

SPEAKER PROFILE

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I am a consultant Gynaecologist and Subspecialist in Reproductive Medicine at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals. After completing training in Sheffield I was first appointed consultant at Ninewells Hospital in Dundee and then moved back to Sheffield in 2013. I was formerly the Vice Chair of the RCOG Scientific Advisory Committee, the current Chair of the BFS training committee as well as member of the British Fertility Society Executive Committee. I have published widely in the field of Reproductive Medicine and Surgery and currently lead an HTA funded study of approximately £1.3 investigating the role of endometrial scratch in women undergoing first time IVF.

LECTURE ABSTRACT: The Endometrial Scratch

13:30 - 14:00

Despite the great advances in the field of IVF, success rates over the years have only modestly increased. This has led to many attempts over the decades to explore innovative approaches to improve the chance of a pregnancy. Many such approaches have been dismissed due to lack of evidence and only a few have shown promise. Controlled endometrial trauma is one such technique that is currently under investigation. The potential benefits of endometrial trauma to improve the receptivity of the endometrium, has long been recognised from animal studies, and recently this technique has been suggested to be beneficial in women undergoing IVF treatment and having had several unsuccessful attempts. The use of controlled endometrial trauma (the endometrial scratch) was consequently rapidly adopted into clinical practice, and in many cases in groups of women where the evidence simply did not exist or was very poor. In this presentation, we will review the historical background to the use of endometrial scratch to improve pregnancy rates, the currently available evidence, clinical uses as well as current and future research.



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