Preface to Management of Infertility for the MRCOG and Beyond

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Abstract

Infertility affects up to one in six couples and remains a major cause of distress in both men and women. Concerns about fertility continue to grow across the world along with economic and social pressures causing women to delay childbirth, and the impact of lifestyle factors such as obesity, smoking and alcohol intake. The last two decades have witnessed a shift towards evidence-based fertility treatment and greater awareness of the need to ensure the highest standards of safety. Management of infertility has moved away from an aetiological pathway where physicians identify and then treat an underlying pathology, to a prognostic approach where the decision to initiate treatment is driven by awareness of a couple's chances of spontaneous conception and what can be achieved with intervention. To address the changes in the way fertility problems are now diagnosed, investigated and managed, we have substantially redesigned the third edition of this book, enlisting a new cast of authors and expanding the scope of the text. While the evidence base underpinning the choice of tests and treatments is sometimes far from secure, clinical decisions should be made jointly with patients and should maximise health gains while minimising costs and risks. Infertility remains an integral part of core training for those taking the MRCOG examination. We hope that this book will provide a concise guide to fertility practice for trainees as well as for specialists.
Siladitya Bhattacharya. Demands on the gynaecologist from patients seeking help with suboptimal fertility continue to grow, and fertility-related
issues are often in the gaze of the media. Obstetricians and gynaecologists need to ensure that they are up to date, informed and knowledgeable to
successfully engage with their patients. Written by nationally recognised leaders in the field, this volume concisely reviews contemporary clinical
practice. Using an aetiology-based approach, the evidence underpinning the management of ovulatory dysfunction, male infertility, endometriosis,
tubal, uterine
Overview. Practice Essentials. Infertility is the failure to conceive (regardless of cause) after 1 year of unprotected intercourse. This condition affects approximately 10-15% of reproductive-aged couples. Female and male factor infertility. Inadequate diet associated with extreme weight loss or gain. Advanced age. Evaluation of infertility. Infertility is a problem that involves both partners. Diagnostic testing is unnecessary if the couple has not attempted to conceive for at least 1 year, unless the woman is age 35 years or older, or if they have a history of a male factor infertility, endometriosis, a tubal factor, diethylstilbestrol (DES) exposure, pelvic inflammatory disease, or pelvic surgery.