

Mini-Symposium: Fertility Preservation in Patients with Malignant Disease

Preface

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There has been a remarkable improvement in the survival rates of young patients with cancer, due to the great advances in therapeutic modalities for malignant disease. However, the cytotoxic treatment often affects the reproductive function of the patients.

In women, loss of ovarian function in youth places the patients at risk of not only early menopause, but also of loss of fertility. The number of options available to these patients for bearing children is, however, increasing and include embryo preservation for married patients, and emerging technologies of oocyte and

ovarian tissue preservation. In men, successful techniques for semen cryopreservation have been established for adults, but it still remains difficult for adolescents. Also, there are very few adolescent-friendly facilities that deal with this issue.

Here, four distinguished researchers from our country briefly review the basic cryobiological principles and current clinical status of fertility preservation technologies, especially for young patients at risk of losing their reproductive function.