

1, 2, 3
 1. 1. 2. 2. 2
 3. 3. 3

Effects of Amino Acids in Simple Phosphate-Free Media on Pregnancy Rate in Human *In Vitro* Fertilization and Embryo Transfer(IVF-ET)

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=Abstract=

The role of amino acids in culture media for IVF-ET was examined in a total of 68 patients with 76 cycles. Patients received clomiphene citrate(CC) followed by hMG or GnRH-a combined with gonadotropins(FSH/hMG) for controlled ovarian hyperstimulation. Severe male($<4 \times 10^6$ motile sperm) or age factor(>39 y) patients were excluded in this study. Pregnancy was classified as clinical if a gestational sac or fetal cardiac activity was seen on ultrasound. The mean number of exogenous gonadotrpins was not different between bHTF(without amino acids) and mHTF(with amino acids) groups. No significant differences were found in age, duration of infertility, follicle size, the level of E₂ on the day of hCG injection, the mean number of oocytes retrieved, total motile sperm count, fertilization rate and the mean number of embryos transferred. However, total ampules of gonadotropins

were higher ($P < 0.01$) in mHTF group than in bHTF group. Significantly ($P < 0.05$) more clinical pregnancies were resulted from mHTF group (13/30) compared with bHTF group (9/46). The multiple pregnancy rates were 11.1% in bHTF group and 7.7% in mHTF group. There were one ectopic pregnancy in mHTF group and one heterotopic pregnancy in bHTF group. Abortion rates were 22.2% in bHTF group and 7.7% in mHTF, respectively. The ongoing pregnancy or livebirth rate was significantly ($P < 0.05$) higher in mHTF group (12/30) than in bHTF group (7/46). These results suggest that the addition of amino acids in culture media is essential for culture of zygotes *in vitro* and adjustment of energy substrates in phosphate-free culture media appear to be beneficial for human IVF-ET procedure.

Key Words : Embryo culture, Amino acids, Pregnancy, IVF-ET

- (IVF-ET)

, , .

가

(Gardner & Lane, 1993a) glucose 가

, hypoxanthine nicotinamide

(Bastias et al., 1993; Tsai & Gardner, 1994).

glucose phosphate

(Conaghan et al., 1993; Barnett & Bavister, 1996).

glucose phosphate (Quinn,

1995; Carrillio et al., 1998)

glucose가 (Gardner & Leese, 1990; Nichol et al., 1992; Gardner

et al., 1996), glucose (Hoppe, 1976; Mahadevan et al.,

1997). glucose, pyruvate lactate

0.5 mM, 0.3 mM 10.5 mM 3.2 mM,

0.1 mM 5.8 mM 가 (Gardner et al., 1996).

Gardner (1998) Jones (1998)

2

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,

(Schultz et al., 1981;

Gardner & Leese, 1990; Boatman, 1997; Tay et al., 1997)

가 (blastocyst stage)

(Barnett & Bavister, 1996; Gardner & Lane, 1997; Devreker et al., 1998).

- phosphate가

(amino acids) 가가

1.

1997 2 1999 1 - (IVF-ET)
68 76 , (hystero-
salpingography, HSG) 가 40
가 4×10^6 (severe oligozoospermia)

2.

, (1997)
, (& , 1997, 1998)

(1)

clomiphene citrate(CC) hMG GnRH agonist
(GnRH-a) FSH/hMG . CC hMG
3 CC(Clomifene, ,) 100 mg 5
hMG (Merional, IBSA, Switzerland/IVF-M, LG ,)
150 IU 가 18 mm 16 mm
가 3 LH (Conceive, Quidel, CA, USA)
hCG(Choriomon, IBSA, Switzweland/IVF-C, LG ,)
5,000-10,000 IU 16-18 , LH
가 10 hCG 5,000-10,000 IU 34-36
. GnRH-a (ultrashort protocol)
2 3 triptorelin(Decapeptyl, Ferring, Germany) 0.1
mg FSH hMG 150 IU . GnRH-a

