

Foreword

Ovulation induction aiming for multiple follicular maturation for the purpose of overcoming the problem of infertility is a complex task. It is clear that appropriate conduct of the assisted reproductive technology requires the understanding of interactions of hypothalamic, pituitary-ovarian systems governing the control of ovulatory cycle and its dysregulation in patients with anovulatory cycles. Furthermore, the pharmacology of ovulatory enhancing agents, such as clomiphene and gonadotropin is rapidly advancing as new preparations and their combinations use protocols are extensive. Just when, how and to whom these gonadotropic agents are administered represent another prerequisite for success and limits its complications.

There exist several narrow windows (~2–3 days) for ovulatory processes, fertilization and the implantation. These time constraints demand vigorous monitoring of follicular developments by ultrasound and hormonal determinations, and endometrial thickness is imperative.

Clearly, these complexities require special training and experiences. However, clinicians of all branches of medicine are **encountering** patients complaints of infertility. For this and other reasons, the editors have assembled expertise in the field to provide a relatively simple, succinct information with the purpose to guide non-specialists to be able to render an introduction to their patients as to the steps, limitations, potential complications in the assisted reproductive technology.

This is a timely and useful book for students, practitioners and paramedical personnel. The editors, Dr. Satha M. Sathanadan and

Professor Howard Jacobs and their contributors are acknowledged experts in the field and should be congratulated for undertaking this task.

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