

Blastocentesis: innovation in embryo biopsy

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Blastocentesis: a source of DNA for preimplantation genetic testing. Results from a pilot study

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Reproductive Medicine Unit, Società Italiana Studi di Medicina della Riproduzione, Bologna, Italy

Preimplantation genetic testing: polar bodies, blastomeres, trophectoderm cells, or blastocoelic fluid?

M. Cristina Magli, M.Sc., Alessandra Pomante, Ph.D., Giulia Cafueri, B.Sc., Marzia Valerio, B.Sc., Andor Crippa, Ph.D., Anna P. Ferraretti, M.D., and Luca Gianaroli, M.D.
SISMER, Reproductive Medicine Unit, Bologna, Italy

2013

2014

2014

2015

2016

Genomic DNA in human blastocoele fluid

S Palini ^{a,*,1}, L Galluzzi ^{b,1}, S De Stefani ^a, M Bianchi ^b, D Wells ^c,
M Magnani ^b, C Bulletti ^a

ORIGINAL ARTICLE: GENETICS

Blastocoel fluid from differentiated blastocysts harbors embryonic genomic material capable of a whole-genome deoxyribonucleic acid amplification and comprehensive chromosome microarray analysis

Kyle J. Tobler, M.D.,^{1,2} Yulian Zhao, Ph.D., M.D., M.B.A.,³ Ric Ross, M.S.,⁴ Andy T. Benner, M.S.,² Xin Xu, M.S.,² Luke Du, M.D.,⁵ Kathleen Brennan, B.S.,⁶ Kim Thrift, B.S.,⁶ Paul R. Broczina, M.D., M.B.A.,^{7,8} and William G. Kearns, Ph.D.⁹

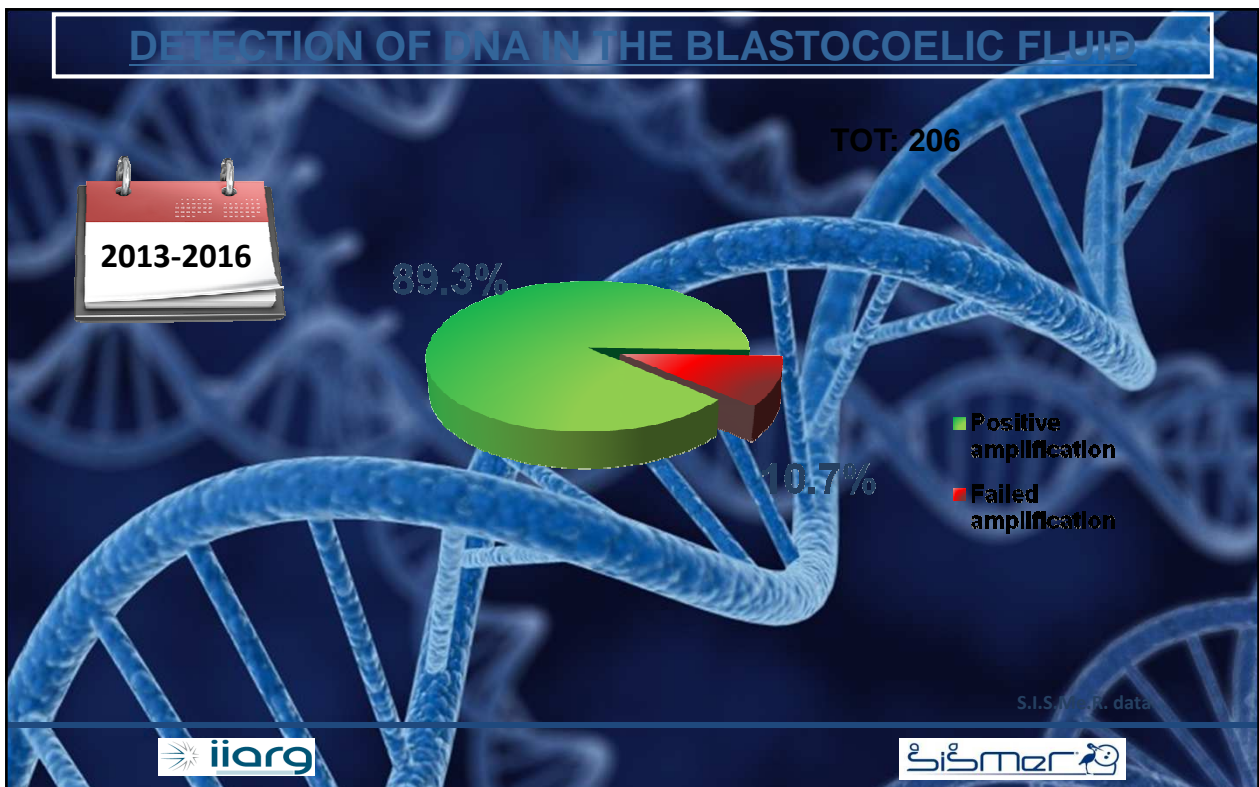
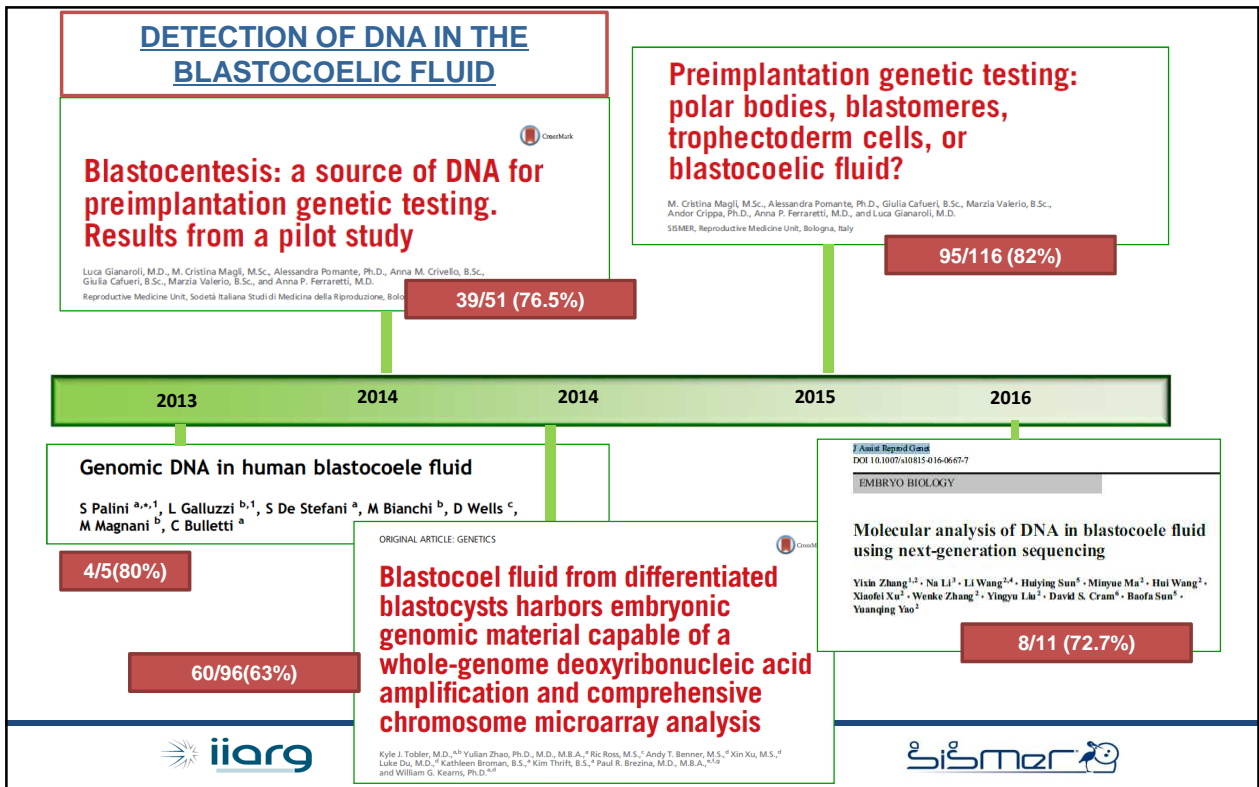
F. Asian Reprod Genet
DOI: 10.1007/s10815-016-0667-7

EMBRYO BIOLOGY

Molecular analysis of DNA in blastocoelic fluid using next-generation sequencing

Yixin Zhang^{1,2}, Na Li³, Li Wang^{2,4}, Huiying Sun⁵, Minyue Ma², Hui Wang², Xiaofei Xu², Wenke Zhang², Yingyu Liu², David S. Cram⁶, Baofa Sun⁷, Yuanqing Yao²