(long protocol) 21 triptorelin 0.1mg
nafarelin acetate(Synarel, Searle,) 200 µg 1 2
, 3 FSH hMG 150 IU
(PCO)
(dual suppression protocol, Rosenwaks, 1996; Damaro et al., 1997;
, 1995; & , 1998)
levonorgestrel 0.15 mg ethinylestradiol 30 µg
(Minivlar, Schering, Germany) 1 25
21 GnRH-a
, 3 FSH hMG 150 IU
7 2-3
estradiol(E₂)
18 mm 16 mm 가
3 10 5,000-10,000 IU hCG(Choriomon, IBSA,
Switzerland) 1 34-36 . E₂
5ml 1,000 x g 10
(enzyme-linked fluorescent immunoassay, ELFA)
(radioimmunoassay, RIA)
(2)
, Quinn(1995)
human tubal fluid(Basal XI) (bHTF) 7
(non-essential amino acids, NEAA) taurine 0.1 mM
가 modified human tubal fluid(mHTF)
(bHTF) , (mHTF)
(transfer medium) glucose 3.4 mM, pyruvate 0.17 mM, lactate
5.7 mM EDTA taurine 가 , histidine 0.1 mM 가

Table 1

(Table 1)

Table 1. Composition of culture media for human IVF-ET

Components (mM)	bHTF	mHTF
NaCl	97.6	97.6
KCl	4.7	4.7
MgSO ₄ .7H ₂ O	0.2	0.2
CaCl ₂ .2H ₂ O	2.04	2.04
Sodium lactate	21.4	10.5
Sodium pyruvate	0.33	0.33
Glucose	0.5	0.5
EDTA	0.1	0.1
NaHCO ₃	25.0	25.0
Glutamine	1.0	1.0
Alanine	--	0.1
Asparagine	--	0.1
Aspartic acid	--	0.1
Glutamic acid	--	0.1
Glycine	--	0.1
Proline	--	0.1
Serine	--	0.1
Taurine	--	0.1
Phenol red	0.001%	0.001%
Penicillin G(Na)	100 U/ml	100 U/ml
Streptomycin sulfate	50 µg/ml	50 µg/ml

Milli-Q water system

bHTF 280 ± 5mOsm/kg
 mHTF 280 ± 5mOsm/kg 0.2 µm

(Corning, Corning Medical & Scientific, NY, USA)

4 ° C , 2

(insemination media, IM) (heat-inactivated) 10%

가 , (growth media, GM) 20%,

(transfer media, TM) 50% 가 가
5% CO₂, 37 ° C .

(3)

18 (Pasteur pipette, Becton
Dickinson Labware, BDL 4647, USA) ,

2 .

(zygotes) mineral oil(Sigma Chem. Co., M-8410, MO, USA)
20 µl 가 5% CO₂, 37 ° C .

(4)

2-3 가 , 가 ,
fragmentation Norfolk (Cook, KNTS-
506011, USA) TDT (Laboratoire CCD, Paris, France)

50mg progesterone
(Progest, ,)

1 hCG 5,000 IU
long acting progesterone(Progesterone- Depot, Jenapharm, Germany) 500
mg . 10-12

β- hCG 10 mIU/ml (biochemical
pregnancy) , (gestational sacs)
(fetal heart-beats) (clinical pregnancy)

3.

Student's *t*-test χ^2 -test , P<0.05

가

glucose 0.5-3.2 mM

glucose 5.6-6.1 mM (Casslen, 1987; Dickens et al., 1995; Gardner et al., 1996). Glucose

(Bavister & McKiernan, 1993), glucose phosphate

(Pinyopumnintr &

Bavister, 1991; Conaghan et al., 1993; Quinn, 1995; Carrillo et al., 1998).

glucose phosphate가 (glycolysis),

cytosol mitochondria

(oxidative phosphorylation) Crabtree effect(Koobs, 1972)

(Seshagiri & Bavister, 1991).

glucose phosphate

(Pinyopumnintr & Bavister, 1991), glucose가

(Hoppe, 1976; Rogers Perreault, 1990; Mahadevan et al., 1997),

glucose가 (Gardner & Leese, 1990; Nichol et al., 1992; Gardner et al., 1996). phosphate가

glucose

EDTA glutamine 가

(Abramczuk et al., 1977; Nasr-Esfahani et al., 1992; Quinn, 1995; Gardner & Lane, 1996, 1997; Devreker et al., 1998), EDTA

(heavy metal ions) (chelation)

(Nasr-Esfahani et al., 1992). EDTA

Crabtree effect (Gardner &

Lane, 1993b), glucose uptake가 가

compaction, 가 (Gardner et

al., 1997), (Gardner & Lane, 1996),

EDTA (inner cell mass, ICM)

(Hewittson & Leese, 1993).

