicular or ejaculatory function among men. On the other hand, disruption of ovarian function or presence or absence of ovulation and effects of ovarian age, fallopian tube obstruction, and physical characteristics of the uterus.

However, data available suggests that the majority of infertile people reside in poor nations, where having children is frequently the only opportunity for women to improve their social status. It can be a surprise to see more articles online discussing female infertility than male.

This goes to show the gender inequality present worldwide, most especially developing countries. Even though a big percent of infertility rates are male-related, women are often on the receiving end of the stigma and gender oppression.

Married couples who are unable to conceive may choose to get divorced and deal with the repercussions of a major life decision. This is more common in countries with a culture supporting heteronormative norms. According to a research of 47,500 Danish women, those who do not have a child after treatment are three times as likely than those who do to divorce or end cohabitation.

H2: Common Cognitive and Emotional Reactions to Infertility and Treatment

Here are the most common reactions of infertile people to infertility and

treatment: (maybe you could briefly briefly give a short description for each?)

Mental engagement

- Psychological turmoil and agitation; disquiet: mental unrest brought on by complex judgments.
- Being challenging to control in some situations.
- Reduced self-esteem: They are unsure who they are and what they can accomplish. They frequently feel inept, neglected, or insufficient. People with low self-esteem are always fearful of making errors or disappointing others.
- Feelings of failure
- Fear is an emotional reaction to an upcoming threat usually associated with the fight or flight response, which involves either staying to fight or running to avoid danger.
- Anxiety is indicated by tension in the

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Battling the Psychological Impact of Infertility

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- muscles and avoidance behavior in anticipation of a future worry.
- Worry is a series of negativeaffecting thoughts and pictures that is difficult to regulate. It's an attempt to engage in mental problem-solving on a topic with an uncertain resolution but the potential for one or more undesirable outcomes. As a result, worry is linked to the fear response.
- Loneliness can be defined in more ways than one. It is a complex and individual experience for each person: a state of solitude or being alone; the perception of being alone and isolated; a subjective, negative feeling related to deficient social relations; or a feeling of disconnectedness or isolation.
- Guilt is an unpleasant sensation described as a self-conscious emotion accompanied by self-reflection. Guilt is both personal and socially significant. It can overload

anyone who is exposed to it unnecessarily.

- The natural emotion of loss is grief. Grief is a universal as well as a unique experience. It is a powerful, sometimes overpowering feeling for people, whether from the loss of a loved one or a fatal diagnosis they received.
- Depression, also known as major depressive disorder, is a widespread and significant medical condition that harms how you feel, think, and act.
- Regret is a negative emotion associated with a cognitive construction of an alternate behavior or decision. It happens when a person believes the outcome would have been better if their past acts or behaviors had been different.
- Fatigue is a phrase that refers to a general feeling of exhaustion or lack of energy. Lifestyle choices, physical

condition, and mental issues can cause fatigue.

 Hopelessness is defined by a lack of optimism, enthusiasm, and hope. A person who feels hopeless may have little to no hope for future achievement or progress

Dealing with the emotional repercussions of infertility is difficult, but not impossible. There are thousands of credible sources online discussing the normal responses to infertility and how to deal with them. Learning about it thoroughly can also help a person understand his or her situation much better. Reaching out to your family, friends, and partner is definitely recommended. Joining support groups can also help. Seeking professional psychological help can make a difference as well.

Esco Medical to introduce its own fertility clinic traceability tool

As an IVF professional, have you always been wary of potential witnessing problems within the IVF lab? Worry no more as Esco Medical introduces a traceability tool for fertility clinics.

IVF witnessing is a process that involves the identification of patients and the traceability of their reproductive cells in every clinical and laboratory procedure involving paperwork. This is the process of making sure that embryos, gametes and patient samples are managed and mixed correctly.

One of Esco Medical's newest products that will be launched next month is the MIRI® Evidence. It is a tool designed in close cooperation with fertility clinics to establish traceability for all procedures in the laboratory and office to comply with regulations, eliminate double witnessing, save time, and ultimately provide all staff members' peace of mind knowing that the system prevents mix-ups. This tool makes use of Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) to identify and monitor activities in the IVF clinic. Such kind of system moderates the potential hazards of worker mistakes whenever samples are moved from one dish or tube to another, thus it cautions each step of the IVF cycle.

