

03
NYK27/LN

STH: NYK27/LN /RP/ JULY 18TH 1978 MSG: ADQ
TO: LONDON, BOSTON, NEW YORK
FROM: TIME MEDICINE BY: MAPS
SLUG: TEST TUBE BABY CLOSE: 7/21 EOH:

FOR OUR DIAGRAM CITING THE STEPS OF VITRO FERTILIZATION, WE ARE RUNNING INTO A NUMBER OF CONFLICTING REPORTS, DUE TO THE MANY DIFFERENT PROCESSES BEING TESTED THROUGH THE WORLD. WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO CHECK WITH YOUR SOURCES WHO ARE MOST FAMILIAR WITH THE STEPTOE-EDWARDS CASE SO THAT WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE THIS DIAGRAM AS SPECIFIC AND ACCURATE AS POSSIBLE.

THE FIRST TWO STEPS OF THE DIAGRAM

- 1) STIMULATING EGG MATURATION AND
- 2) LAPAROSCOPY TO ASPIRATE EGG FROM THE OVARY, POSE NO PROBLEMS FOR US. HOWEVER FROM THEN ON, WE RUN INTO QUESTIONS:
 - 1) FROM THE EGGS ASPIRATED FROM THE OVARY, IS ONE EGG CHOSEN FROM THE BATCH OR ARE A FEW EGGS PLACED IN A MEDIUM TO BE FERTILIZED. IF ONE EGG IS CHOSEN AS STATED IN BRAND X'S ARTICLE OF THIS WEEK, WHAT MAKES IT 'SUITABLE' TO BE CHOSEN?
 - 2) UNSURE OF HOW MANY MEDIUMS THE EGG IS PLACED IN, IN OTHER WORDS IS THE EGG FIRST PLACED IN A CULTURE MEDIUM CONTAINING

SPERM TO BE FERTILIZED, AND THEN AFTER FERTILIZATION, THE EGG IS TRANSFERRED TO A NEW SOLUTION OF BLOOD AND NUTRIENTS TO CONTINUE ITS CELL DIVISION?

OR IS IT PLACED IN ONLY ONE MEDIUM WHEN IT IS FERTILIZED BY THE SPERM AND CONTINUES TO GROW UNTIL IT IS PLACED IN THE UTERUS?

3) WE KNOW THE CULTURE MEDIUM CONTAINS BLOOD SERUM AND SUSTAINING NUTRIENTS. BUT DOES IT STILL CONTAIN ANTIBIOTICS AS USED IN THE EARLIER EXPERIMENTS?

4) IF INDEED THERE ARE TWO DIFFERENT MEDIUMS, HOW LONG IS THE EGG KEPT IN THE FERTILIZATION SOLUTION BEFORE BEING TRANSFERRED TO THE OTHER SOLUTION TO CONTINUE CELL DIVISION?

5) ACCORDING TO BRAND X, THE FERTILIZED EGG REMAINS IN THE NUTRIENT MEDIUM FOR FIVE DAYS UNTIL IT HAS DIVIDED INTO 64 SEPARATE CELLS. IS THIS CORRECT OR IS IT MISLEADING TO BE THAT SPECIFIC?

6) IN WHAT TYPE OF CONTAINER IS THE EGG PLACED?

7) WERE HORMONES AGAIN ADMINISTERED TO THE WOMEN TO PREPARE THE UTERINE LINING TO ACCOMMODATE THE EMBRYO, OR WERE THE HORMONES ADMINISTERED EARLIER ENOUGH TO TRIGGER THIS UTERINE CHANGE AUTOMATICALLY?

APOLOGIZE FOR THE LENGTH, BUT WOULD APPRECIATE YOU TALKING TO THE SOURCES IN YOUR AREA TO SHED SOME LIGHT ON THE ABOVE.

AF 905PP DST

ETX: