

Serial Weight Gain as a Predictor for Ovarian Hyperstimulation Syndrome

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ABSTRACT

Ovarian Hyperstimulation Syndrome is a complication of Assisted Reproductive Therapy (ART). It is characterized by fluid retention including Third Spacing, electrolyte imbalance, coagulopathies and if not diagnosed and treated in a timely manner progressing to the patient becoming acutely ill requiring hospitalization and increased risk of morbidity. While certain patient groups with diagnosis of Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome, Elective ovum donors and patients with a high follicular response to stimulation are most at risk; not all of these patients develop the syndrome.

As evidenced by multiple published studies and papers this subject has been researched and treatment modalities evaluated over the years. None of the research available addresses early non invasive diagnosis. Virtually every article or study mentions weight gain as a presenting factor when the patient is symptomatic; no paper mentions looking at early weight gain as a predictor.

This project is designed to monitor weights on a selected at- risk patient population at each clinic visit and track if there is a correlation between early weight gain and development of Ovarian Hyperstimulation Syndrome.

The desired outcome would be a method to diagnoses the Syndrome early in the stimulation cycle and adjust the patient's treatment regime to prevent acute illness or increased risk to the patient.