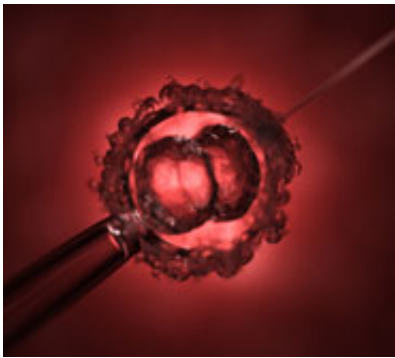


New research finds ideal number of embryos to implant during assisted conception

January 12 2012



A dividing cell under a microscope.

(Medical Xpress) -- Controversy exists over how many embryos should be implanted during assisted conception (in-vitro fertilisation/IVF) therapy. New research by the University of Bristol and published in the *The Lancet* shows that, while discretion can be applied in whether to implant one or two embryos, three or more should never be implanted into women of any age.

The research, based on data from the UK Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, is written by Professor Debbie Lawlor from the University of Bristol's School of Social and Community Medicine and Professor Scott Nelson from the University of Glasgow's Centre for Population and Health Sciences.

The study analysed 124 148 IVF cycles overall, which yielded 33 514 live births. The researchers compared rates of live birth, multiple births, low birth weight (

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