

## Research Article

**Cell-Free Nucleic Acid Concentrations in Human Follicular Fluid Undergoing In Vitro Fertilization Treatment.****Zaid Munir, Yousuf Latif Khan<sup>1</sup>, Shahzad Bhatti<sup>2</sup> Haroon Latif Khan<sup>3</sup>***Tertiary Care Hospital, Lahore<sup>1-3</sup>***Abstract**

**Introduction:** Although assisted reproductive technology (ART) has made significant strides, choosing the most viable embryos for treatment of infertility is still a difficult task. This study looked at whether intra follicular circulating cf. DNA (cell-free DNA) fragments and melatonin levels may be utilized to gauge embryo quality in IVF patients.

**Methodology:** This work suggests that melatonin concentration and intra-follicular cf. DNA could serve as a novel auxiliary technique to improve non-invasive early prognostic testing for patients having IVF/ICSI procedures.

**Results:** 895 samples of follicular fluid (ff) were collected from 325 infertile patients undergoing IVF. Patients were treated in the infertility Centre of a tertiary care hospital from August 2017 to December 2018. Each patient's dominant follicles (>18 mm) were harvested.

**Conclusion:** Patients were treated in the infertility Centre of a tertiary care hospital from August 2017 to December 2018

**Key words:** nucleic, fertilization, vitro treatment, quality

**How to cite this:**

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**Introduction**

**Methods**

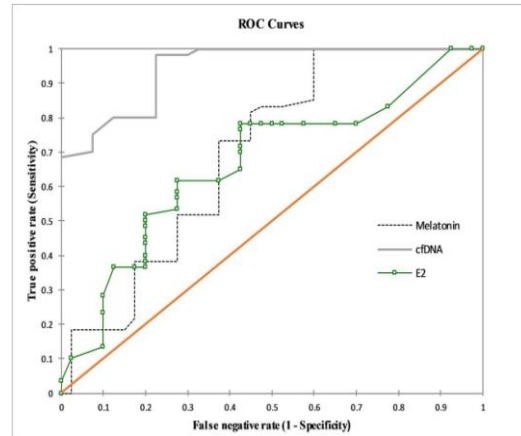
895 samples of follicular fluid (ff) were collected from 325 infertile patients undergoing IVF. Patients were treated in the infertility Centre of a tertiary care hospital from August 2017 to December 2018. Each patient's dominant follicles (>18 mm) were harvested of their eggs, and then a non-hematic and clear follicular fluid was extracted Using kits that are easily found on the market, immuno-chemiluminescence was performed to determine the E2 and concentrations of melatonin in each follicular sample. Using ALU-qPCR, the cDNA concentrations in each sample of follicular fluid were determined.

**Inclusion criteria:**

Participants in the study exhibited no biochemical symptoms of hyperandrogenemia, normal basal FSH levels (8.85 IU/ml), normal sonographic textures in both ovaries, and were undergoing IVF for male infertility (teratospermia, oligospermia, and Asthenozoospermia). In this study, all those women having unexplained infertility were also included.

**Exclusion criteria:**

Patients with endometriosis following pelvic surgery, ovarian tumors, uterine carcinomas, hyperprolactinemia, metabolic syndrome, polycystic ovary syndrome, or diminished ovarian reserve were also not allowed to take part in the trial.



**Fig 1:** sensitivity and specificity in a graphical form

**Result and Conclusion**

In our investigation, a significant negative correlation between intra-follicular cfDNA and melatonin levels was found (-0.541: P < 0.001). Each individual follicle contains detectable levels of cfDNA [mean: 1.85 2.98 ng/ml (median: 1.86 ng/ml (95% CI: 0.96-2.87)]. Pregnant women had significantly lower levels of cfDNA copy number in follicular fluid samples (ff) collected from mature oocytes compared to immature ones [p 0.01; = -0.42 0.49; median; 1.45 ng/ml (95% CI: 0.36-2.97) vs. 3.57 ng/ml (95% CI: 0.37-4.01) respectively].

While the level of melatonin was significantly higher in ff samples linked to mature oocytes than in ff samples linked to immature oocytes (p< 0.001), Furthermore, the level of cfDNA was substantially lower in ff samples from oocytes that develop high-quality vs low-quality embryos in pregnant women [p < 0.001; = 1.81 0.91; median; 1.25 ng/ml (95% CI: 0.35-1.97)] vs. [(median; 3.65 ng/ml (95% CI: 1.23-6.36)] respectively. Melatonin levels in non-

pregnant women were also significantly lower in the samples from embryos with a high fragmentation rate (25%) compared to embryos with a low fragmentation rate ( $< 0.001$ ).

**Conflict of interest:** No

**Funding Sources:** No

### **Reference**

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