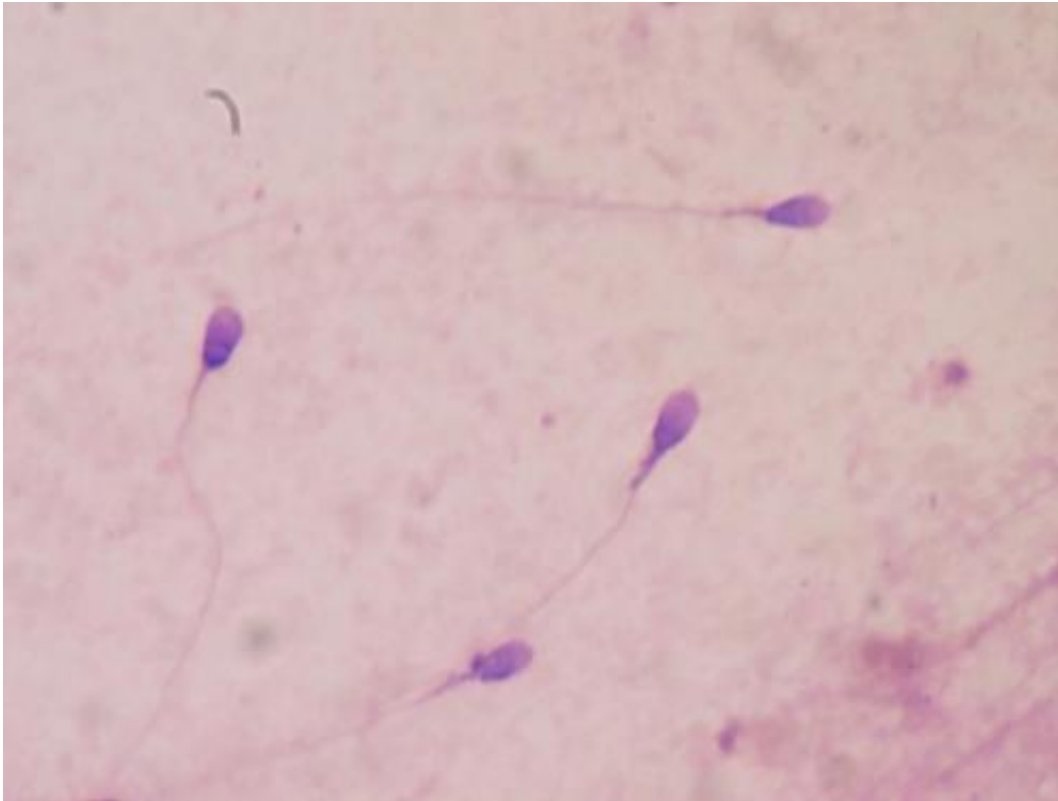


New test assesses sperm function

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Human sperm stained for semen quality testing in the clinical laboratory. Credit: Bobjgalindo/Wikipedia

Two new publications in the journal *Molecular Reproduction and Development* validate the usefulness of a test that determines if sperm can capacitate, a process that allows them to fertilize an egg.

The first paper validates the underlying technology of the [test](#), called the

Cap-Score Sperm Function Test, and demonstrates its accuracy, reproducibility, and precision.

The second paper reports on two studies. In a trial of men with unexplained infertility, men with Cap-Scores above a certain threshold had a 92% chance of conceiving by natural conception or within three cycles of [intrauterine insemination](#). Conversely, men with lower Cap-Scores below had only a 21% chance. In a second trial that compared Cap-Scores from 76 fertile men with those from 122 men seeking [semen analysis](#), 34% of men questioning their fertility had low Cap-Scores compared with 13% of fertile men.

"More accurate testing is the first step towards more effective treatments," said co-author Dr. Eric Seaman. "The Cap-Score Sperm Function Test can prove to be a game changer for physicians who treat infertility and for their patients."

More information: Melissa A. Moody et al. Validation of a laboratory-developed test of human sperm capacitation, *Molecular Reproduction and Development* (2017). [DOI: 10.1002/mrd.22801](https://doi.org/10.1002/mrd.22801)

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