Anti-Helicobacter Pylori Antibodies in Serum of Women with Unexplained Infertility

Thesis

Submitted for the Partial Fulfillment of Master Degree in Obstetrics and Gynecology

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List of Abbreviations

ACG : American College of Gastroenterology

Cag. A : Cytotoxin associated gene protein

COPD : Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

C-UBT: Carbon Urea Breath Test

DNA : Deoxyribonucleic acid

ELISA : Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay

FMIA : Flow microparticle immunofluorescence assay

FSH : Follicle-stimulating hormone

GnRHa : Gonadotrophin releasing hormone analogue

HOXA : Homebox A10 gene

HP : H. pylori

HSG : Hystrosolpingogram

ICSI : Intracytoplasmic sperm injection

IF : Implantation failure

IL : Interleukin

IM : Intestinal metaplasia

ITP : Idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura

IU : Unexplained infertility

IUI : Intrauterine insemination

IVF : Invitro fertilization

LH : Lutenizing hormone

List of Abbreviations

LPD : Luteal phase defect

MALT : Mucosal-Associated Lymphoid Tissue

NSAID : Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug

PCR : Polymerase chain reaction

PCT : Post coital test

PPI : Proton pump inhibitor

ROS : Reactive oxygen species

RSA : Recurrent spontaneous abortion

T3 : Triiodothyronine

T4 : Thyroxine

TNF- α : Tumor necrosis factor alpha

TSH : Thyroid-Stimulating Hormone

UBT : Urea breath test

Vac. A: Vaculating cytotoxin A

WHO : World Health Organization

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Protocol of a Thesis

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Introduction

According to a study conducted by the Egyptian Fertility Care Society and sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO), infertility in Egypt affects 12 percent of Egyptian couples. Of these women, 4.3 Percent suffer from primary infertility (have never been pregnant) and 7.7 percent suffer from secondary infertility (have been pregnant before, Even if the pregnancy ended in a miscarriage or an ectopic pregnancy). The number of women aged 15 to 49 years exceeds 25 million, which means that at least 3 million women are infertile in Egypt (Hassan Sallam, 2013).

Infectious agents such as Chlamydia, Mycoplasma, viruses and yeasts can impair sperm motility, vaginal, uterine or/and tubal level. In addition, all these agents induce inflammatory processes and cell-mediated immunological reactions (**Pellati et al., 2008**).

In 2011, Ambrosini et al. found serum anti- H.pylori antibodies in 17% of 277 couples attending an infertility centre, but both partners were seropositive only in 6.6% of cases. The authors thus concluded that person-to-person H.pylori transmission rarely occurs between young, sexually active adults (Ambrosini et al., 2011).