EDTA

, glutamine

, tricarboxylic acid cycle(TCA cycle)

glutamine (Wales & Du, 1994).

glutamine 가

(Devreker et al., 1998).

pH stress (Schultz et al., 1981), 가 asparagine, aspartate, glycine,

histidine, serine taurine cysteine,

isoleucine, leucine, phenylalanine, threonine valine

(Gardner & Lane, 1993a).

glutamine stress (Van Winkle et al., 1990),

(Gardner & Lane, 1993b), pH (Bavister

& McKiernan, 1993) 가 (Bavister &

McKiernan, 1993; Moore & Bondioli, 1993; Devreker et al., 1998).

glycine 가 (Van Winkle

et al., 1990), taurine Ca (phospholipid)

, (Huxtable,

1992). alanine, aspartate, glutamine, glutamate, glycine,

serine taurine 가 (Casslen, 1987; Boatman, 1997).

ammonium

(Gardner & Lane, 1993c; Gardner et al., 1994) 48

가 .

(viability) 가

Gardner (1998) Jones (1998)

가 가 ,
가 ,
가 가 가
3-4 가 ,
가가

pyruvate

pyruvate 가
(Conaghan et al., 1993), pyruvate 0.1-0.3 mM
(Dickens et al., 1995; Gardner et al., 1996; Tay et al., 1997).

Conaghan (1993) pyruvate
Rosenkrans (1993) lactate
가 pyruvate . Lactate
lactate pyruvate
- (oxidation-reduction potential)
(Brinster, 1965). lactate 20 mM
5-10 mM (Gardner
& Leese, 1990; Nichol et al., 1992; Dickens et al., 1995; Gardner et al., 1996;
Tay et al., 1997) . lactate 가
, ,
Pomp (1988) 1 lactate 21.6 mM 11.65
mM
, Gardner Sakkas (1993) 5 mM
가 .
lactate 10 mM (Barnett & Bavister, 1996), Tay
(1997) 20 mM lactate
.
가 (Pinyopummintr & Bavister, 1991;

Gardner et al., 1994).

가

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가

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1.

가 (bHTF group) 2
 (72.5%), 가 (mHTF group) 1
 (53.6%).

(Table 2).

Table 2. Infertility categories in IVF patients

Categories	bHTF	mHTF
No. of patients	40	28
Types of infertility		
Primary	11 (27.5%)	15 (53.6%)
Secondary	29 (72.5%)	13 (46.4%)
Causes of infertility		
Ovulatory	8 (20.0%)	12 (42.9%)
Tubal	19 (47.5%)	8 (28.6%)
Endometriosis	2 (5.0%)	2 (7.1%)
Male	1 (2.5%)	5 (17.9%)
Unexplained	10 (25.0%)	1 (3.5%)

2.

가 31.9 ± 0.5 4.3
 ± 0.4 , 가 31.3 ± 0.6 3.8 ± 0.6 가
 가 ,
 가 35.0 ± 0.6 , 가 34.4 ± 0.7 가

(Table 3).

Table 3. Comparison of ovarian responses after COH in different media groups

	bHTF	mHTF	P value
No. of patients	40	28	
No. of cycles	46	30	
Age (Years)			
Wives	31.9 ± 0.5	31.3 ± 0.6	NS
Husbands	35.0 ± 0.6	34.4 ± 0.7	NS
Duration of infertility (Years)	4.3 ± 0.4	3.8 ± 0.6	NS
No. of FSH/hMG (Ampules)*	26.0 ± 1.0	35.5 ± 3.5	P<0.01
Days of COH*	12.1 ± 0.3	10.7 ± 0.3	P<0.01
Follicle size (mm)	20.1 ± 0.3	20.9 ± 0.4	NS
E ₂ on day of hCG (pg/ml)	2415.4 ± 206.7	3108.2 ± 324.1	NS

1) Values are mean ± SEM. NS : Not significant.

2) * : CC + hMG group was excluded (n=7).

3.

