

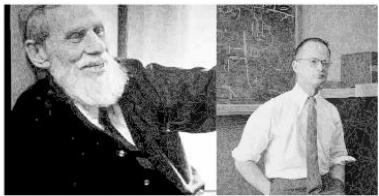
The use of AI for sperm

BSRM 2024 Scientific meeting

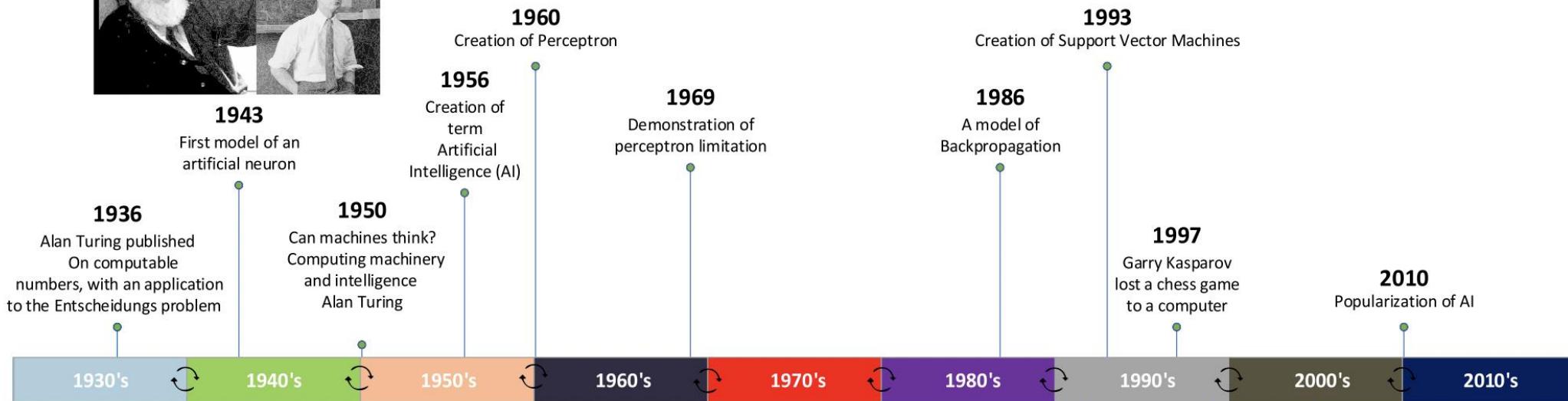
Wouters Koen

Brussels IVF received funding related to this topic from





Timeline of Artificial Intelligence



1930's

1940's

1950's

