

Male Infertility in COVID-19

Sarah Lotfi¹ , Abbas Ahmadi^{2*} 

1. Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, School of Medicine, Nekouei-Hedayati-Forghani Hospital, Qom University of Medical Sciences, Qom, Iran
2. Clinical Research Development Center, Shahid Beheshti Hospital, Qom University of Medical Sciences, Qom, Iran

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Corresponding Information:

Abbas Ahmadi, Clinical Research Development Center, Shahid Beheshti Hospital, Qom University of Medical Sciences, Qom, Iran
Email: abbasahmadi27@yahoo.com



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Dear Editor in Chief

Infertility is the failure of the male or female reproductive system to conceive after 12 months or more of regular unprotected sexual intercourse (1). Failure to ovulate, problems in the menstrual cycle, infections, inadequate egg maturation, ejaculation problems, antibodies that attack sperm and tumors are some of the reasons that can make a man or a woman infertile. COVID-19 is a disease caused by a new type of coronavirus; it is an infectious disease caused by the acute respiratory syndrome of coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2).

This article is about the fact that patients with COVID-19 are more prone to infertility than other normal people. There is a possibility that this coronavirus could have a pathophysiological effect on the testes. Additional data have shown that active COVID-19 infection significantly reduces the ratio of testosterone to LH, showing a significant effect on the response of Leydig cells to LH stimulation (2). Men are said to be more likely to get COVID-19 than women;

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even the mortality rate is higher (3). The testes can be a potential target for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, and testicular damage and subsequent infertility after COVID-19 infection can be explained theoretically (4). It was only in Nekui Hedayati Forghaani Institute, Qom University of Medical Sciences, May 2021 that six semen samples were positive for SARS-CoV-2 (5).

At the institute we had several patients without male fertility problems who had female infertility history that After COVID-19 infection, they developed terato (morphology) and asento (motility) spermia, causing fertility problems in normal men. Therefore, with all of the above, and the effect of stress as an independent factor (6) the possibility of infertility as a direct or indirect effect of COVID-19, particularly the reduction of libido and sperm quality in men, is very likely. So further clinical studies are recommended in this area.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declared no conflict of interest.

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