8th Course on Cryopreservation and Transplantation of Human Ovarian Tissue

Brussels, 28-29/06/2018

Our view

Ovarian tissue cryopreservation and transplantation for fertility purposes has been performed for more than 20 years. Its success rate is around 30% after autotransplantation of frozen-thawed ovarian cortex, with more than 130 live births reported to date. However, ovarian tissue cryopreservation and transplantation is still considered as an experimental procedure. As pioneers of this technique, we firmly believe that it should be implemented in all cancer centers to prevent the devastating effects of cancer treatment on the female gonads, especially in prepubertal girls or when chemotherapy cannot be delayed. We are therefore highly involved in dissemination and application ovarian tissue cryopreservation and transplantation all over the world, advocating for its open clinical application. For this, we offer our annual course in Brussels. Our course/training is designed to share the techniques behind our successful ovarian tissue cryopreservation program from St-Luc Hospital (Brussels, Belgium) implemented on 1996.

Our course

This course aims to provide a high-level overview on cryopreservation and transplantation of human ovarian tissue. We will share our experience on how to start and organize an ovarian tissue cryobank, prepare, freeze and thaw biopsies and perform ovarian tissue transplantation. To ensure the proper training of all participants, we offer hands-on practice on cryopreservation and the possibility to be present at an ovarian tissue transplantation in the operating theater.

Target audience

Biologists, embryologists, gynecologists, oncopediatricians, surgeons and scientists.

Learning objectives

- To know the fertility preservation options for female cancer patients
- To recognize the importance of cryopreservation and transplantation of ovarian tissue (CTOT) for prepubertal patients and provide the correct advice for oncologists and patient's parents
- To realize that CTOT strategy can be also applied to patients with benign diseases and for social reasons (postponement of childbearing or menopause)
- To learn the crucial steps to set up a CTOT program
- To learn how to cryopreserve and transplant ovarian tissue
- To evaluate cryopreservation procedure using different techniques

Practical information

Location: Gynecology Research Unit
Université Catholique de Louvain
Avenue Mounier 52; Vésale building, 3th floor
1200 Brussels - Belgium

Course fee: 1200€

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