1960's

1970's

1980's

1990's

2000's

2010's

1978

Louise Brown birth

1992



1980
Development of Pre implantation Genetic Diagnosis (PGD)

2001

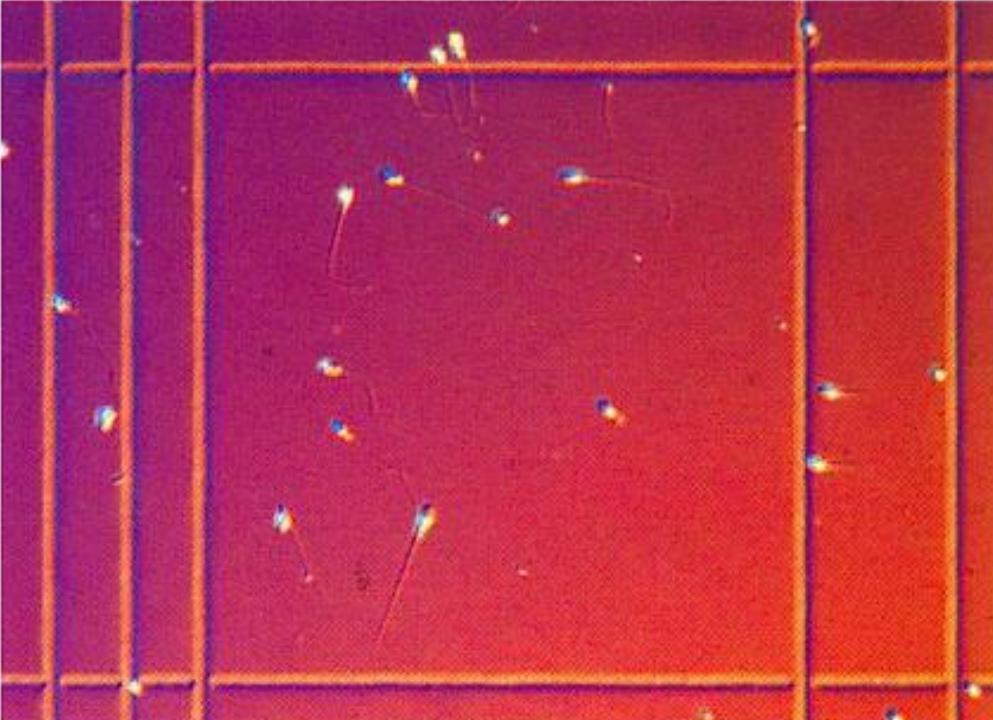
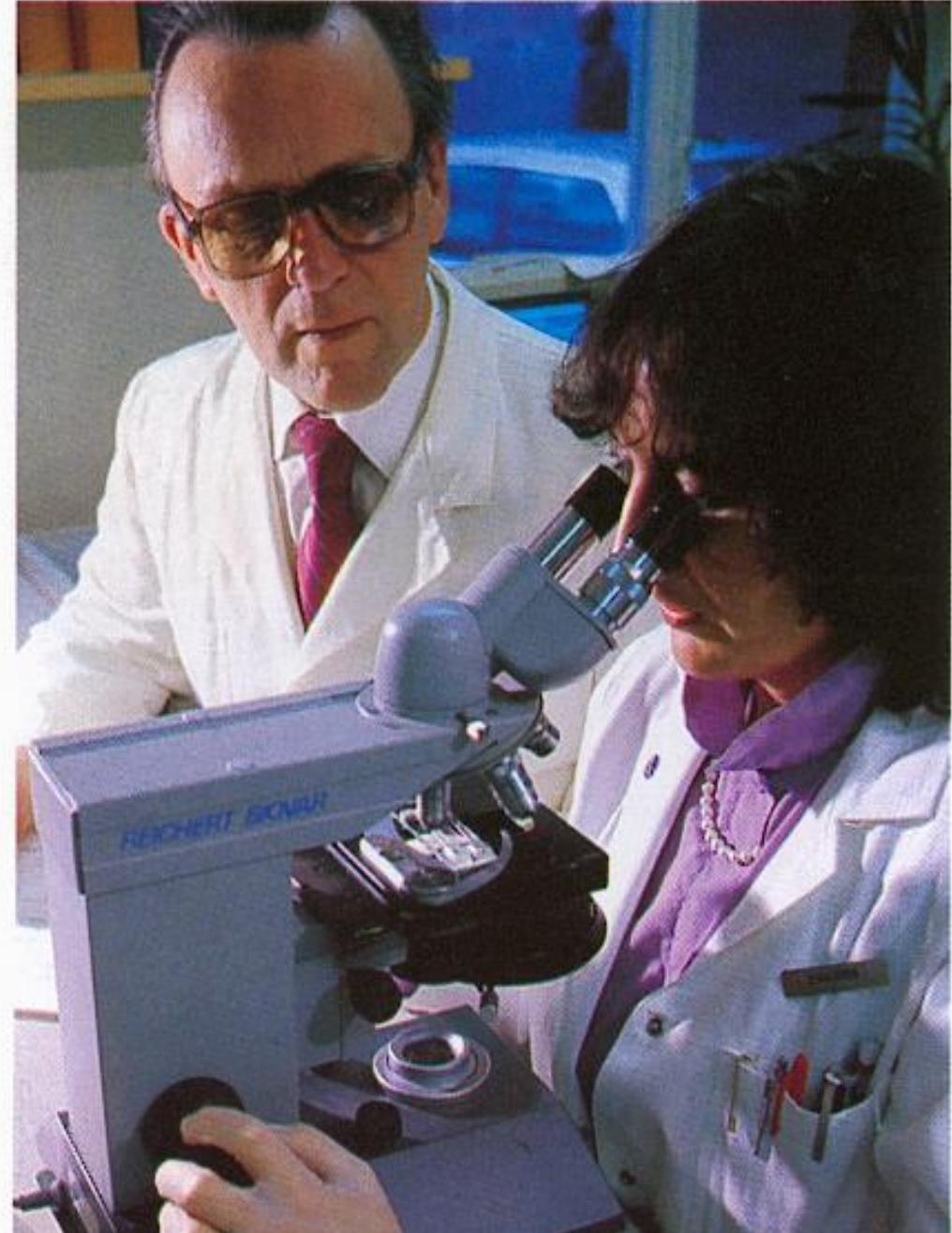
Birth of the first cryopreserved embryo