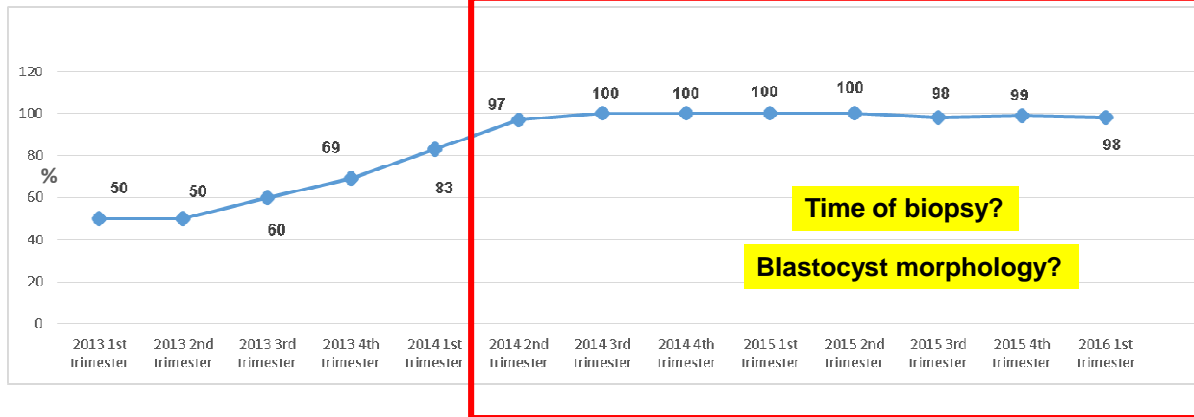




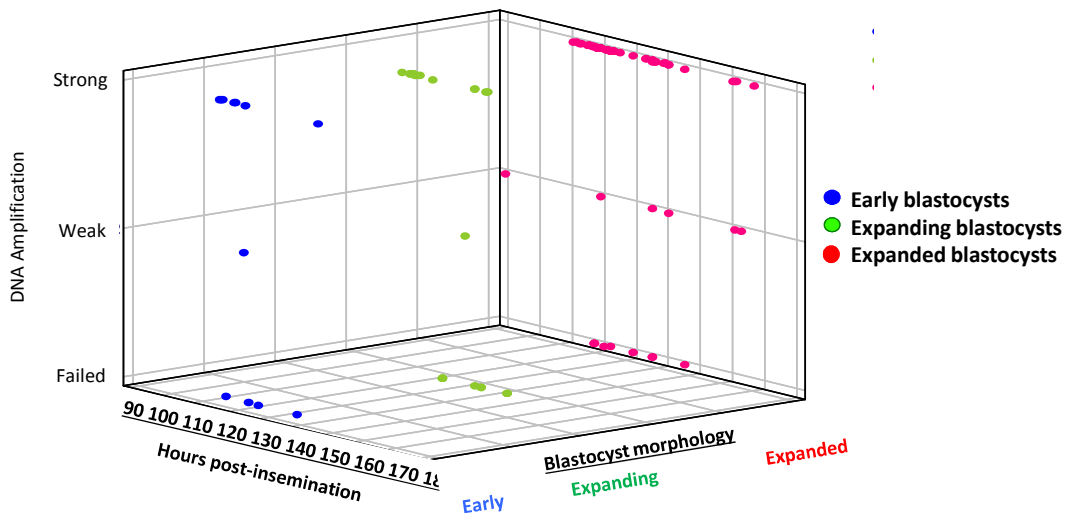
DETECTION OF DNA IN THE BLASTOCOELIC FLUID

Our experience throughout time on 206 BF's

Last 149 BF's



DETECTION OF DNA IN THE BLASTOCOELIC FLUID

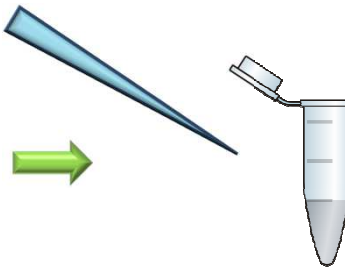


Expanded Day 5 blastocysts have the highest chances of having DNA in the BF



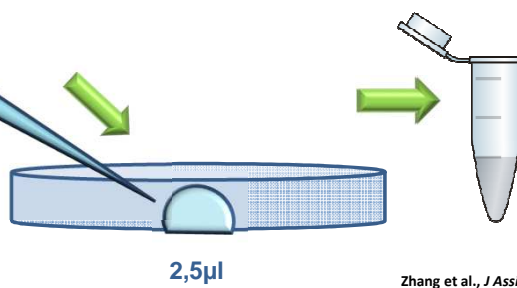
COLLECTION PROCEDURE

1. BF aspiration



Gianaroli et al., *Fert Ster*, 2014

2. BF aspiration



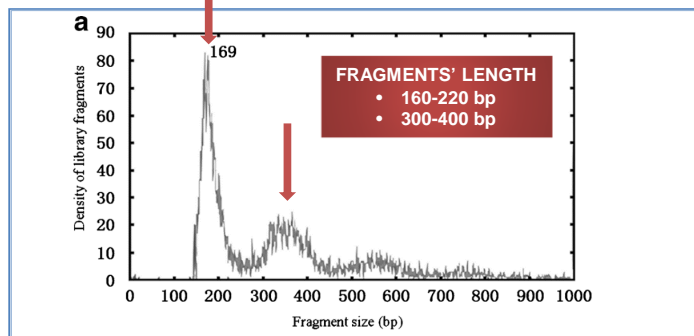
Zhang et al., *J Assist Reprod Genet*, 2016



THE BLASTOCOELIC FLUID

Where does this DNA come from?

Direct sequencing of 3 pooled blastocoelic fluids

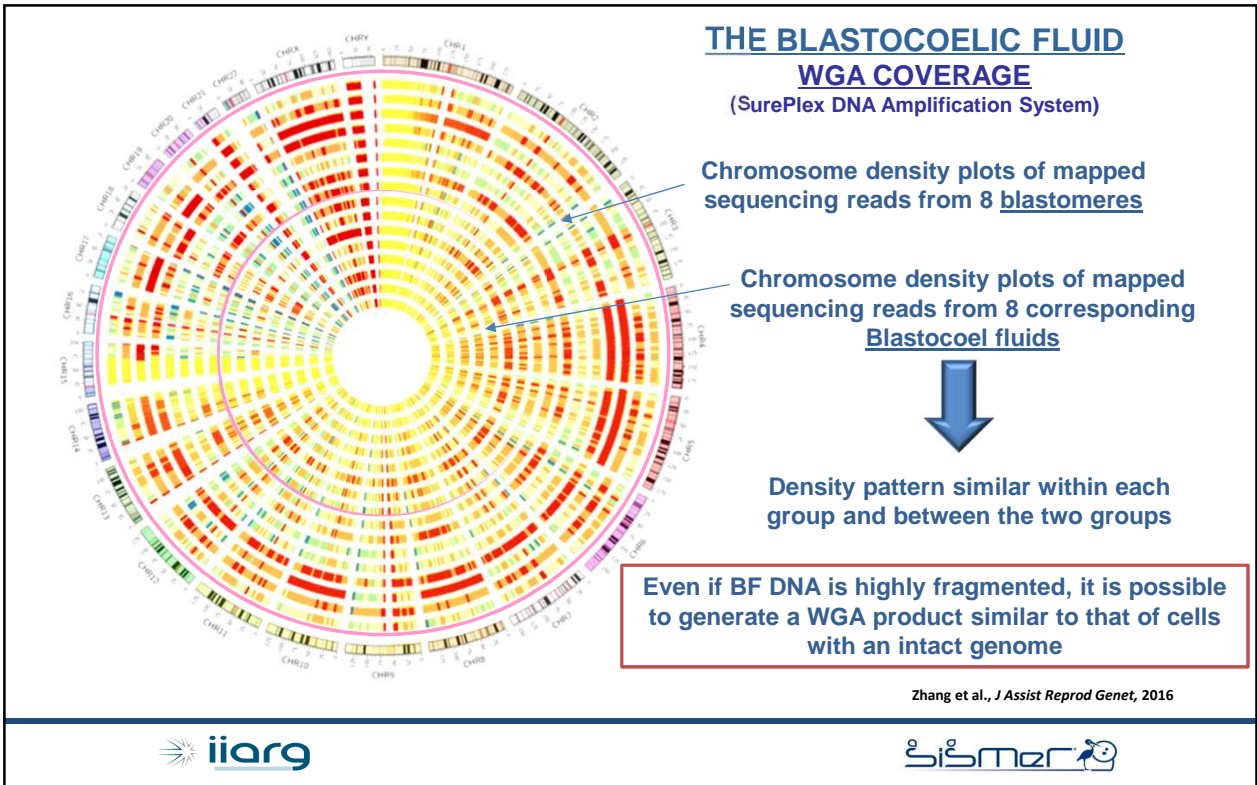


DNA FRAGMENTS' LENGTH SIMILAR TO CIRCULATING PLASMA DNA

TYPICAL LENGTH OF APOPTOTIC FRAGMENTS

Zhang et al., *J Assist Reprod Genet*, 2016





CONCORDANCE STUDY
105 BFs

iiarg SisMOR

CONCORDANCE STUDY

Indicators

1. Ploidy condition

Correspondence in terms of euploidy/aneuploidy
(Transferrable/Not Transferrable)



