Can we prevent infertility ?

Background

About 10% of children in Denmark are born after the use of Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) and about 20% of all couples experience a waiting time to pregnancy of more than one year which is defined as infertility. Although part of the infertility can be ascribed to demographic factors like delayed childbirth, still a large proportion of the couples are infertile for unknown reasons. Exposures such as environmental chemicals, air pollution, lifestyle factors, medication, and infections have been suggested to contribute to the male and female fertility problems, but so far only few factors have been identified as important contributors to human fertility problems.

Study methods

We collect and use data from cohorts and register based studies to assess potential influence of a range of potential factors that may affect human reproductive health.

From biobanks we obtain samples to measure environmental contaminants, reproductive hormones and other markers of reproductive health.

Potential projects:

- Early life exposures and male/female reproductive health
- Early life exposure and child development
- Exposures in young adulthood and male/female reproductive function
- Exposures and epigenetic modifications of sperm cells

Research Environment:

- The Department of Clinical Epidemiology hosts about 30 PhD/research year students and has collaboration with leading research institutions across the globe with great opportunities for research stays.

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