

FERTILITY PRESERVATION SERVICES IN MALAYSIA : A ONE-YEAR REVIEW

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Abstract Body

Introduction: Following its official launch in late August 2020, Malaysia's pioneering oncofertility centre based in the Advanced Reproductive Centre (ARC) HCTM UKM, Kuala Lumpur has developed and received regular referrals. This oncofertility unit comprises Reproductive Consultants as well as Pediatrics and Adolescent Gynaecology Consultant transversing the oncofertility needs of adults and children/adolescents alike. The unit fosters good multidisciplinary liaison and networking to enable wider service provision. Although its start was dampened by the pandemic, the past one-year have seen rapidly increasing services; catering to numerous in-house and external referrals. **Methods :** We conducted a retrospective review of cases managed by this oncofertility referral centre over the last one-year period. **Results:** Over a period of a -year, the oncofertility unit reviewed a total of 63 cases. Majority of cases were in-house referrals. Patients age ranged from 10 to 40-years-old. Majority were Malays (85%) with 21% male patients. Diagnosis commonly encountered were a variety of malignancy (namely testicular, breast and hematological malignancies), ovarian tumours and rheumatology disorders. Treatment offered ranged from hormonal suppression with GnRH agonist to Ovarian tissue cryopreservation (OTC), Embryo/oocyte cryopreservation and sperm freezing. On-going research as well as knowledge dissemination via various educational platforms are undertaken to promote awareness, improve knowledge as well as address barriers to uptake of these services. Acknowledging the challenging and stressful decision making involved in considering oncofertility services in the face of cancer diagnosis, an on-going research by our PAG consultant is looking into means to address this via provision of support to assist decision-making among the children and adolescent. **Conclusion:** Malaysia's pioneering oncofertility centre has evolved, expanding its practices to provide specialized care beyond the confines of its academic fraternity background. Nurturing meaningful networking and collaborations hand-in-hand with research conducts towards improvement in service provisions are foreseen to promise sustainability and increase popularity of this services in Malaysia.