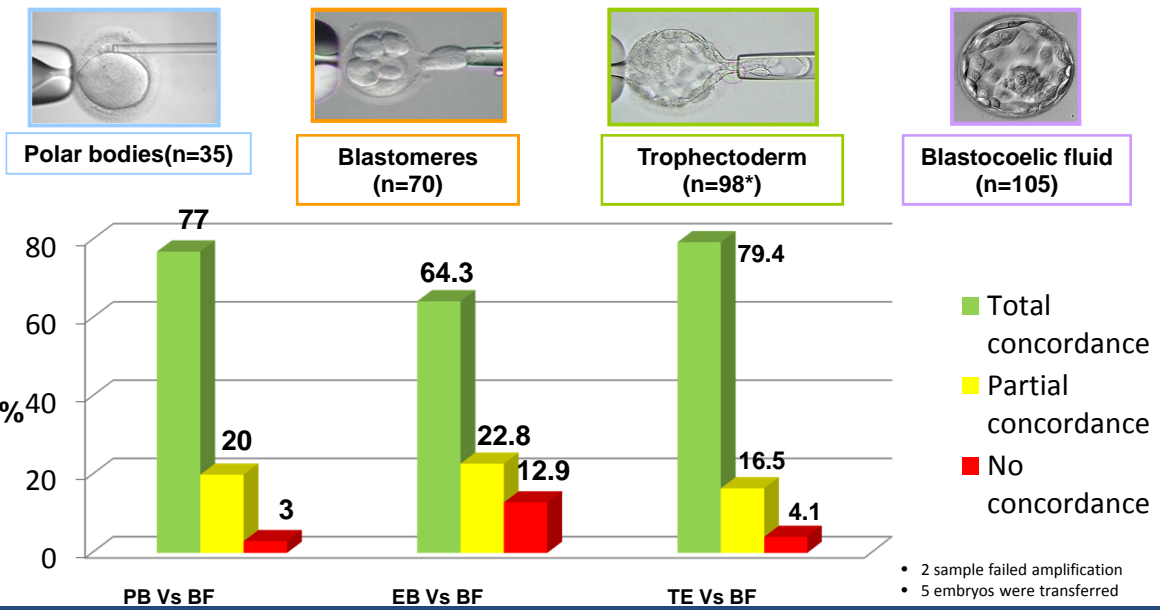
2. Chromosome concordance

Percentage of correspondence of all studied chromosomes
between the different stages of the analyzed embryos.



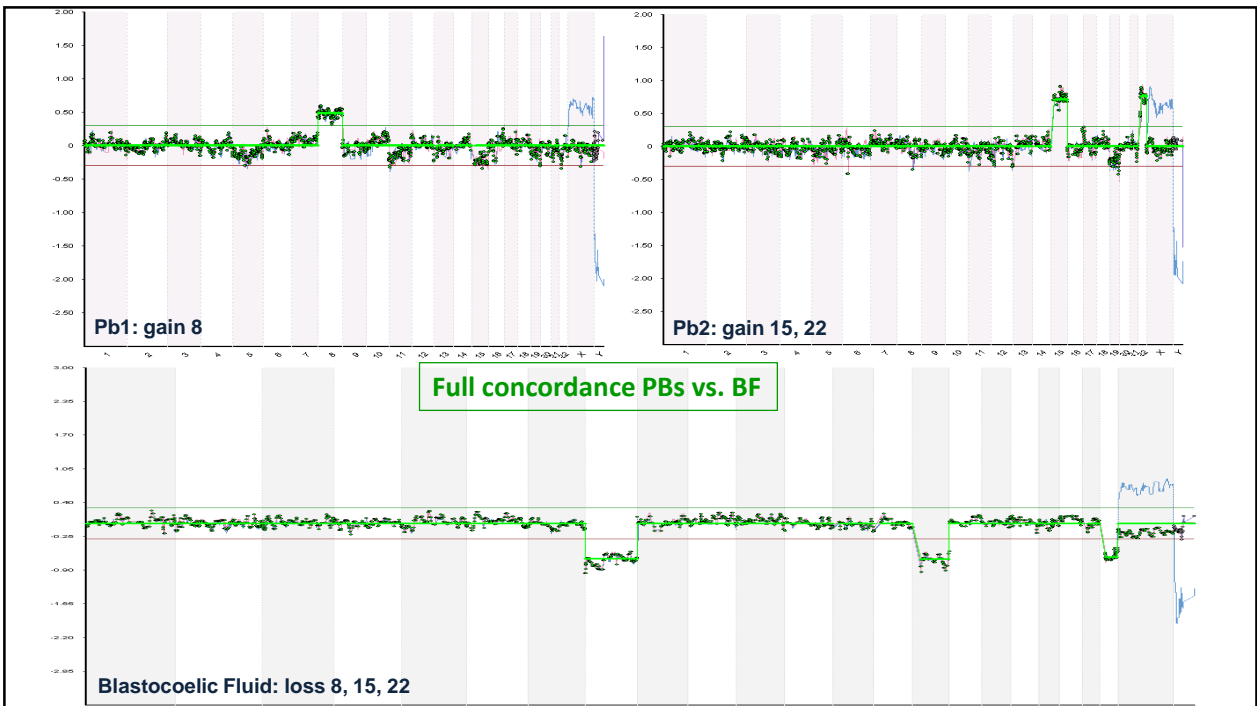
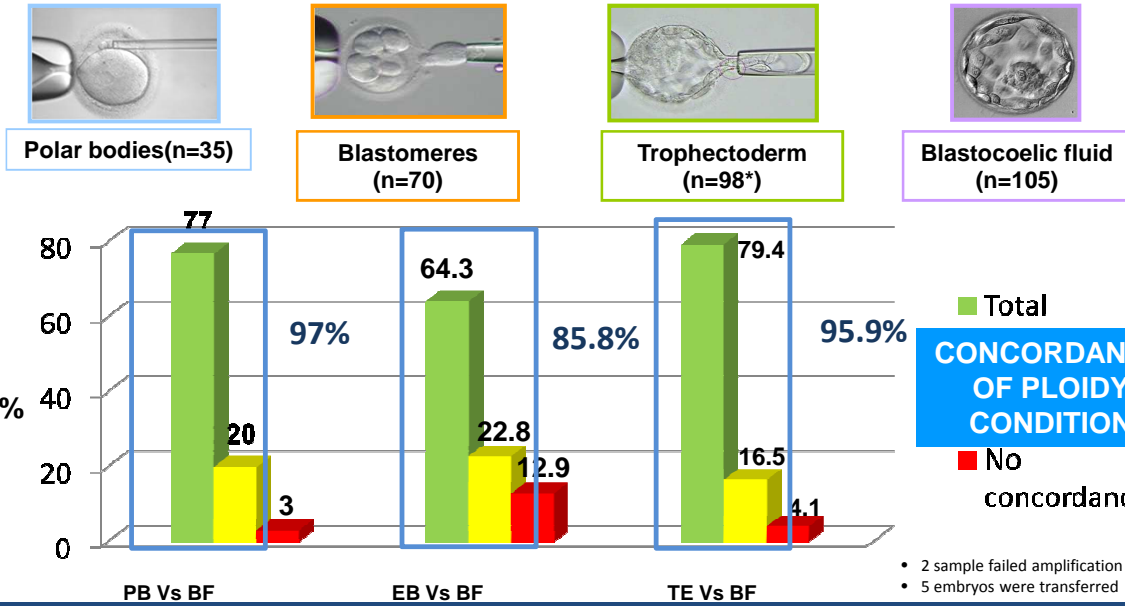
CONCORDANCE STUDY

