

Prof. Dr. Juan Garcia-Velasco

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Instituto Valenciano de Infertilidad, Rey Juan Carlos University
Madrid, Spain

Prof. Dr. Anne Delbaere

Fertility Clinic, Department Obstetrics/Gynecology
Université Libre de Bruxelles

Prof. Dr. Diane De Neubourg

Centrum Reproductieve Geneeskunde
UZ Antwerpen
Research group Antwerp Surgical Training, Anatomy and Research Centre (ASTARC)
Universiteit Antwerpen

Prof. Dr. Johan Smitz

Research group Follicle Biology (FOBI)
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Prof. Dr. Leonardo Gucciardo

Research group Mother & Child (MOKI)
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Dr. Neelke De Munck

Centrum Reproductieve Geneeskunde
UZ Brussel

Prof. Dr. Claudia Spits, Chair

Research group Reproduction & Genetics (REGE)
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Prof. Dr. Christophe Blockeel, Promotor

Centrum Reproductieve Geneeskunde
UZ Brussel

Prof. Dr. Nikolaos P. Polyzos, Promotor

Clinical professor Vrije Universiteit Brussel
Dexeus Hospital
Barcelona, Spain

Prof. Dr. Herman Tournaye, Promotor

Centrum Reproductieve Geneeskunde, UZ Brussel
Research group Biology of the Testis (BITE)
Vrije Universiteit Brussel



PhD in Medical Sciences
2016-2017

INVITATION to the Public defence of

Arne VAN DE VIJVER

To obtain the academic degree of '**DOCTOR IN MEDICAL SCIENCES**'

Optimization of frozen-thawed embryo transfer protocols

Tuesday 27 June 2017

Auditorium **Piet Brouwer**, 17:00

Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy, Laarbeeklaan 103, 1090 Brussel

How to reach the campus Jette:

<http://www.vub.ac.be/english/infoabout/campuses>

Summary of the dissertation

Since the first pregnancy following a transfer of a frozen-thawed human embryo in 1983, embryo cryopreservation has become a routine procedure in assisted reproductive technology. Following the advent of more efficient cryopreservation strategies and reassuring safety data, the use of embryo cryopreservation has progressively increased, currently accounting for up to one third of all children born after assisted reproductive technologies. Until now, no endometrial preparation has been shown to be superior for frozen-thawed embryo transfers (FET). In this PhD thesis, we tried to optimize current FET-protocols, specifically concerning the use of GnRH agonist, progesterone and the importance of vitamin D.

Curriculum Vitae

Arne van de Vijver was born on June 8, 1982 in Ostend (Belgium). He studied Mathematics-Sciences at Onze-Lieve-Vrouwecollege (Ostend), received his medical degree from the University of Leuven in Belgium in 2007 and graduated as an obstetrician-gynecologist in 2012.

Since August 2012, he is a resident in infertility and reproductive endocrinology in CRG, UZ Brussel. In 2014 he joined the clinical staff of the department of obstetrics and gynecology of AZ Sint-Jan in Bruges and the CRG Brugge-Kortrijk. Since September 2016 he is the head of CRG Brugge-Kortrijk. His current clinical and research interests are frozen-thawed embryo transfers and reproductive endocrinology. He is author and co-author of 13 peer-reviewed articles in international journals.