# Placental ULtraSound Evaluation in assisted reproductive technology

Published: 18-12-2019 Last updated: 06-06-2025

Is there a difference in morphological and vascular placental development between ART and

naturally conceived pregnancies?

Ethical reviewApproved WMOStatusCompletedHealth condition typeOther condition

**Study type** 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, PIGF 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

2 - Placental ULtraSound Evaluation in assisted reproductive technology 16-06-2025

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**

Medisch Universitair Ziekenhuis Maastricht

P. Debyelaan 25 Maastricht 6229 HX NI

#### Scientific

Medisch Universitair Ziekenhuis Maastricht

P. Debyelaan 25 Maastricht 6229 HX NL

## **Trial sites**

#### **Listed location countries**

**Netherlands** 

# **Eligibility criteria**

#### Age

Adults (18-64 years) Elderly (65 years and older)

#### Inclusion criteria

- Maternal age >= 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: Completed
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