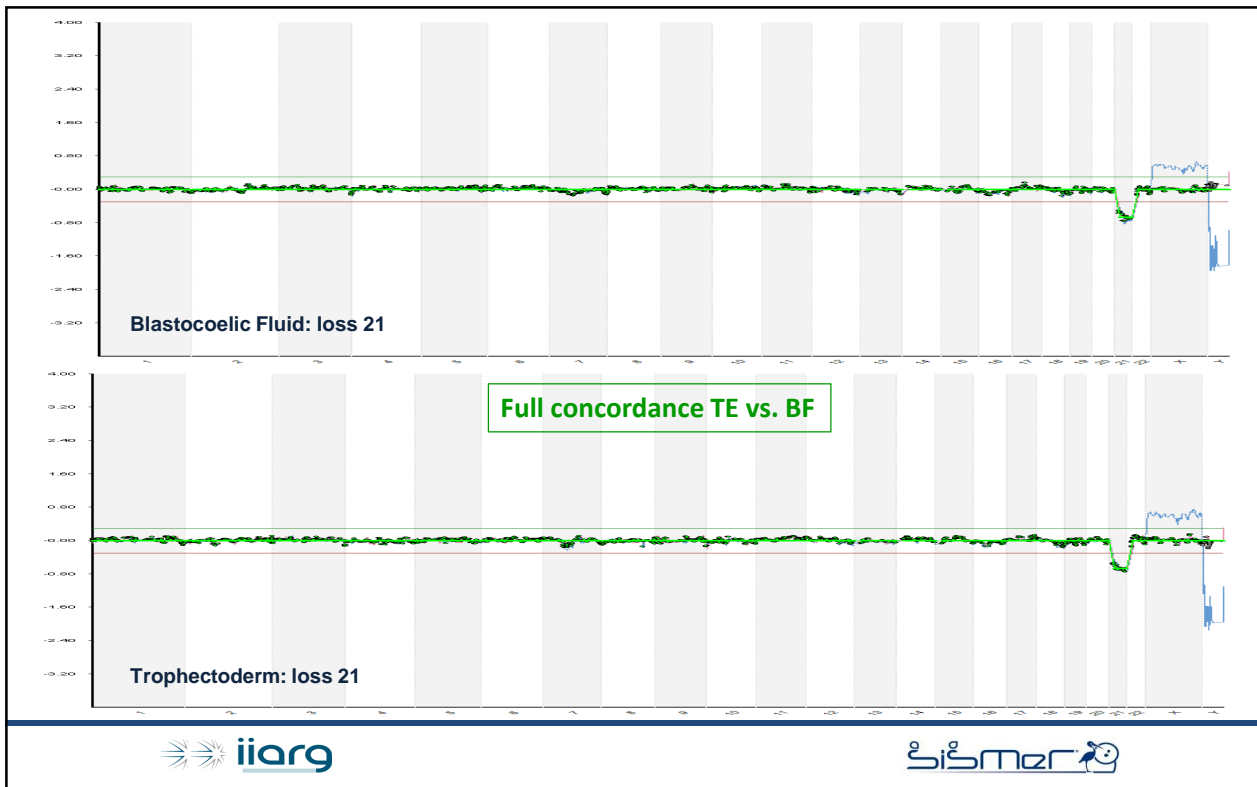
CONCORDANCE PER SAMPLE



CONCORDANCE STUDY

PLOIDY CONCORDANCE



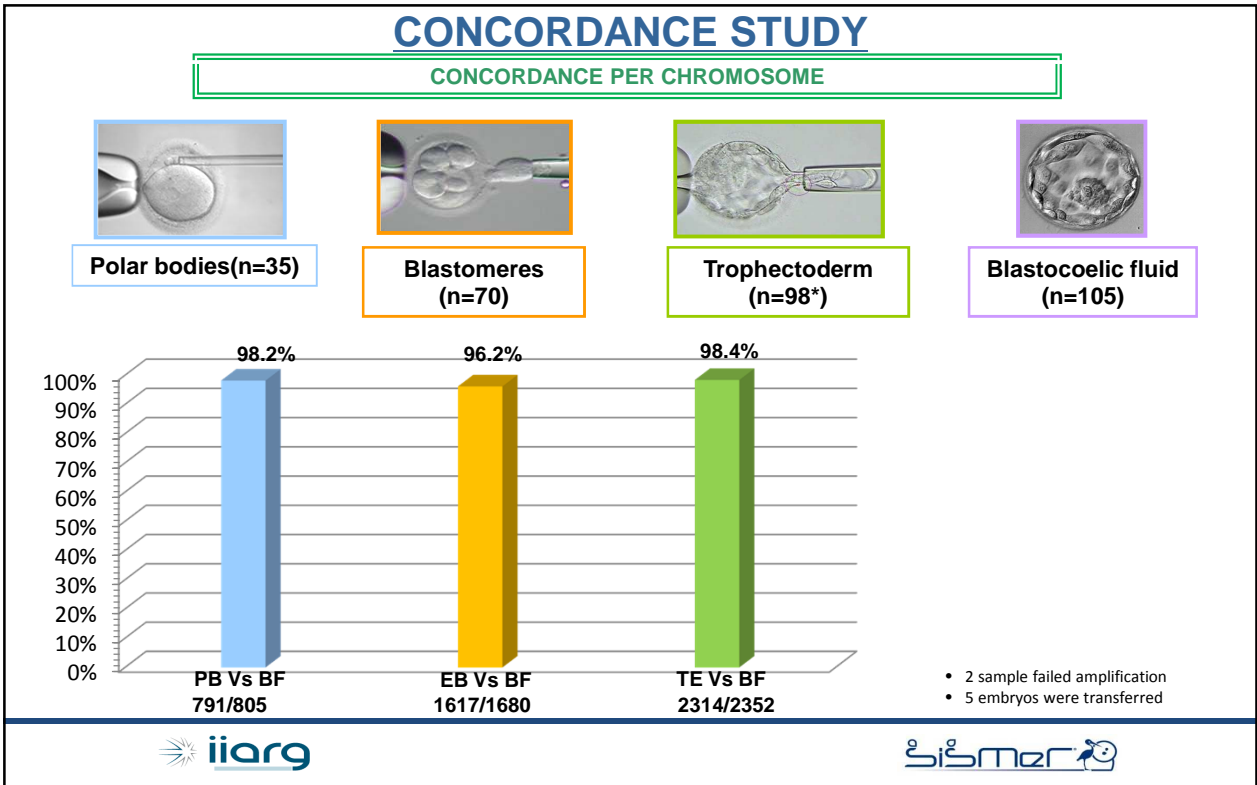
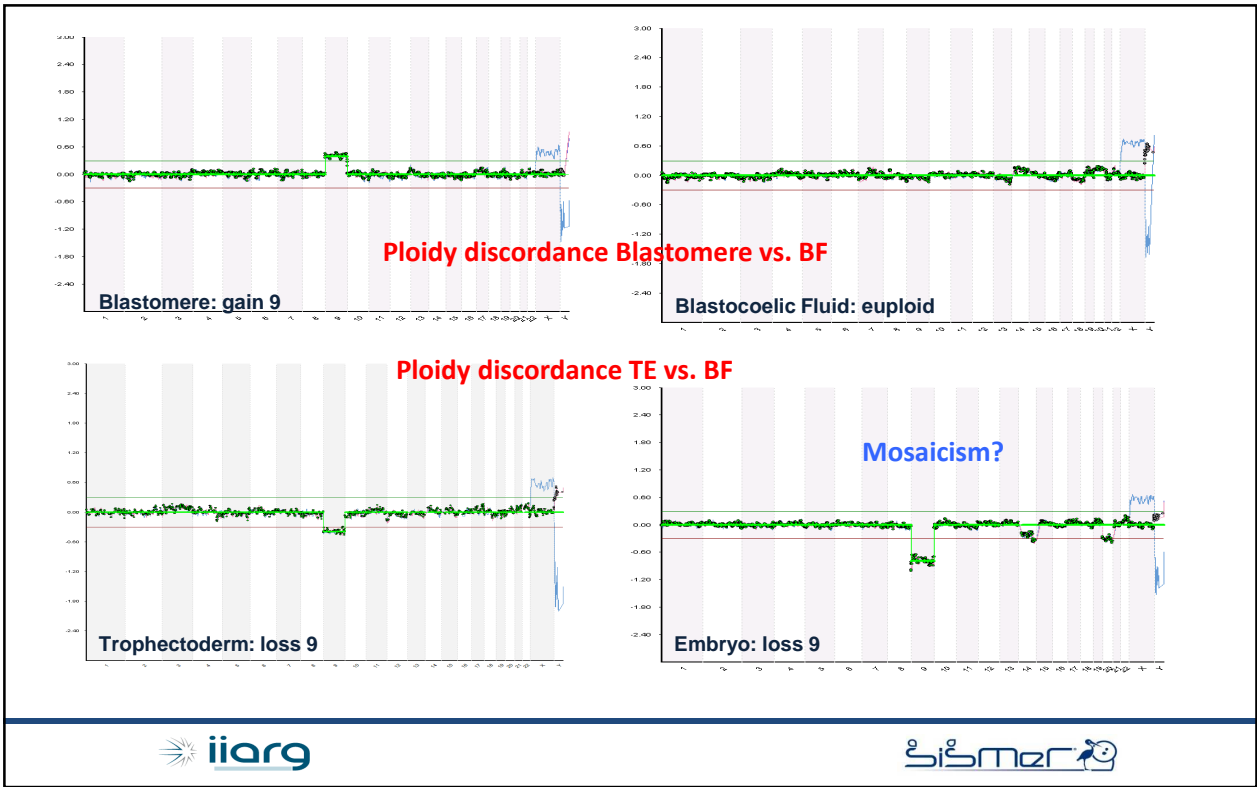


