Establishment of TEST-yolk buffer enhanced sperm penetration assay limits for fertile males.

Falk RM, Silverberg KM, Fetterolf PM, Kirchner FK, Rogers BJ.

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee 37232.

TEST-yolk buffer has been shown to enhance sperm penetration of zona-free hamster eggs. Review of sperm penetration assay (SPA) data from a fertile population was undertaken to determine a normal range for SPA with TEST-yolk buffer enhancement. Thirty-eight intrauterine insemination patients and 4 artificial insemination donors who had successfully initiated a pregnancy within 18 months of SPA analysis were examined. All 42 enhanced SPAs demonstrated penetration of greater than 10%, and 37 of these (88%) yielded SPA values of greater than or equal to 20%. Thirty-three percent (14/42) of these individuals achieved 0% penetration in the SPA without TEST-yolk buffer. The SPA performed with the TEST-yolk modification has fewer false negatives than the assay done with the original methodology.

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Related Links

- Analysis of TEST (TES and Tris) yolk buffer effects on human sperm. [Fertil Steril. 1995] PMID:7720919

- TEST-egg yolk buffer storage increases the capacity of human sperm to penetrate hamster eggs in vitro. [Int J Androl. 1987] PMID:3610360

- The effect of preincubation of human spermatozoa in milk on sperm penetration into zona-free hamster oocytes and on sperm binding to the human zona pellucida. [Fertil Steril. 1994] PMID:8005285


- A prospective analysis of the accuracy of the TEST-yolk buffer enhanced hamster egg penetration test and acrosin activity in discriminating fertile from infertile males. [Hum Reprod. 1998] PMID:9756280