KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE, INTENTIONS, AND RELIGIOUS PERSPECTIVE TOWARD FERTILITY AWARENESS AND OOCYTE CRYOPRESERVATION AMONG INDONESIAN OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY RESIDENTS

Harzif, Achmad Kemal; Silvia, Melisa; Mariana, Ana; Wiweko, Budi

Division of Immuno-Endocrinology and Fertility, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Faculty of Medicine Universitas Indonesia, Dr. Cipto Mangunkusumo Hospital Jakarta, Indonesia

Abstract Body

Introduction: As fertility preservation technologies become more available, OB/GYN awareness of these technologies may have an important role to play in educating patients about the relationship between age and fertility. OB/GYN residents may be the most likely physicians to integrate new evidence-based medicine and these technologies into their practice. This study aims to assess OB/GYN residents’ knowledge and beliefs regarding age-related fertility decline and the use and availability of oocyte cryopreservation.

Methods: A cross-sectional study was conducted among 64 Indonesian OB/GYN residents in Dr. Cipto Mangunkusumo National General Hospital, Jakarta. Data was collected using questionnaires which measures knowledge, attitudes, intentions and religious perspective of OB/GYN residents in providing patients with information on age-related fertility decline and oocyte cryopreservation.

Results: A strong majority of residents believed an OB/GYN should initiate discussions about potential childbearing intentions (98.44%) and age-related fertility decline with patients (95.31%) which 70.31% believed these discussions should be part of an annual exam. Half of residents overestimated the age when fertility starts to decline and almost half (45.31%) overestimated when fertility declines markedly. Residents were likely to support oocyte cryopreservation in cancer patients irrespective of the woman’s age compared to social indication. For elective oocyte cryopreservation, 84.5% believed OB/GYNs should initiate discussions with patients and 53.12% believed this topic should be part of an annual exam. In religious perspective, FP options such as sperm, oocyte, embryo, and ovarian cortex cryopreservation were accepted by most of residents with varied religions while oocyte and sperm donor methods were unacceptable (42.19%, 48.44%; respectively) because of the belief that oocyte/sperm should only be given to legitimate partners.

Conclusion: The findings highlight a need for improved education among Indonesian OB/GYN residents about issues related to age-related fertility decline, the use of oocyte cryopreservation for both medical and elective reasons, and also religious perspective.

Keywords: Knowledge, Attitude, Obstetrics and Gynecology Residents, Fertility Preservation