CONCORDANCE STUDY

9 DISCORDANT CASES BLASTOMERES VS BF:

ID sample	DAY 3		DAY 5/6		
	morphology	Chromosomal status	morphology	TE Chromosomal status	BF Chromosomal status
68	10c1	-2p	BI1	NR	euploid
206	8c1	Xp22.3->Xq21.31	BI 3,1,1	ET	euploid
192	8c1	+9	BI 2,1,1	-9	euploid
225	10c2f1	+5,6	BI 2,2,2	+10,-6	euploid
258	8c1	+9	BI 3,0,3	euploid	euploid
240	8c1	+12,19	BI 3,1,2	euploid	euploid
232	8c1	+15,17-1,14,X	BI 3,1,1	euploid	euploid
263	8c1	-1,9	BI 3,1,1	euploid	euploid
271	7c2	-Y	BI 3,1,1	euploid	euploid

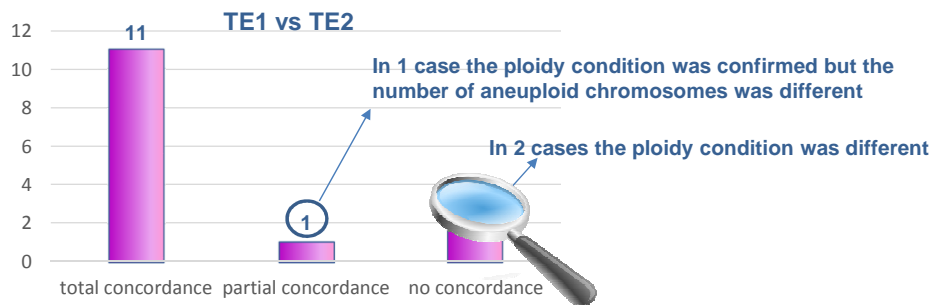
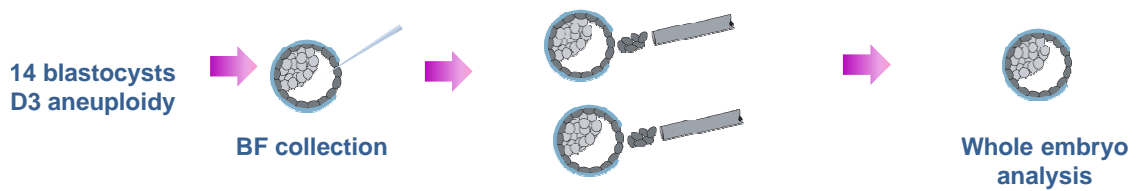




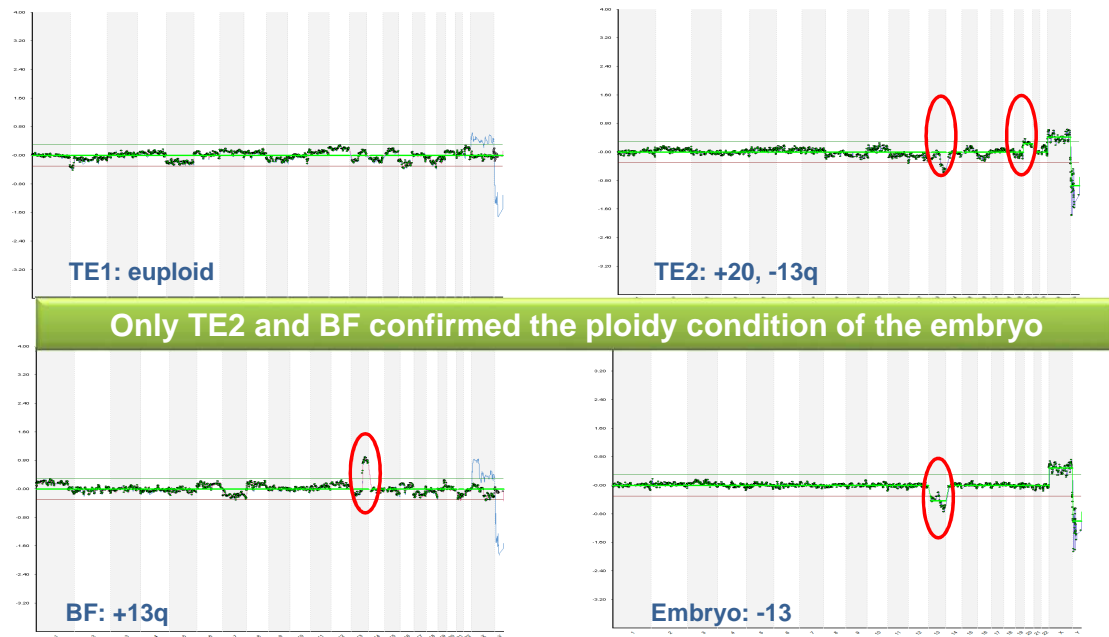
DOUBLE TROPHECTODERM BIOPSIES



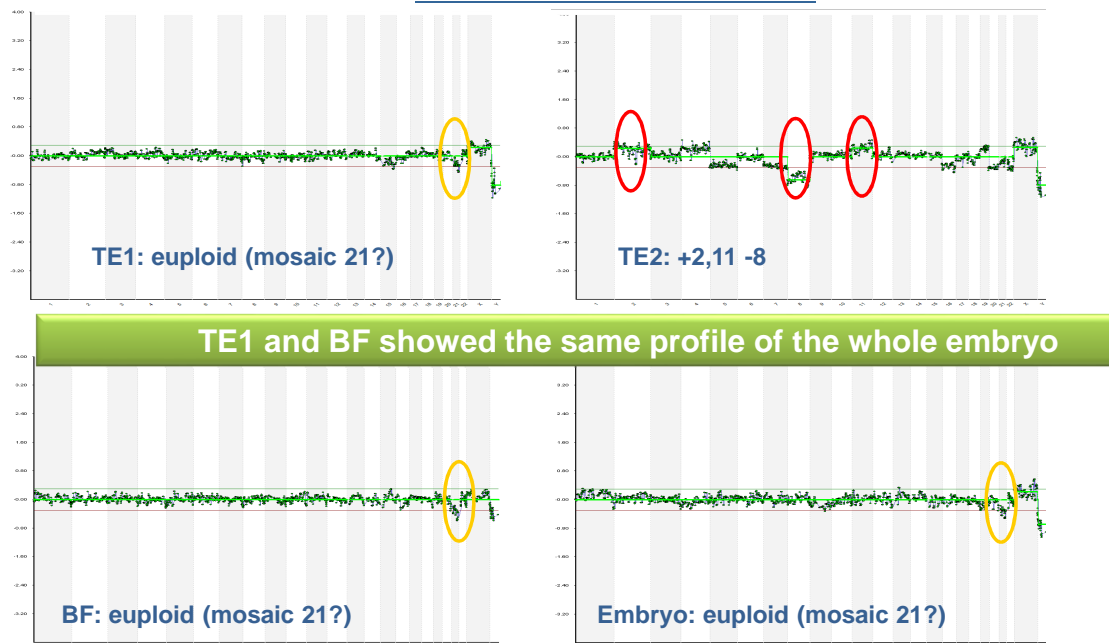
DOUBLE TE BIOPSY



DOUBLE TE BIOPSY



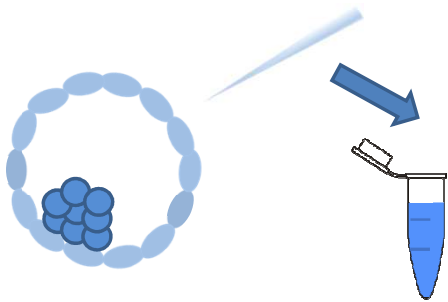
DOUBLE TE BIOPSY



DOUBLE BF BIOPSY



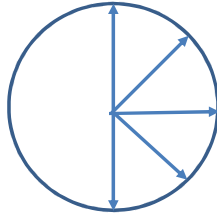
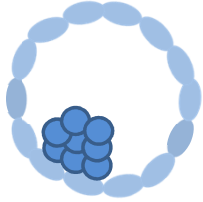
DOUBLE BF COLLECTION