The MIRI® Evidence can run directly on a workstation or an incubator utilizing the existing display as an embedded application. It can be controlled by either a cleanable keyboard and mouse or even a remote tablet. In terms of labelling, each device (dish, vial) is labelled with a human readable tag including a globally unique data matrix code. The tags can be printed individually or as A4 sheets with tags for all devices in the treatment.

Some of the notable features of the new MIRI® Evidence include the following:

- Tracking: The scanners used with MIRI® Evidence are 2D imagers with no laser from a market leading supplier and specially made for healthcare.
- Compliance: MIRI® Evidence Tracking has been made to comply with the EDQM guidelines and EU regulations.
- Mix-up Prevention: Oocytes, embryos, and semen samples are tracked and validated in and out of the containers eliminating the need for human double-witnessing.
- Workflow: The MIRI® Evidence workflow offers tools to enhance scheduling and documentation procedures, improving both clinical and administrative workflows in a fertility clinic

This new product will be showcased at the upcoming 38th annual ESHRE in Milan, Italy this July 03-06, 2022.



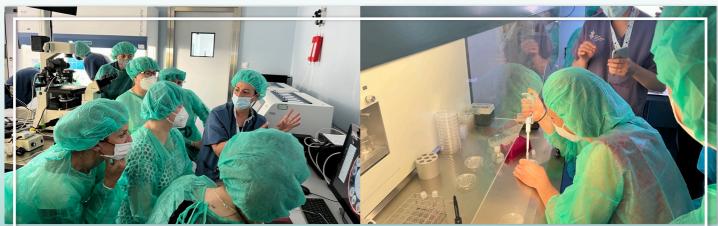
2nd Quarter Esco Medical Events



3rd Zweiländer-Treffen of Die Arbeitsgemeinschaft Reproduktionsbiologie des Menschen (AGRBM) and Embryologenforum Austria (EFA) April 01 – 03, 2022 Salzburg, Austria

Kazakhstan Association of Reproductive Medicine (KARM) IX Regional Conference April 8 - 9, 2022 Shymkent, Kazakhstan





MIRI®TL Workshop organized by Esco Medical Germany April 2022 Valencia, Spain



2nd Quarter Esco Medical Events



Philippine Society for Reproductive Medicine Inc.

Annual Virtual Conference

May 12 and 13, 2022 Virtual Conference

> 8th Portuguese Congress of Reproductive Medicine May 12-14, 2022 Azores Island, Portugal





Moroccan Society of Reproductive and Fetal Medicine (SMMR) June 09 – 11, 2022 Casablanca, Morocco.

2nd Quarter Esco Medical Installations



2nd Quarter Esco Medical Webinars



March 24, 2022



Reproductive Hospital affiliated to Shandong University

April 17, 2022

2nd Quarter Esco Medical Webinars

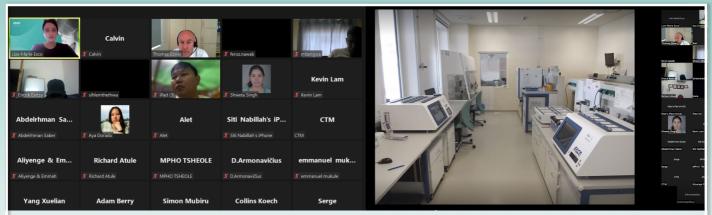


April 20, 2022



Shanghai First Maternal and Infant Health Hospital May 25, 2022

2nd Quarter Esco Medical Webinars



Implementation of Time-lapse Incubators in a Clinical Setting Prof. Thomas Ebner Organized by Esco South Africa June 14, 2022

Manufacturer: Esco Medical Technologies, Ltd.

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Service address: Please contact your local distributor for details. Users of Esco Medical products should not hesitate to contact us if there are any unclear points or ambiguities in this newsletter.

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¹² Med**News**