2004

First single embryo transfer

2013
Development of Timelapse

Timeline of Assisted Human Reproduction



WHO laboratory manual for the
**examination and processing of
human semen**

Sixth Edition

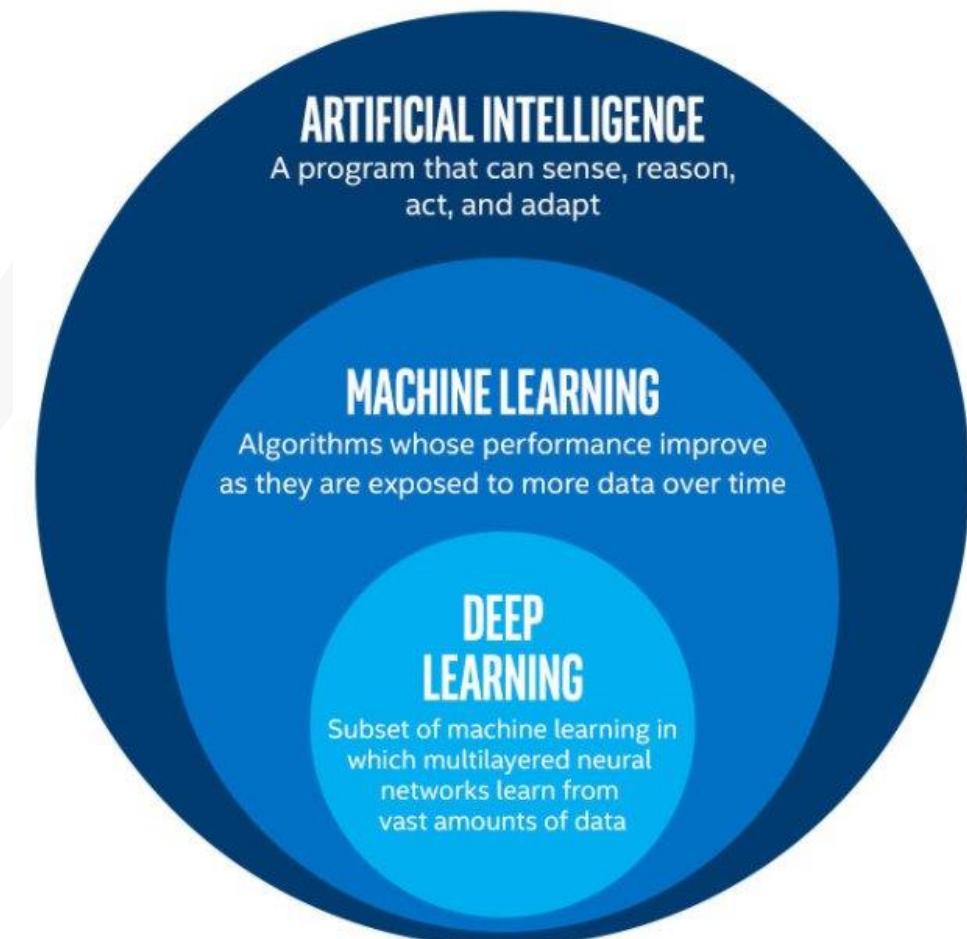
Agenda

The use of AI for sperm