1ST BF collection



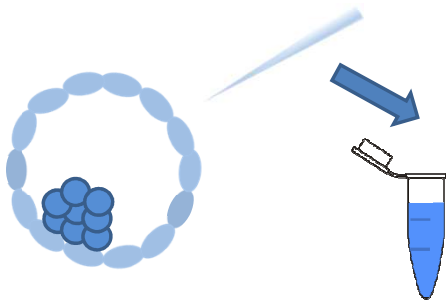
DOUBLE BF COLLECTION



6 hours later

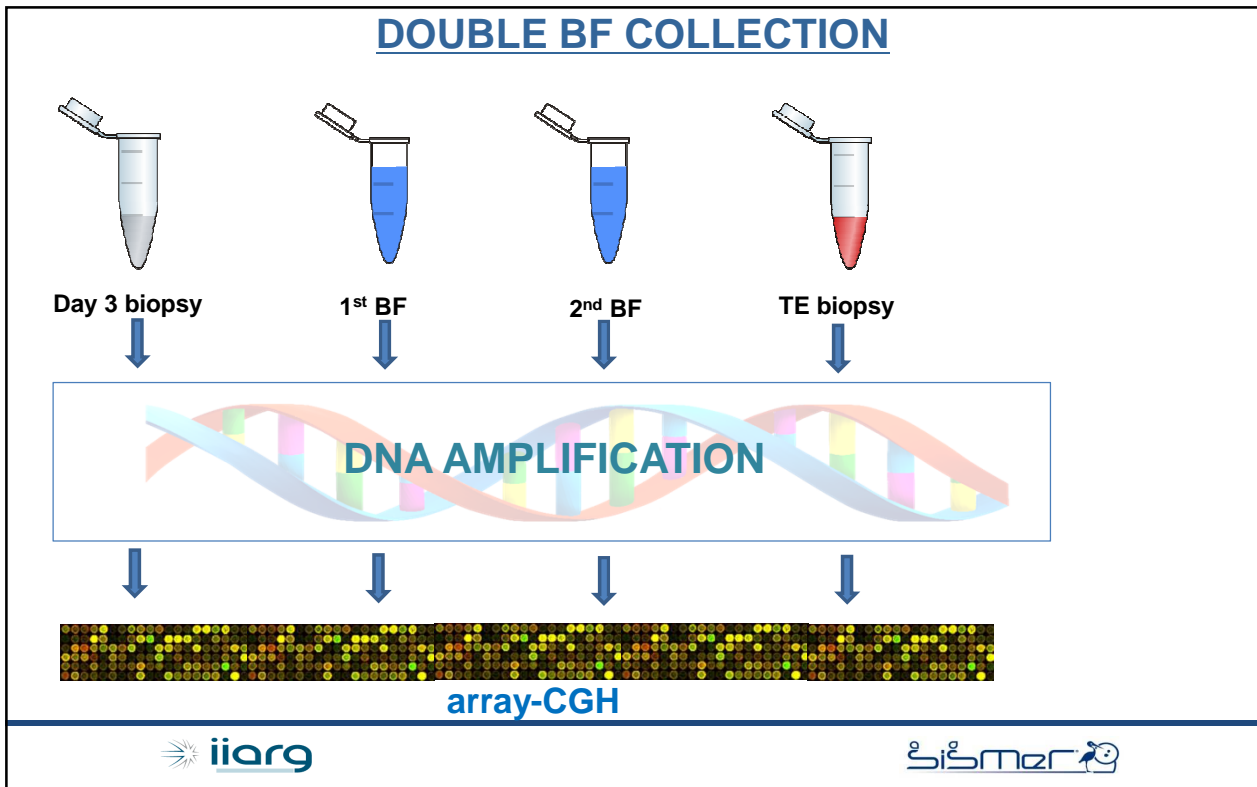


DOUBLE BF COLLECTION



2nd BF collection





DOUBLE BF COLLECTION

RESULTS:

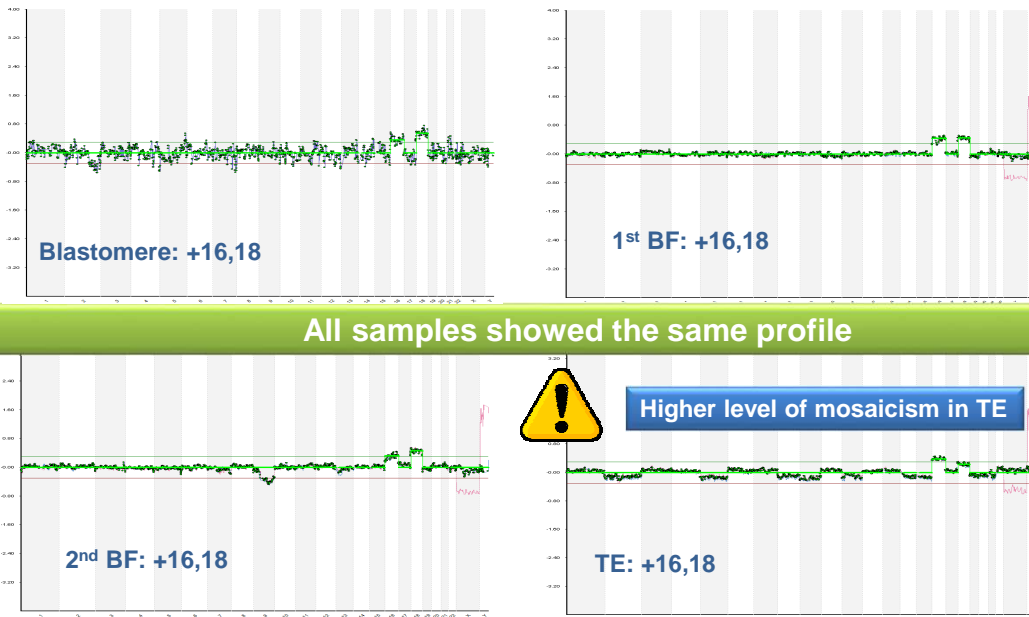
All the analyzed samples gave the same result for both BF biopsies

ID SAMPLE	DAY 3 BIOPSY	1 st BF	2 nd BF	TE biopsy
2	-Y	euploid	euploid	euploid
3	+19,22	+19,22	+19,22	+19,22
8	+16,18	+16,18	+16,18	+16,18

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DOUBLE BF COLLECTION

RESULTS



BLASTOCOELIC FLUID: WHAT ABOUT PGD?

Translocations

Monogenic diseases

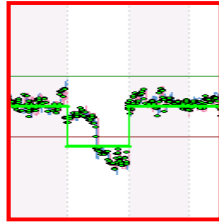


PGD FOR TRANSLOCATIONS

**105
BLASTOCYSTS
(2013-2015)**



BLASTOCYSTS



6 COUPLES
TRANSLOCATION CARRIERS

6 COUPLES
NORMAL KARYOTYPE

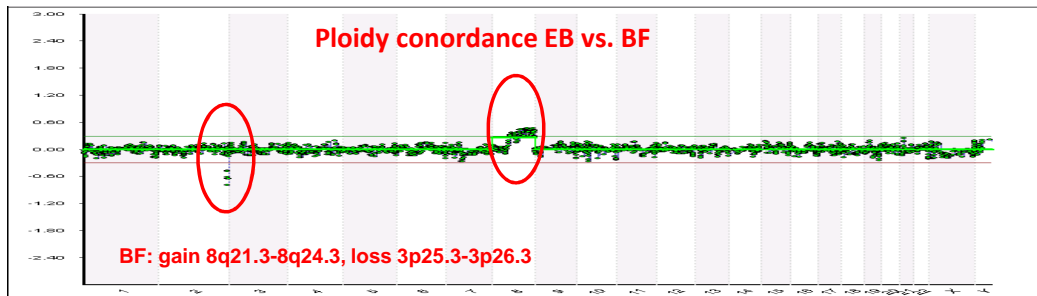
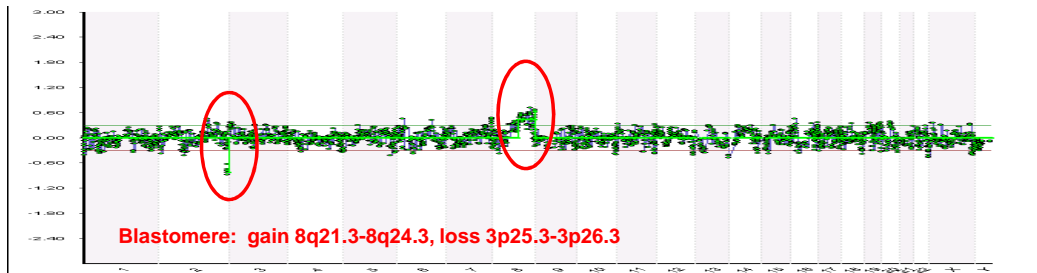
12 COUPLES

