

Clinical Trial Protocol

Iranian Registry of Clinical Trials

06 Jul 2026

Comparison of the effectiveness of GnRH agonist stop-Antagonist protocol versus GnRH antagonist protocol in poor respondent IVF candidate patients

Protocol summary

Study aim

Comparison of the effectiveness of GnRH agonist stop-Antagonist protocol versus GnRH antagonist protocol on fertility outcomes in poor respondent IVF candidate patients

Design

This study is designed as a randomized, phase 3 clinical trial with parallel groups, and a sample size of 74 participants. The randomization method will be the block randomization method.

Settings and conduct

The study will be conducted at Arash Women's Hospital on all women undergoing IVF. Patients who signed informed consent will be randomly divided into two groups. The first group will receive the Agonist stop Antagonist protocol and the other group received the GnRH Antagonist protocol. The random allocation and final outcome of the study will be assessed by a person who is unaware of the study process. Also, the statistician will be unaware of the study process

Participants/Inclusion and exclusion criteria

Inclusion criteria: The criteria for diagnosing poor ovarian response are two of the following: 1- Age 40 or older 2 - History of poor ovarian response (POR) in the previous cycle (oocyte less than 3 in a conventional protocol), 3- Antral follicle count (AFC) less than 5-7 or Anti-Müllerian hormone (AMH) <0.5-1.1. In addition, twice poor ovarian response after maximal ovarian stimulation is sufficient reason to introduce the individual as POR without the need for other criteria. Exclusion criteria: Polycystic ovarian syndrome, Hypothalamic amenorrhea, Repeated IVF failure

Intervention groups

In the IVF process, the first group will receive the Agonist stop Antagonist protocol Group 2 will Receive the GnRH Antagonist protocol.

Main outcome variables

number of oocytes, M II oocytes, and embryos and embryo quality

General information

Reason for update

Due to the prevalence of Covid-19 and the reluctance of most patients to transfer fresh embryos in the cycle has begun, so we faced a reduction in sample size, so we requested a change in the protocol to investigate the effect of these treatments on oocyte count ,oocyte quality and embryo quality regardless of pregnancy and pregnancy outcomes

Acronym

IRCT registration information

IRCT registration number: **IRCT20110731007165N10**

Registration date: **2020-12-15, 1399/09/25**

Registration timing: **registered_while_recruiting**

Last update: **2021-07-04, 1400/04/13**

Update count: **1**

Registration date

2020-12-15, 1399/09/25

Registrant information

Name

Ladan Kashani

Name of organization / entity

Tehran University of Medical Sciences

Country

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

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Email address

kashani_ladan@tums.ac.ir

Recruitment status

Recruitment complete

Funding source

Expected recruitment start date

2020-12-10, 1399/09/20

Expected recruitment end date

2021-08-01, 1400/05/10

Actual recruitment start date

empty

Actual recruitment end date

empty

Trial completion date

empty

Scientific title

Comparison of the effectiveness of GnRH agonist stop-Antagonist protocol versus GnRH antagonist protocol in poor respondent IVF candidate patients

Public title

Comparison of the effectiveness of GnRH agonist stop-Antagonist protocol versus GnRH antagonist protocol in IVF candidate patients

Purpose

Treatment

Inclusion/Exclusion criteria**Inclusion criteria:**

The criteria for diagnosing poor ovarian response are two of the following: 1- Age 40 or older 2 - History of poor ovarian response (POR) in the previous cycle (oocyte less than 3 in a conventional protocol), 3-Antral follicle count (AFC) less than 5-7 or Anti-Müllerian hormone (AMH) <0.5-1.1. Twice poor ovarian response after maximal ovarian stimulation is sufficient reason to introduce the individual as POR without the need for other criteria.