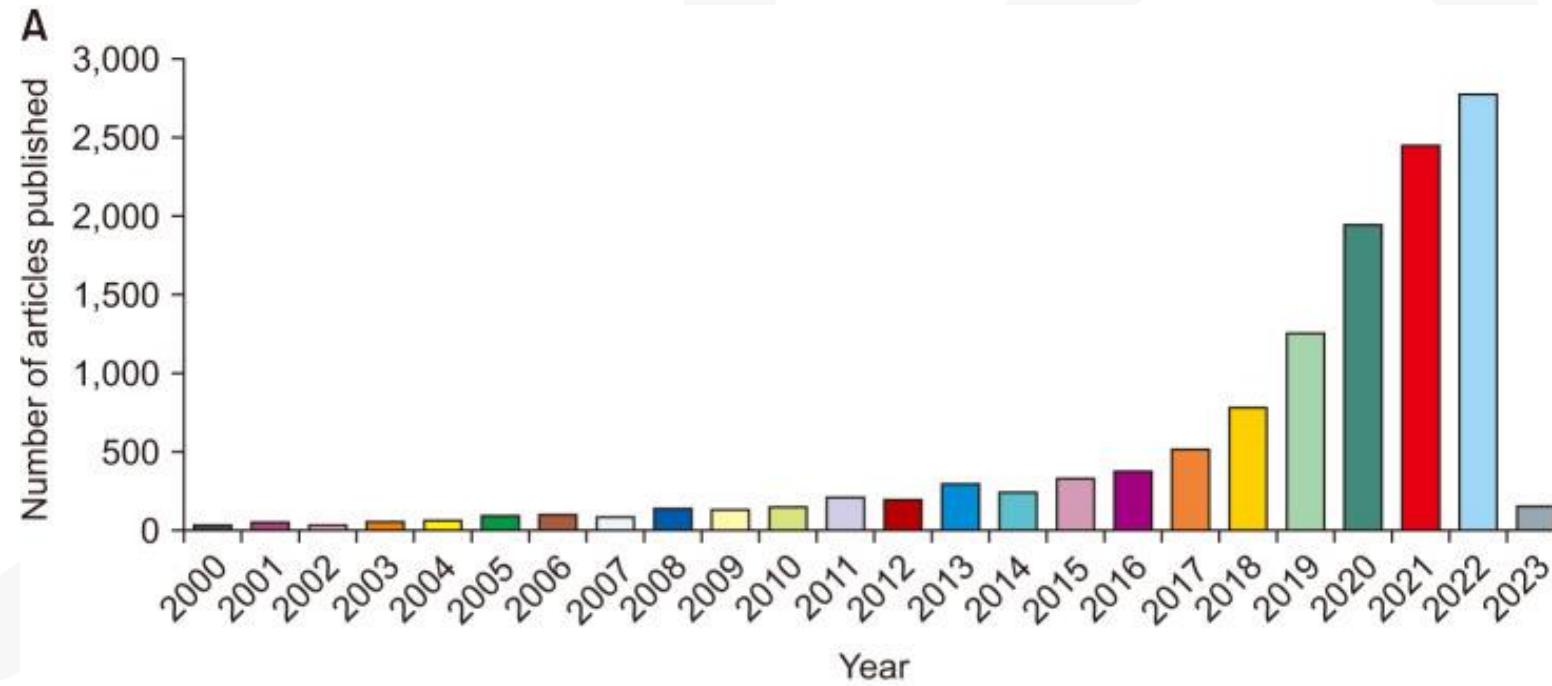
- AI applications in sperm selection
- The advantages and limitations of AI approaches
- Clinical implications and future trends

What is AI?

Artificial intelligence is the simulation of human intelligence processes by machines, especially computer systems