INCIDENCE OF *DE NOVO* SEGMENTAL ABNORMALITIES: 8/77 (10.4%)

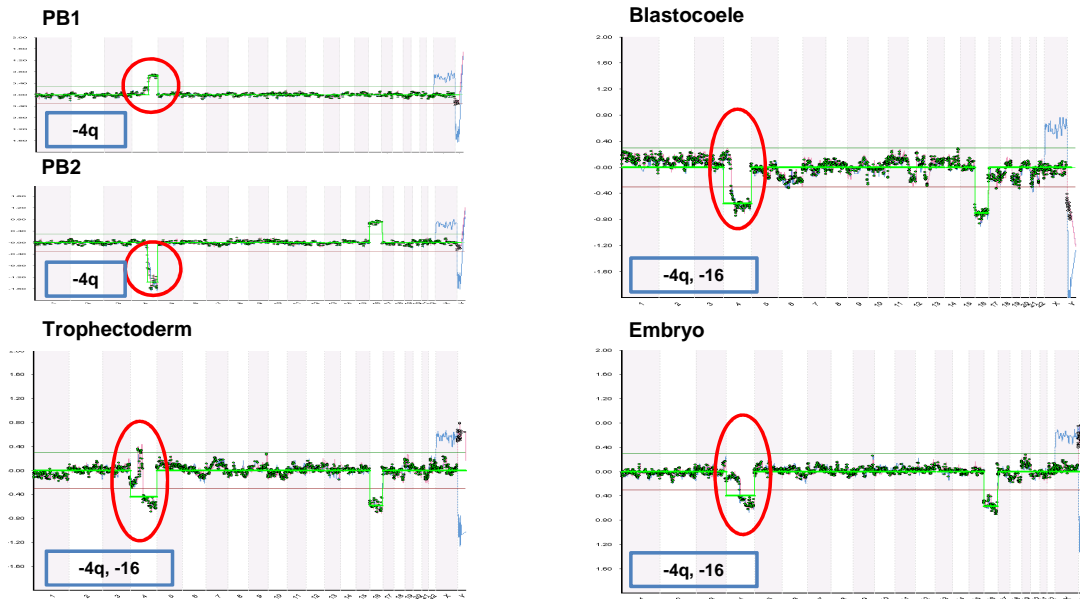


Segmental abnormality in translocation carriers

46 XX,t(3;8)(p25;q12)

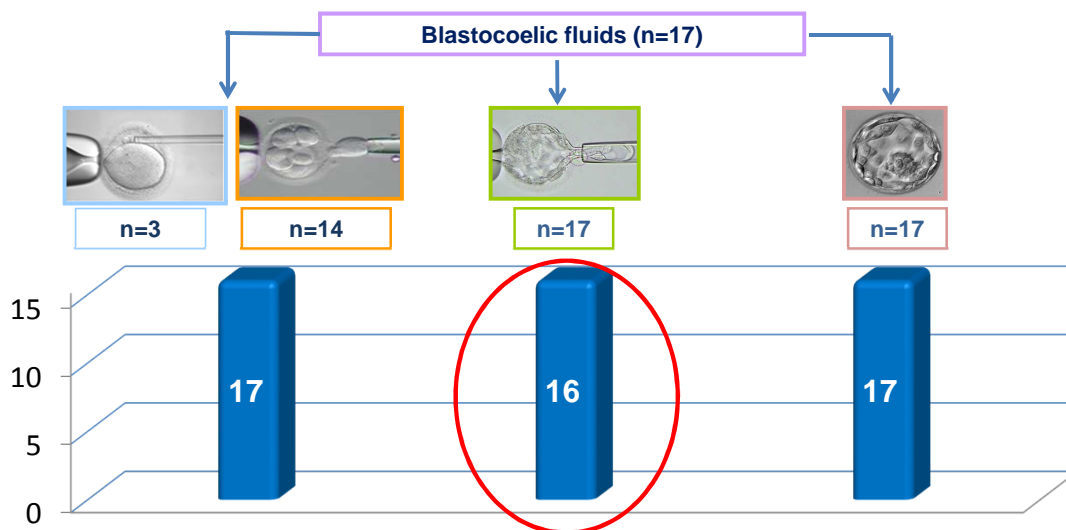


De novo segmental abnormality



DETECTION OF SEGMENTAL ABNORMALITY

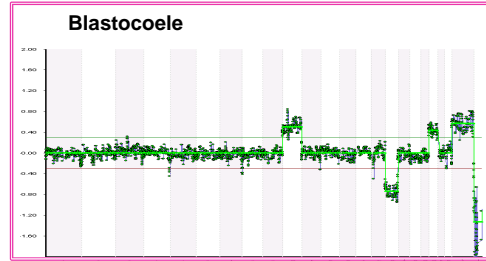
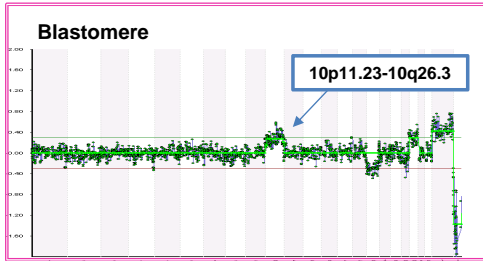
In all analyzed cases the segmental abnormality was detected



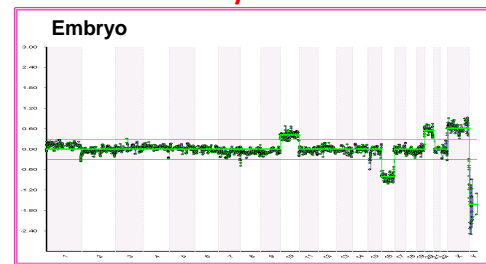
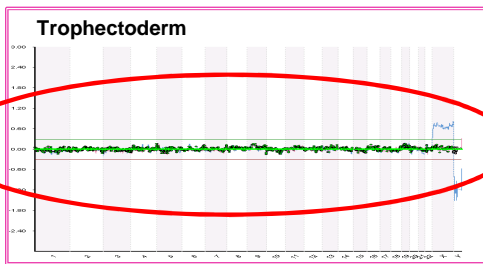
DETECTION OF SEGMENTAL ABNORMALITY

DISCORDANT CASE

Patient: 46XX,t(5;10)(q13;p12).



TE discordant with the other samples of the same embryo



Magli et al, Fert Ster 2016



BLASTOCOELIC FLUID: WHAT ABOUT PGD?

Translocation

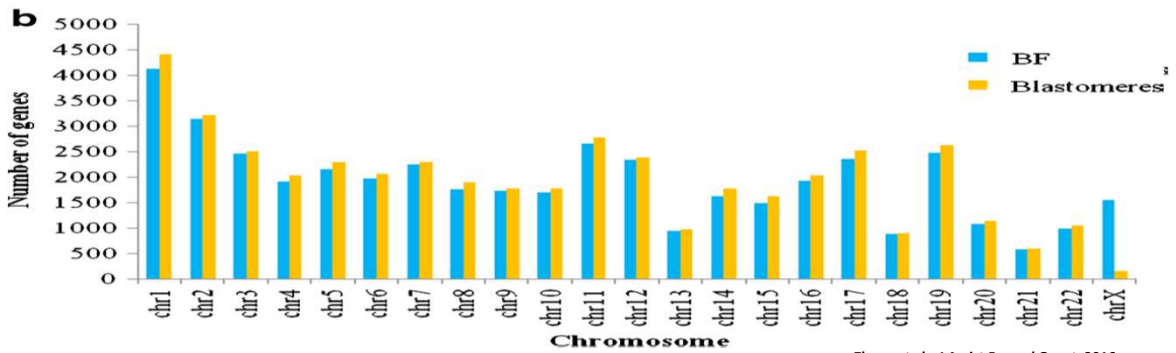
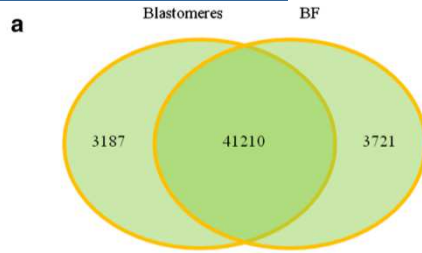
Monogenic diseases



PGD FOR MONOGENIC DISEASES

41,210 genes co-detected in both the BF and blastomere samples suggesting similar gene coverage after WGA

BF WGA product contained sequences of the majority of known genes and, specifically, disease genes, which are commonly the subject of different single gene PGD cases.



