

EDITORIAL ARTICLES

- Ethical consideration of experimentation using living human embryos: The Catholic Church's position on human embryonic stem cell research and human cloning** 77
 N. Ohara - *Kobe, JAPAN*
 Human embryonic stem cell research and human cloning are not ethically justifiable because of the acts against the dignity and life of human embryos.
- Sentinel lymph-node biopsy qualification in breast cancer** 82
 D. Tamiolakis - *Alexandroupolis, GREECE*
 Breast cancer patients should undergo sentinel node biopsy routinely and thus can be spared complete axillary dissection when the sentinel node is not involved.
- Obstetrics and gynecology between clinics and research** 85
 T. Eskes - *Nijmegen, NL*
 An evaluation of a 25-year chairmanship at the University of Nijmegen is given. The main tasks were patient care, teaching and research. It is concluded that a university chairmanship needs fertile soil in which "the genes can express themselves". Research grants can act as a fertiliser. For an international approach prerequisites are a multidisciplinary project with publications in high ranking (general medicine) journals.

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

- Successful delivery despite conception with a maximal endometrial thickness of 4 mm** 93
 J. H. Check, C. Dietterich, M. L. Check, Y. Katz - *Camden, N.J. (USA)*
 A successful pregnancy and delivery was achieved despite a maximal endometrial thickness achieved at the periovulatory period of 4 mm.
- A novel anti-dysmenorrhea therapy with cyclic administration of two Japanese herbal medicines** 95
 T. Tanaka - *Wakayama, JAPAN*
 A strong novel antidysmenorrhea therapy, SK/TS cyclic therapy, has been established and evaluated.
- Twin versus singleton pregnancy and preterm prelabour rupture of the membranes** 99
 Y. Jacquemyn, L. Noelmans, L. Mahieu, Ph. Buytaert - *Edegem, BELGIUM*
 Preterm premature rupture of the membranes in twins results in more deliveries within 48 hours than in singletons; the difference is more outstanding at a gestational age less than 30 weeks.
- Urodynamic and clinical evaluation of postmenopausal women with stress urinary incontinence before and after cyclic estrogen therapy** 103
 V. R. V. Góes, M. G. F. Sartori, E. C. Baracat, G. Rodrigues de Lima, M. J. B. C. Girão - *São Paulo, BRAZIL*
 Estrogen replacement is important for the treatment of stress urinary incontinence in postmenopausal women.
- Cervical human papillomavirus infection; epithelial abnormalities in human immunodeficiency virus infected women** 107
 K. Papathanasiou, C. Giannoulis, V. Vaitisi, J. Kalahanis - *Thessaloniki, GREECE*
 HPV-related cervical epithelial abnormalities were detected 19% of HIV-infected women.
- Bilateral cleft lip and palate associated with increased nuchal translucency and maternal cocaine abuse at 14 weeks of gestation** 109
 D. Markov, Y. Jacquemyn, Y. Leroy - *Edegem, BELGIUM*
 Bilateral cleft lip and palate were detected at 14 weeks of gestational age in combination with maternal cocaine use and increased nuchal translucency.
- Histomorphometric study of the inferior urinary tract of adult female rats during the interval between castration and hormonal replacement** 111
 M. A. Rocha, M. G. F. Sartori, M. J. B. C. Girão, M. De Jesus Simões, E. C. Baracat, G. Rodrigues de Lima - *São Paulo, BRAZIL*
 Estrogen therapy (immediate and 30 days after castration) reverted the effects of estrogen deficiency in the vessels, collagen and muscular fibers, the bladder and the urethra when compared to the group of castrated female rats, thus becoming similar to noncastrated animals.

