

FERTILITY PRESERVATION IN LATIN AMERICAN WOMEN: ACTUAL TREND

Adriana Gosalbez

PROFERT. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

Abstract Body

Latin America is in a process of demographic transition that stands out for the accelerated fall in fertility.

The total fertility rate of Latin America and the Caribbean in the period 2015-2020 was 2.04 live births per woman. The average age of women attending reproductive clinics has a current value of 37.2, which indicates that low fertility is accompanied by a greater number of women having children at older ages.

Cultural, social and economic transformations that occurred in the last third of the 20th century have led to difficulties in conciliation of family and work life. This fact, and the improvement of cryopreservation techniques, has promoted fertility preservation (FP) in women who wish to postpone their motherhood.

Based on the records of the Latin American network of Assisted Reproduction (Red LARA), there has been an increase of 353% in FP cycles, between the years 2012 and 2019 (1,764 and 7,990 cycles respectively). Regarding the mean age of the patients, no significant differences have been observed between these years, with the mean age being 36.1 ± 0.39 .

Despite a small increase in the age of the patients, the average number of vitrified oocytes has increased progressively, reaching 7.7 oocytes in 2019, probably due to the improvement in ovarian stimulation protocols.

Regarding the reasons for carrying out a FP, a greater difference is observed between the years evaluated; the main reason has been the postponement of motherhood, followed by other unspecified reasons, cancer and premature ovarian failure.

This review confirms the progressive increase in the number of FP cycles in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean due to the social changes that have been taking place in recent years, causing an increase in the age of conception of the first child as well as a decrease in the birth rate.