Zhang et al., *J Assist Reprod Genet*, 2016

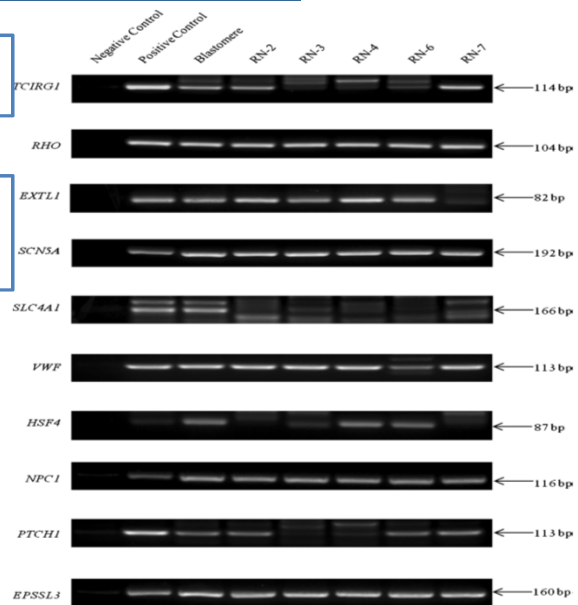


PGD FOR MONOGENIC DISEASES

PCR validation of randomly selected genes in WGA products from 5 BF samples

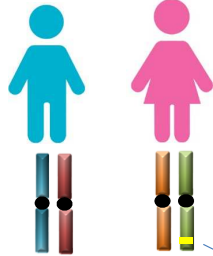
The majority of samples showed a PCR fragment of the expected size for the ten tested genes

**42/50 POSITIVE
RESULT FOR
TESTED GENES
(84%)**



PGD FOR MONOGENIC DISEASES CASE REPORT

NORMAL CARRIER



**Blastocentesis +
TE biopsy**

PGD

The PGD lab was blinded on the origin of the samples

PGD for SCIDX1(c.374insA Mutation in IL2RG Gene)



PGD FOR MONOGENIC DISEASES CASE REPORT

In all cases BF gave the same result of trophectoderm biopsy

		DXS 1216	DXS 8031	IL2RG Mutation	DXS 559	DXS 8079	DXS 8066	DXS 8060	DXYS 1223	DXYS 1071	Genotype
	BF	121	157	N	137/133	99	121/123	130/132	134/144	122/120	Normal Female
	TE	121	157	N	137/133	99	121/123	130/132	134/144	122/120	Normal Female
	BF	123	148	c.374insA	140	95	119	128	124/144	118/120	Affected Male
	TE	123	148	c.374insA	140	95	119	128	124/144	118/120	Affected Male
	BF	FA	FA	c.374insA	FA	99	121/123	130/132	FA	FA	No result
	TE	FA	FA	FA	FA	FA	FA	FA	FA	FA	No result
	BF	121/123	157/148	N/c.374insA	133/140	99/95	121/119	130/128	133/144	122/120	Carrier Female
	TE	121/123	ADO/148	N/c.374insA	133/140	99/95	121/119	130/128	133/144	122/120	Carrier Female
MALE		121	157	N	137	99	121	130	133/124	122/118	
FEMALE		121/123	157/148	N/c.374insA	133/140	99/95	123/119	132/128	133/144	118/120	



IS BLASTOCENTESIS A SAFE PROCEDURE?



COLLAPSING OF BLASTOCYSTS BEFORE VITRIFICATION



37 couples

Blastocentesis *per se* does not affect embryo viability



VITRIFICATION



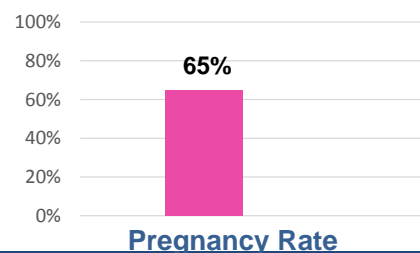
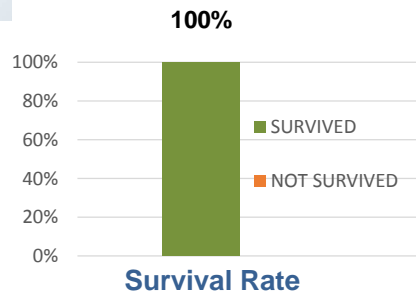
THAWING



EMBRYO TRANSFER



24 PREGNANCIES
(19 ongoing)



Artificial shrinkage of blastocysts prior to vitrification improves pregnancy outcome: analysis of 1028 consecutive warming cycles

Paolo Emanuele Levi-Setti¹ · Francesca Menduni¹ · Antonella Smeraldi¹ · Pasquale Patrizio² · Emanuela Morengi³ · Elena Albani¹

RESULTS

	No Blastocentesis	Blastocentesis	Total	P
Cycles (n°)	448	580	1028	
Mean age ^a	36.3 ± 3.9	36.4 ± 3.7	36.3 ± 3.8	0.909
Frozen Embryo Transfers (n°)	437	570	1007	
FET canceled (n°)	11	10	21	
Thawed blastocysts (n°)	625	820	1445	
Survived blastocysts (n°)	604	804	1408	
Blastocyst survival rate (%)	96.6	97.8	97.3	0.192
Transferred blastocysts (n°)	604	804	1408	
Mean transferred blastocyst ^a	1.38 ± 0.50	1.41 ± 0.49	1.40 ± 0.49	0.318
Implants (n°)	140	240	379	
Implantation rate (%)	23.2	29.9	27.0	0.005
Pregnancies (n°)	122	207	329	
Pregnancy rate (%)	27.9	36.3	32.7	0.005
Delivery (n°)	79	152	231	
Delivery rate (%)	18.1	26.7	22.9	0.001

^a Mean ± SD

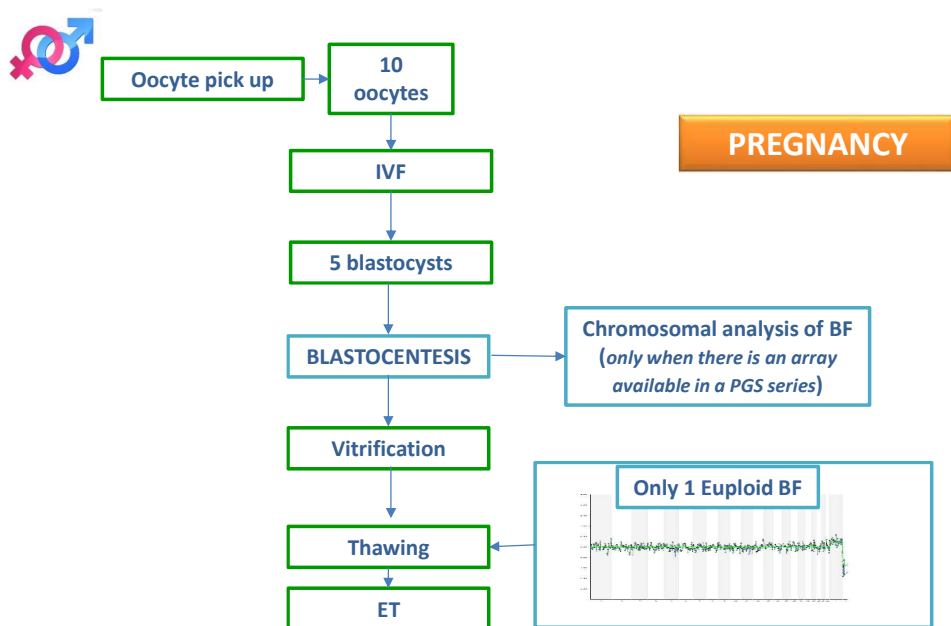
No difference in the mean age, survival rate and mean transferred blastocysts

Significantly higher implantation rate, pregnancy rate and delivery rate in Artificial Shrinkage group

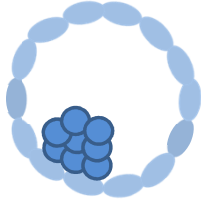
Improvement in frozen embryo transfer outcome (better implantation, pregnancy, and delivery rates) when expanded blastocysts undergo artificial shrinkage prior to vitrification.

CAN BLASTOCOELIC FLUID BE USED FOR GRADING OF EMBRYOS?

CASE REPORT



CONCLUSIONS



DNA can be detected in the majority of Blastocoelic fluids (best performance on Day-5 expanded blastocysts)

The DNA in the Blastocoelic Fluid is highly representative of the blastocyst chromosomal status (95.5% of cases)

Blastocentesis is less invasive for the embryo

Blastocentesis is more convenient for the lab

Blastocentesis could be ethically more acceptable

Segmental abnormalities can be detected in Blastocoelic fluid → possible use of blastocentesis for PGD for translocations.

PGD for monogenic diseases

BF analysis can be used for grading of embryos

The Blastocoelic Fluid can be an alternative source of DNA for preimplantation genetic testing