TERATOSPERMIA
Teratozoospermia, Abnormal Sperm Morphology

Teratospermia is a condition characterized by the presence of sperm with abnormal morphology that affects fertility in males.

Related Diagnoses:
- Varicocele
- Thyroid disorders
- Sperm autoantibodies
- Aspermia
- Obstructive azoospermia
- Globozoospermia
- Idiopathic male infertility

About Teratospermia

The causes of teratozoospermia are unknown in most cases. However, Hodgkin's disease, coeliac disease, and Crohn's disease may contribute in some instances. Lifestyle and habits (smoking, toxin exposure, etc.) can also cause poor morphology. Varicocele is another condition that is often associated with decreased normal forms (morphology).
In cases of globozoospermia (sperm with round heads), the Golgi apparatus is not transformed into the acrosome that is needed for fertilization.

Find more about related issues

Diagnoses

- **Varicocele**
  An abnormal enlargement of the pampiniform venous plexus in the scrotum.
  Learn more at: [www.fertilitypedia.org/therapy/diag/varicocele](http://www.fertilitypedia.org/therapy/diag/varicocele)

- **Thyroid disorders**
  A medical condition impairing the function of the thyroid.
  Learn more at: [www.fertilitypedia.org/therapy/diag/thyroid-disorders](http://www.fertilitypedia.org/therapy/diag/thyroid-disorders)

- **Sperm autoantibodies**
  Antibodies that bind to sperm, inhibiting their movement, stopping recognition and entry into the egg.
  Learn more at: [www.fertilitypedia.org/therapy/diag/sperm-autoantibodies](http://www.fertilitypedia.org/therapy/diag/sperm-autoantibodies)

- **Aspermia**
  Male diagnosis connected with male infertility characterised by the complete absence of semen.
  Learn more at: [www.fertilitypedia.org/therapy/diag/aspermia](http://www.fertilitypedia.org/therapy/diag/aspermia)

- **Obstructive azoospermia**
  Absence of sperm in the ejaculate despite normal spermatogenesis, caused by an obstruction of the genital tract.
  Learn more at: [www.fertilitypedia.org/therapy/diag/obstructive-azoospermia](http://www.fertilitypedia.org/therapy/diag/obstructive-azoospermia)
Globozoospermia
A rare abnormality of sperm morphology, with the majority of sperm cells being round-headed, which leads to male infertility.
Learn more at: www.fertilitypedia.org/therapy/diag/globozoospermia

Idiopathic male infertility
A condition in which fertility impairment occurs spontaneously or due to an unknown cause.
Learn more at: www.fertilitypedia.org/therapy/diag/idiopathic-male-infertility

Organs

Testes
Male gonads which produce both sperm and androgens, such as testosterone, and are active throughout the reproductive lifespan of the male.
Learn more at: www.fertilitypedia.org/edu/organs/testes

Vas deferens
The duct in the testicle that carries semen from the epididymis to the ejaculatory duct.
Learn more at: www.fertilitypedia.org/edu/organs/vas-deferens

Reproductive cells

Sperm
A male reproductive cell which is able to fertilize the counterpart female gamete - the oocyte.
Learn more at: www.fertilitypedia.org/edu/reproductive-cells/sperm

Spermatogonium
An undifferentiated male germ cell with self-renewing capacity representing the first stage of spermatogenesis.
Learn more at: www.fertilitypedia.org/edu/reproductive-cells/spermatogonium

Biological control

Follicle-stimulating hormone
FSH is a hormone secreted by the anterior pituitary gland. It regulates the development, growth, pubertal matur and reproductive functions of the body
Learn more at: www.fertilitypedia.org/edu/biological-control/follicle-stimulating-hormone

Testosterone
Steroid hormone produced primarily in the testes of the male; responsible for the development of secondary sex characteristics in the male.
Learn more at: www.fertilitypedia.org/edu/biological-control/testosterone

Reproductive functions

Fertilization
The fusion of an ovum with a sperm to initiate the development of a new individual organism.
Learn more at: www.fertilitypedia.org/edu/reproductive-functions/fertilization

Symptoms

Abnormal sperm morphology
A normal sperm morphology of less than 4% of sperms in an ejaculate.
Learn more at: www.fertilitypedia.org/edu/symptoms/abnormal-sperm-morphology

Therapies
Egg donation
Process by which a woman donates eggs for purposes of assisted reproduction or biomedical research.
Learn more at: www.fertilypedia.org/edu/therapies/egg-donation

ICSI
A micromanipulative fertilization technique in which a single sperm is injected directly into an egg.
Learn more at: www.fertilypedia.org/edu/therapies/icsi

Sperm donation
The procedure in which a man (sperm donor) provides his sperm for fertility treatment.
Learn more at: www.fertilypedia.org/edu/therapies/sperm-donation

Standard IVF
A process in which an egg is fertilised by sperm outside the body: in vitro. Own or donated gametes may be used.
Learn more at: www.fertilypedia.org/edu/therapies/standard-ivf