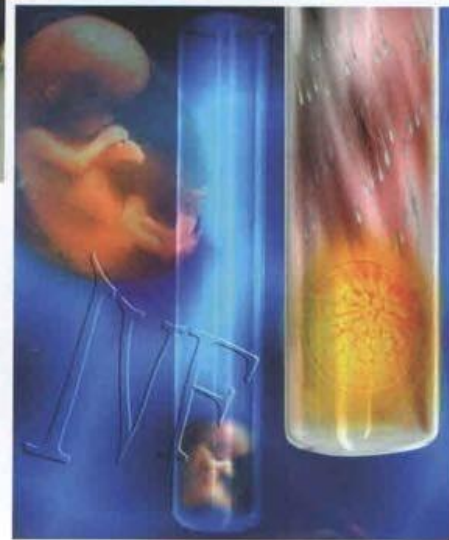


Stem Cell Therapy for Non-Obstructive Azoospermia

Azoospermia is a forlorn case of Male Infertility, during which there is absence of live or mature sperm cells in a man's sexual discharge aka ejaculate. Presence of a fluid ejaculate does not necessarily indicate the presence of sperm cells in it, the ejaculate may comprise of semen with other cells instead of sperm cells too, and this brings us to Azoospermia and its two sub categories: Obstructive **Azoospermia** and **Non-Obstructive Azoospermia**.



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Founder, StemGenn Therapeutics



Obstructive Azoospermia: As the name suggests, this is a condition where there is an obstruction; due to which the sperm cells are unable to release into the ejaculate in spite of an active sperm production taking place in the body.

The reasons behind Obstructive Azoospermia can be one to many, with the major one being vasectomy and this certainly is a reason that the patient himself would be aware of. Nonetheless, Vasectomy is not just the case, there are various other problems too which end up obstructing the sperm cells from entering into the ejaculate. Such cases of obstructive Azoospermia are taken care of- using surgical sperm extraction procedures during which an acceptable number of sperm cells are extracted from the male and used during an IVF cycle.

Non-obstructive Azoospermia: In case of non-obstructive Azoospermia, there is a problem with production and maturation of sperms which is why in such cases surgical methods involving sperm extraction are not liable of delivering desired outcomes because here the sperm cells are not being produced or being fully developed.

Thus, the alternative treatments for such cases are: Stem cell therapy and IVF treatment which is performed seeking sperms from a male donor. However, if the patient is not willing or is not ready to proceed with the IVF treatment using the donor sperm, an assessment can be carried out in order to examine his ability to undergo stem cell therapy. The assessment involves the conduction of a few necessary tests, which include: