

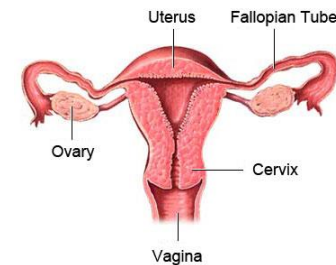
Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART)

Definition: Assisted Reproductive Technology is the use of technology to achieve pregnancy and treat infertility

ART technique	Procedure	Pros	Cons
In Vitro Fertilization (IVF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stimulate egg production Eggs are collected. Eggs fertilized in the lab Fertilized egg transferred into uterus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most successful form of ART It can be used to screen for inherited diseases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expensive High risk of multiple birth Can cause premature birth and low birth weight
Zygote Intra-fallopian Transfer (ZIFT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stimulate egg production Eggs are collected. Eggs fertilized in the lab Fertilized egg transferred into the fallopian tube. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fewer eggs are used Allows an embryo to travel into the uterus naturally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expensive Not many clinics offer it Requires surgery
Gamete Intra-fallopian Transfer (GIFT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patients must have tests to determine if they have a healthy fallopian tube. Eggs are collected Egg mixed with sperm collected on the same day. Egg and sperm mix inserted into fallopian tubes Egg fertilizes in fallopian tube. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not require hospitalization Much lower risk of multiple births Allows fertilization to occur in a natural environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women needs to have a healthy fallopian tube Doctors can not confirm fertilization Lower success rate

Legal, Social and Ethical Implications:

- There are different laws on who should have access to ART. For example, Turkey, China and Indonesia only allow married couples to use it where as countries such as Spain, Sweden and USA allow homosexual couples and unmarried couples to use ART.
- People who believe that life starts at conception do not agree with fertilizing large amounts of eggs as not all of these are implanted into the women, resulting in the death of the embryos.
- Some countries destroy embryos after a certain amount of time.
- Some implanted embryos are aborted to let the others have better chance of survival.
- The money could be put to a better cause and should be used to care for the people already in the world
- There are many children who need a home and can be adopted.



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