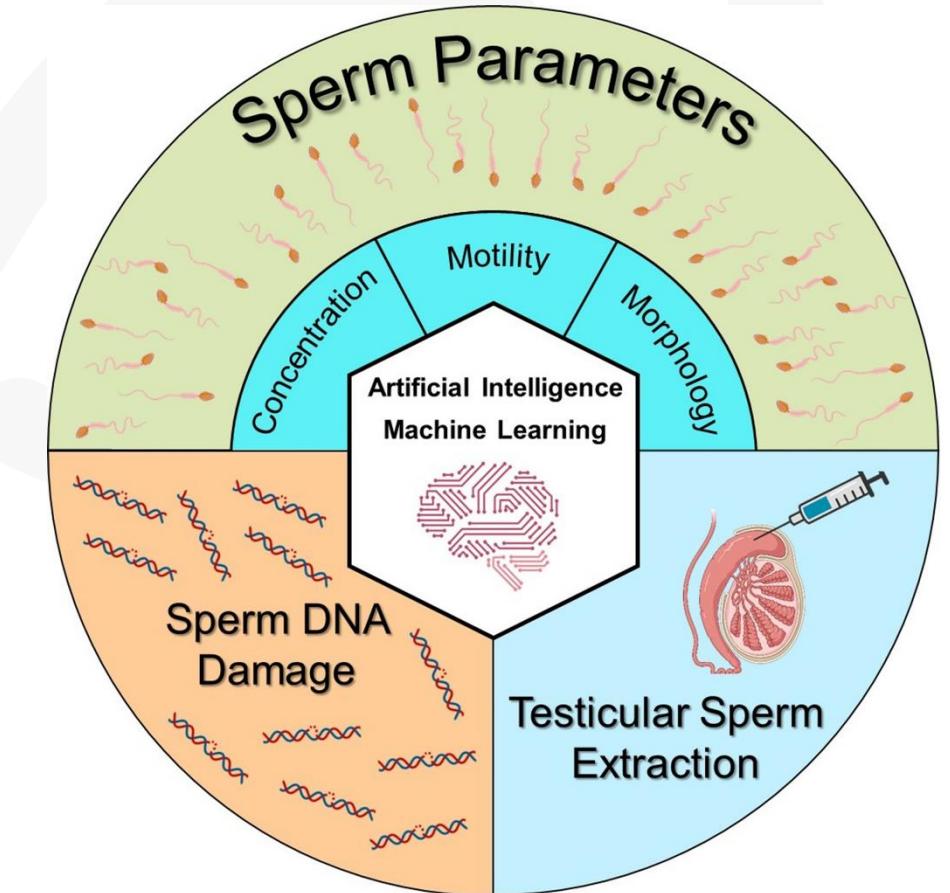
Rising interest of AI in healthcare



Ghayda RA et al, 2024

AI in Sperm Selection

- Computer vision for morphological analysis
 - Pattern recognition, predictive analytics
- Deep learning algorithms for motility prediction
- Automation of sperm grading and sorting



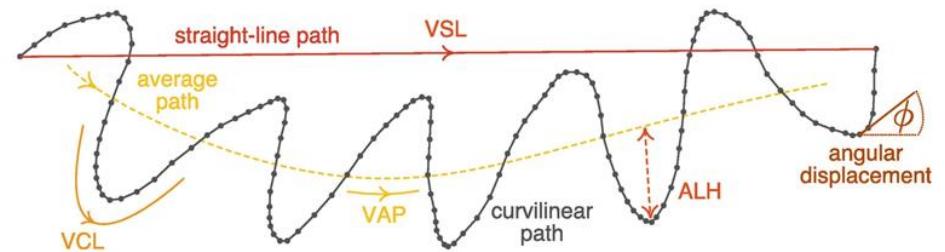
Panner Selvam et al, 2024

Types of Automated sperm analysis

Several approaches of automated sperm analysis on the global market. 3 big groups based on the principle they use to determine semen parameters:

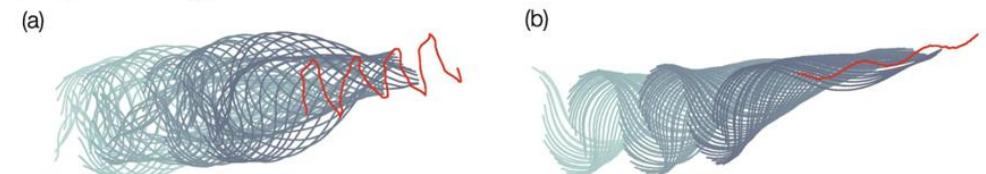
- Computer-assisted sperm analysis (CASA)
- Photometric system-based sperm analysis (SQA Vision)
- Artificial intelligence (AI) based tools (e.g. Automated LensHooke X1 PRO Semen Quality Analyzer) – newest and still developing technique on the market. Based on the machine learning algorithms.

