

# Study examines if timing of IVF to avoid weekend procedures affects pregnancy success

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It's unclear whether there is a need to retrieve a woman's eggs on weekends, in connection with in vitro fertilization/intracytoplasmic sperm injection (IVF/ICSI) treatment in couples wishing to conceive. In a recent *Acta Obstetricia et Gynecologica Scandinavica* study, scheduling of egg retrieval and single embryo transfer procedures only on weekdays did not result in reduced live-birth rates; however, delays of two days or longer may be unfavorable in some treatments.

The study included 1000 patients undergoing their first in IVF/ICSI with single-embryo transfer (SET).

"Our study supports that weekend work may not be needed for most IVF/ICSI treatments receiving SET at large IVF centers, such as ours; however, in IVF/ICSI treatments using short protocols with gonadotropin releasing hormone antagonists, the outcomes could be less favorable if delaying egg retrieval," said senior author Dr. Kenny Rodriguez-Wallberg, of the Karolinska Institute, in Sweden.

**More information:** Michael Feichtinger et al, Weekend-free scheduled IVF/ICSI procedures and single embryo transfer do not reduce live-birth rates in a general infertile population, *Acta Obstetricia et Gynecologica Scandinavica* (2017). [DOI: 10.1111/aogs.13235](https://doi.org/10.1111/aogs.13235)

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