Exclusion criteria:

Polycystic ovarian syndrome Hypothalamic amenorrhea Uterine congenital anomalies and uterine cavity abnormalities (Bicorn uterus, Unicorn uterus, Asherman, Liomyoma, Polyp, etc.) Repeated IVF failure (more than three consecutive failures) Endocrine disorders (diabetes, thyroid disease, antilipid syndrome, cardiovascular and liver disease),

Age

From **40 years** old

Gender

Female

Phase

3

Groups that have been masked

- Investigator
- Outcome assessor
- Data analyser

Sample size

Target sample size: **74**

Randomization (investigator's opinion)

Randomized

Randomization description

The randomization list will be prepared by a statistician using the block randomization method (using the site:www.sealedenvelope.com). Treatments will be placed in sealed envelopes and will be kept by the out-of-study nurse. After identification of the eligibility of the

patient, the procedure will be explained to her and informed consent will be obtained. Then the treatment will be performed based on the kind of treatment in the envelope.

Blinding (investigator's opinion)

Double blinded

Blinding description

Completion of the final information is up to the person who is unaware of the type of treatment and also the specialist will be blind.

Placebo

Not used

Assignment

Parallel

Other design features**Secondary Ids**

empty

Ethics committees**1****Ethics committee****Name of ethics committee**

Ethics Committee of Tehran University of Medical Sciences

Street address

Qods St, Keshavarz Blvd, Tehran, Iran

City

Tehran

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Postal code

1417653761

Approval date

2020-10-31, 1399/08/10

Ethics committee reference number

IR.TUMS.MEDICINE.REC.1399.694

Health conditions studied**1****Description of health condition studied**

Infertility

ICD-10 code

N97

ICD-10 code description

Female infertility

Primary outcomes**1****Description**

Number of mature oocytes

Timepoint

During IVF process

Method of measurement

Embryologist opinion

2

Description

Number of mature oocytes at retrieval

Timepoint

During IVF process

Method of measurement

Embryologist opinion

Secondary outcomes

1

Description

Embryo quality

Timepoint

Embryo formation

Method of measurement

By the embryologist

2

Description

oocyte count

Timepoint

Puncture Day

Method of measurement

by embryologist

Intervention groups

1

Description

Intervention group: GnRH(0.1 mg/daily) will be injected from mid-luteal phase until mense then in the second day of menstrual cycle recombinant FSH with LH will be injected. When the size of the follicle reaches 13-14 mm, the GnRH antagonist will be injected until trigger day. When the size of the follicle will reach above 18 mm HCG will be injected and 36 hours later ovarian puncture will be performed.

Category

Treatment - Drugs

2

Description

Group2:Ovarian stimulation with GnRH will be started from 2 days of the menstrual cycle. When the size of the follicle will reach above 13-14 mm GnRH antagonist (0.2 mg/daily) will be injected until trigger day. When the size of the follicle will reach above 18 mm HCG will be injected and 36 hours later ovarian puncture will be performed. One to three embryos will be transferred on the third day and luteal phase support is performed with progesterone.

Category

Treatment - Drugs

Recruitment centers

1

Recruitment center

Name of recruitment center

Arash women's hospital

Full name of responsible person

Dr.Ladan Kashani

Street address

No. 162 Alley (Abdul Majid), Shahid Baghdarnia Street (North Rashid), Shahid Bagheri Highway, Resalat Highway, Tehran, Iran

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Sponsors / Funding sources

1

Sponsor

Name of organization / entity

Tehran University of Medical Sciences

Full name of responsible person

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Grant name

Grant code / Reference number

Is the source of funding the same sponsor organization/entity?

Yes

Title of funding source

Tehran University of Medical Sciences

Proportion provided by this source

100

Public or private sector

Public

Domestic or foreign origin

Domestic

Category of foreign source of funding

empty

Country of origin

Type of organization providing the funding

Academic

Person responsible for general inquiries

Contact

Name of organization / entity

Tehran University of Medical Sciences

Full name of responsible person

Ladan Kashani

Position

Associate professor

Latest degree

Medical doctor

Other areas of specialty/work

Gynecology and Obstetrics

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Sharing plan

Deidentified Individual Participant Data Set (IPD)

Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available

Study Protocol

Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available

Statistical Analysis Plan

Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available

Informed Consent Form

Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available

Clinical Study Report

Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available

Analytic Code

Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available

Data Dictionary

Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available