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Assisted reproductive technology: Boon and bane

Infertility is a major concern worldwide. In 1972, birth of the first test tube baby, Louise Brown, set the tone for greater progress in Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART). Since then, ART procedures have become routine around the world. It has resulted in the birth of over five million babies worldwide. Although the extensive efforts to improve fertility have been much welcomed, research has shown that there are associated risks with either ART or infertility. Literature has brought forth evidence regarding birth defects, abnormalities in genomic imprinting and cardiovascular risks. This warrants a need for more thorough studies of the safety ART procedures.

Biography

Nor Ashikin Mohamed Noor Khan has completed her PhD in 2007 from University of Malaya in the area of Reproductive Biology and pursued Postdoctoral studies at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School. She Heads the Maternofetal and Embryo Research group at Universiti Teknologi MARA, Malaysia. She has published more than 50 papers in reputable journals. She is also currently serving as the Head of the Research Impact and Ethics Unit at the Institute of Research Management and Innovation of Universiti Teknologi MARA.

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