

# Placental ULtraSound Evaluation in assisted reproductive technology

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Is there a difference in morphological and vascular placental development between ART and naturally conceived pregnancies?

<b>Ethical review</b>	Approved WMO
<b>Status</b>	Recruiting
<b>Health condition type</b>	Other condition
<b>Study type</b>	Observational invasive

## Summary

### ID

NL-OMON48373

### Source

ToetsingOnline

### Brief title

PULSE-ART

### Condition

- Other condition
- Placental, amniotic and cavity disorders (excl haemorrhages)

### Synonym

reduced fertility, Subfertility

### Health condition

subfertiliteit

### Research involving

Human

## Sponsors and support

**Primary sponsor:** Medisch Universitair Ziekenhuis Maastricht

**Source(s) of monetary or material Support:** Ministerie van OC&W

## Intervention

**Keyword:** ART, Morphology, Placenta, Vascularisation

## Outcome measures

### Primary outcome

Primary endpoints are morphological placental characteristics such as placental calcifications, placental lakes and placental location, and vascular placental characteristics such as vascularisation index.

### Secondary outcome

Secondary endpoints are placenta biomarkers such as  $\beta$ -hCG, PAPP-A, PlGF and sFlt-1, foetal development, cell-free fetal DNA fraction in maternal plasma in NIPT and neonatal outcomes.

## Study description

### Background summary

Pregnancies after assisted reproductive technology (ART) are more at risk for adverse perinatal outcomes, such as pre-eclampsia and (very) low birthweight compared to pregnancies after natural conception. The aetiology behind this problem is not known, but there is evidence that the placenta plays an important role in mediating the effects of ART on adverse pregnancy outcomes. We therefore hypothesize that placental characteristics are different in ART-pregnancies compared to naturally conceived pregnancies. The Pulse-IVF study will focus on placental development in the first 20 weeks of gestation and will compare ART-pregnancies and naturally conceived pregnancies.

### Study objective

Is there a difference in morphological and vascular placental development

between ART and naturally conceived pregnancies?

## **Study design**

This is a prospective cohort study, in which the placenta and foetus of pregnant women will be investigated by ultrasound and Doppler at 5 times during pregnancy: at 8, 10, 12, 16 and 20 weeks of gestation. At 8, 12 and 20 weeks of pregnancy, blood will be drawn for the determination of placenta biomarkers. Participants are asked for permission to collect the results of the non-invasive prenatal test (NIPT) including the cell-free fetal DNA fraction (if applicable). At the end of pregnancy a delivery report will be requested from the midwife or gynecologist to obtain information on pregnancy outcomes such as birthweight, gestational age at delivery, maternal and neonatal complications.

## **Study burden and risks**

Subjects will visit the hospital 5 times during pregnancy for an ultrasound and blood withdrawal (only on 3 time points). This might be experienced as a burden, however all appointments will be scheduled in consultation with each subject and will be combined with regular appointments as much as possible. There are no risks for participating in this study.

## **Contacts**

### **Public**

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## **Trial sites**

## Listed location countries

Netherlands

## Eligibility criteria

### Age

Adults (18-64 years)

Elderly (65 years and older)

### Inclusion criteria

- Maternal age  $\geq 18$  years
- Singleton pregnancy
- Naturally conceived or conceived after IVF or ICSI with or without pre-implantation genetic testing (PGT)
- Good understanding of the Dutch language
- BMI  $\leq 35$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>

### Exclusion criteria

- Pregnant via other ART-treatments such as ovulation induction (OI), intra-uterine insemination (IUI) or controlled ovarian hyperstimulation (COH) only.

## Study design

### Design

Study type:	Observational invasive
Intervention model:	Other
Allocation:	Non-randomized controlled trial
Masking:	Open (masking not used)
Control:	Active
Primary purpose:	Basic science

## Recruitment

NL  
Recruitment status: Recruiting  
Start date (anticipated): 13-02-2020  
Enrollment: 264  
Type: Actual

## Ethics review

Approved WMO  
Date: 18-12-2019  
Application type: First submission  
Review commission: METC academisch ziekenhuis Maastricht/Universiteit Maastricht, METC azM/UM (Maastricht)

## Study registrations

### Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

No registrations found.

### Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

ID: 22332  
Source: Nationaal Trial Register  
Title:

### In other registers

Register	ID
CCMO	NL71273.068.19
Other	NL7973
OMON	NL-OMON22332