(FSH/hMG) 75IU
 가 26.0 ± 1.0 , 가 35.5 ± 3.5
 가 (P<0.01), 가 10.7 ±
 0.3 가 12.1 ± 0.3 (P<0.01). hCG
 가 20.1 ± 0.3 mm, 가 20.9 ±
 0.4 mm 가 , hCG estradiol(E₂)
 가 2415.4 ± 206.7 pg/ml 가 3108.2 ± 324.1
 pg/ml 가 (Table 3).

Table 4. Outcomes of in-vitro fertilization and embryo transfer using different culture media

	bHTF	mHTF	P value
No. of oocytes retrieved	8.5 ± 0.8	8.6 ± 0.8	NS

No. of oocytes fertilized	5.3 ± 0.5	5.6 ± 0.5	NS
Total motile sperm (X10 ⁶)	123.6 ± 12.2	135.1 ± 16.5	NS
Fertilization rate (%)	61.7	65.0	NS
No. of embryos developed	4.8 ± 0.5	5.3 ± 0.5	NS
No. of embryos transferred	4.1 ± 0.3	4.2 ± 0.3	NS
Biochemical pregnancies (%) [*]	19/46 (41.3)	19/30 (63.3)	NS
Clinical pregnancies (%) [*]	9/46 (19.6)	13/30 (43.3)	P<0.05
Implantations (%) [*]	10/187 (5.3)	16/126 (12.7)	P<0.05
Multiple pregnancies (%) [*]	1/9 (11.1)**	1/13 (7.7)	NS
Ectopic pregnancies (%)	1/9 (11.1)**	1/13 (7.7)	NS
Clinical abortions (%) [*]	2/9 (22.2)	1/13 (7.7)	NS
Ongoing pregnancies or deliveries (%)	7/46 (15.2)	12/30 (40.0)	P<0.05

1) Values are mean ± SEM. NS : Not significant.

2) * : One ectopic and one heterotopic pregnancies were included.

** : Heterotopic pregnancy.

4.

가 8.5 ± 0.8 , 가
8.6 ± 0.8 가 ,
(123.6 ± 12.2 vs 135.1 ± 16.5 X10⁶ sperm) (61.7% vs 65.0%)
가 , 가 4.1 ± 0.3 , 가
4.2 ± 0.3 가 (Table 4). 가
(16/126) 가 (10/187) (P<0.05),
가 (13/30) 가 (9/46) (P<0.05),
가 (12/30) 가 (7/46)
(P<0.05). 가
(heterotopic pregnancy) 1 ,
, 가 1 .
가 1
2 22.2% , 가 1
7.7% . 가 11.1%
, 가 1 7.7% .
가 가

, 가 3-4

가 (Table 5).

Table 5. Clinical pregnancies (%) according to number of embryos transferred

No. of embryos transferred	bHTF	mHTF	P value
1	0/4 (0.0)	0/3 (0.0)	-
2	2/7 (28.6)	1/2 (50.0)	NS
3	0/10 (0.0)	3/6 (50.0)	NS
4	3/16 (18.8)	5/7 (71.4)	P<0.05
5	4/9 (44.4)	4/12 (33.3)	NS

1) NS : Not significant.

	phosphate가	가가	FSH/hMG	CC	hMG	basal HTF	GnRH-a
1.	가	(bHTF)	2			(72.5%),	
	가	1			(53.6%).		
2.			가	31.9 ± 0.5	4.3 ±		
	0.4	,	가	31.3 ± 0.6	3.8 ± 0.6		
	가	,		35.0 ± 0.6	34.4 ± 0.7	가	.
3.			FSH/hMG	가	35.5 ± 3.5		
	가	26.0 ± 1.0		(P < 0.01),	20.9 ±		
	0.4 mm	20.1 ± 0.3 mm	가	, hCG	E ₂		
		가	2415.4 ± 206.7 pg/ml	가	3108.2 ± 324.1		
	pg/ml	가	.				
4.		,	,				
	가	가	가				
	가 (16/126)	가 (10/187)		(P < 0.05),			
			가	(P < 0.05).			
5.				가		가	

, 가 3-4

가 .

-

가

가 가 .



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, , , , , , , , , ,
 , :
GnRH agonist . 1995, 38,
1898-1908.

, :
1997, 24, 361-368.

, : . 1998, 25,
217-231.

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