Tubo-ovarian abscesses: Spectrum of sonographic findings with surgical and pathological correlations	117
M. Varras, D. Polyzos, E. Perouli, P. Noti, I. Pantazis, Ch. Akrivis - <i>Athens, GREECE</i> The different sonographic markers on gray scale and color Doppler sonography are retrospectively examined in 25 surgically and pathologically proven cases of tubo-ovarian abscesses in order to achieve a correct preoperative diagnosis of this life-threatening condition.	
Ovarian tumour: ovarian pregnancy. Diagnosis and management	122
W. A. A. Tjalma, A. A. W. Tjalma - <i>Edegem, BELGIUM</i> Primary ovarian pregnancy is uncommon. The preoperative and even intraoperative diagnosis is difficult. Conservative surgical treatment with preservation of fertility should be performed.	
Cryoloop vitrification in assisted reproduction: analysis of survival rates in >1000 human oocytes after ultra-rapid cooling with polymer augmented cryoprotectants	125
J. Liebermann, M. J. Tucker, E. S. Sills - <i>Atlanta, GEORGIA (USA)</i> Ultra-rapid freezing of human oocytes via cryoloop can be effective independent of polymer-supplemented cryoprotectants.	
Pharmacological action and therapeutic effects of glutathione on hypokinetic spermatozoa for enzymatic-dependent pathologies and correlated genetic aspects	130
L. Tripodi, A. Tripodi, C. Mammí, C. Pullé, F. Cremonesi - <i>Reggio Calabria, Messina and Milan, ITALY</i> The therapeutic effects of glutathione on subjects from different species affected by hypofertility due to reduced spermatozoa motility were studied. The results have shown a determining role of glutathione which, besides acting positively on spermatozoa motility, has a certain neutralizing effect on the catabolites produced during fertilization.	
Unicornuate uterus and uterus didelphys. Indications and techniques for surgical reconstruction: A review	137
N. Dalkalitsis, I. Korkontzelos, G. Tsanadis, T. Stefos, D. Lolis - <i>Ioannina, GREECE</i> Unicornuate uterus and uterus didelphys consist of congenital malformations with many complications. Laparoscopic surgery is helpful in establishing diagnosis and treatment.	
CASE REPORTS	
Clinical considerations and sonographic findings of a large nonpedunculated primary cervical leiomyoma complicated by heavy vaginal haemorrhage: A case report and review of the literature	144
M. Varras, P. Hadjilira, D. Polyzos, A. Tsikini, Ch. Akrivis, M. Tsouroulas - <i>Athens, GREECE</i> Report of a very rare case of primary cervical fibroid in a patient who presented with profound uterine bleeding; interesting ultrasonographic findings are presented.	
Torsion of a non-gravid leiomyomatous uterus in a patient with myotonic dystrophy complaining of acute urinary retention: anaesthetic management for total abdominal hysterectomy	147
M. Varras, D. Polyzos, Ch. Alexopoulos, P. Pappa, Ch. Akrivis - <i>Athens, GREECE</i> Presentation of an extremely rare case, in which acute urinary retention was caused by torsion of a non-pregnant leiomyomatous uterus in a patient suffering from myotonic dystrophy. The anaesthetic implications are discussed.	
Prolonged stabilization of platinum/paclitaxel-refractory ovarian cancer with topotecan: A case report and review of the literature	151
O. Balat, M. G. Ugur - <i>Gaziantep, TURKEY</i> In this report prolonged stabilization of platinum and paclitaxel-refractory ovarian cancer with topotecan is discussed.	
Laparoscopic evaluation of congenital absence of the uterus. A case report	153
V. Liberis, G. Galazios, K. Avgidou, P. Tsikouras, N. Koutlaki, P. Anastasiadis - <i>Alexandroupolis, GREECE</i> The contribution of laparoscopy in the evaluation of congenital absence of the uterus is discussed.	
Primary postpartum haemorrhage due to a large submucosal nonpedunculated uterine leiomyoma: a case report and review of the literature	156
Ch. Akrivis, M. Varras, A. Bellou, E. Kitsiou, S. Stefanaki, N. Antoniou - <i>Athens, GREECE</i> A case of an unusual complication of a large submucosal nonpedunculated uterine leiomyoma, which complicated the puerperium by prolapsing in the external cervical os and obstructed the passage of lochia, is presented.	
A case of vulvar metastasis from rectal cancer - regional resection of the right vulva labium and vulvar reconstruction with a rhomboid transposition flap: Case report	159
K. Paphathanasiou, C. Giannoulis, V. Vaitsi, N. Flaris, E. Kostopoulou, J. Kalahanis - <i>Thessaloniki, GREECE</i> A case of vulvar metastasis from rectal cancer is reported and the surgical treatment and reconstruction are described.	

Fetal small bowel obstruction: report of two cases

161

I. Sigalas, K. Dafopoulos, G. Galazios, V. Liberis, P. Nikolaou, P. Anastasiadis - *Alexandroupolis, GREECE*

Fetal small bowel obstruction is diagnosed by sonography in the late second or early third trimester. Two such cases of different etiology (a case of meconium ileus due to cystic fibrosis and a case of intestinal atresia) are reported.

Ruptured tubo-ovarian abscess as a complication of IVF treatment: Clinical, ultrasonographic and histopathologic findings. A case report

164

M. Varras, D. Polyzos, A. Tsikini, E. Antypa, D. Apessou, M. Tsouroulas - *Athens, GREECE*

A case of life-threatening ruptured tubo-ovarian abscess, after transcervical ultrasound-guided oocyte retrieval for IVF and transcervical embryo transfer is described. The patient underwent aspiration of bilateral hydrosalpinges at the time of oocyte retrieval.