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The time has come for harmonized international ART registration

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Abstract

For more than two decades, the European IVF-Monitoring Consortium has collected data on IVF in Europe with the aim of monitoring the quality and safety of assisted reproductive technology (ART) treatments, to ensure the highest performance with the lowest risk for patients and their offspring. Likewise, the Society for Assisted Reproductive Technology in the USA and the Australia/New Zealand Assisted Reproduction Database collect, process and publish data in their regions. The better the legal framework for ART surveillance, the more complete and reliable are the datasets. Worldwide, the landscape of ART regulation is fragmented, and until there is a legal obligation to report ART data in all countries, with an appropriate quality control of the data collected, the reported outcomes should be interpreted with caution. Once uniform and harmonized data are achieved, consensus reports based on collective findings can begin to address key topics such as cycle segmentation and complications. Improved registration systems and datasets allowing optimized surveillance should be developed in collaboration with patient representatives to consider patients' needs, especially aiming to provide higher transparency around ART services. Support from national and international reproductive medicine societies will also be essential to the future evolution of ART registries. © 2023

Author Keywords

ART registration; Europe; IVF data monitoring; Registries; Reproductive outcomes; Surveillance

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