



# S A M A A

## FERTILIZATION CENTER

### A guide to Intra-Uterine Insemination (IUI)

  
مرکز سماء للأخصاب  
Samaa Fertilization Center

# Intra-Uterine Insemination (IUI)

## What is IUI

IUI (Intrauterine insemination) involves placing sperm inside a woman's uterus to facilitate fertilisation. The aim is to increase the number of sperm reaching the fallopian tubes and thus increase the chances of fertilisation. IUI is a type of fertility treatment in which high-quality sperm are separated from sperm that is non-moving. It is commonly used by couples that have been unsuccessful in conceiving without an obvious medical reason (unexplained infertility).

problem with the quality of the sperm, the chance of pregnancy has been found to decrease. Most doctors suggest that IUI is seen as a course of treatment with three or more cycles recommended. The cycles do not have to be consecutive to be effective, although recent studies suggest that consecutive cycles are associated with a higher pregnancy rate.

## IUI Procedure

Today, most (though not all) IUI treatments begin with a short course of hormone therapy for the female partner to encourage the development of several follicles and increase the chance of pregnancy. This stimulated IUI requires close ultrasound monitoring to avoid the risk of multiple pregnancies. IUI can also be performed in a natural cycle, in which the introduction of sperm coincides with ovulation. IUI is a more natural form of fertility treatment but also less successful.



## IUI vs IVF

IUI is a less invasive and less expensive option compared to IVF/ICSI. Success rates using IUI vary. Once the sperm is injected the body's natural processes must take over, whereas in IVF/ICSI we have more control over the treatment cycle. We can check the egg has fertilised and are able to select the best embryos to put back into the womb. Success rates for IUI are generally around a third of that for IVF. However, where there is a



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