From: Heads and Tails: Requirements for Informative and Robust Computational Measures of Sperm Motility



A sketch highlighting some of the most common CASA measure terminology

From: Heads and Tails: Requirements for Informative and Robust Computational Measures of Sperm Motility



Characteristic flagellar waveform and track for human sperm swimming in (a) low-viscosity media and (b) high-viscosity mucous analogue. In each panel, the red line shows the path traced out by the centroid of the sperm head as it swims

Rational for testing an Automated sperm analysis system

Accuracy and Consistency

Reduction of Human Error

Efficiency and Speed

Standardization

How to select the best sperm using AI

- Sperm Concentration
- Sperm Motility
- Sperm Morphology
- Sperm DNA integrity
- Testicular sperm



Systematic review

Sperm Concentration

Systematic Review

Current Updates on Involvement of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Semen Analysis

Manesh Kumar Panner Selvam ^{1,*},[†], Ajaya Kumar Moharana ^{1,2,†}, Saradha Baskaran ¹, Renata Finelli ³, Matthew C. Hudnall ⁴ and Suresh C. Sikka ¹

Table 1. Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) algorithms used to evaluate sperm concentration or count.

| Studies | Dataset/Sample | Algorithm or Model | Performance or Outcomes |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Ory et al., 2022 [26] | Semen | Logistic regression, SVM and RF | Good predictive accuracy with AUC = 0.72 |
| Lesani et al., 2020 [23] | Semen | FSNN, SPNN | Prediction accuracy: SPNN = 86%, FSNN = 93% |
| Tsai et al., 2020 [27] | Semen | Image recognition algorithm | AI algorithm vs. manual analysis: sperm concentration ($r = 0.65, p < 0.001$), motile sperm concentration ($r = 0.84, p < 0.001$) |
| Girela et al., 2013 [25] | Semen | ANN | Accuracy = 90%, sensitivity = 95.45%, specificity = 50%, PPV = 93.33%, NPV = 60% |

ANN—artificial neural network; AUC—area under the curve; FSNN—full-spectrum neural network; NPV—negative predictive value; PPV—positive predictive value; RF—random forest; SPNN—selected peak neural network; SVM—support vector machine.

- Accuracy of 90% - good correlation to manual evaluation
- False identification of spermatozoa (debris)

Systematic review

Sperm Motility

Systematic Review

Current Updates on Involvement of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Semen Analysis

Manesh Kumar Panner Selvam ^{1,*†}, Ajaya Kumar Moharana ^{1,2,†}, Saradha Baskaran ¹, Renata Finelli ³, Matthew C. Hudnall ⁴ and Suresh C. Sikka ¹

Table 2. Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) algorithms used to evaluate sperm motility.

| Studies | Dataset/Sample | Algorithm or Model | Performance or Outcomes |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|--|
| Ottl et al., 2022 [32] | VISEM | SVR, MLP, CNN, RNN | Mean absolute error (MAE): SVR = 9.29, MLP = 9.50, CNN = 9.22, RNN = 9.86 |
| Somasundaram and Nirmala 2021 [33] | Semen | THMA | Accuracy = 97.37%, with minimum execution time of 1.12 s. |
| Tsai et al., 2020 [27] | Semen | Bemaner AI algorithm | AI algorithm vs. manual analysis: $r = 0.90$, $p < 0.001$ |
| Valiuškaitė et al., 2020 [34] | VISEM | CNN | MAE for predicted sperm motility = 2.92 |
| Goodson et al., 2017 [29] | Semen | SVM | Accuracy = 89.9% |
| Girela et al., 2013 [25] | Semen | ANN | Accuracy = 82%, sensitivity = 89.29%, specificity = 43.75%, PPV = 89.29%, NPV = 43.75% |

ANN—artificial neural network; CNN—convolutional neural network; MLP—multilayer perceptron; RNN—recurrent neural network; SVM—support vector machine; SVR—linear support vector regressor; THMA—tail-to-head movement algorithm.

- Sperm head movement - Good correlation to manual evaluation
- Novel tail-to-head movement – Accuracy of 97%

Systematic review

Sperm Morphology

Systematic Review

Current Updates on Involvement of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Semen Analysis

Manesh Kumar Panner Selvam ^{1,*†}, Ajaya Kumar Moharana ^{1,2,†}, Saradha Baskaran ¹, Renata Finelli ³, Matthew C. Hudnall ⁴ and Suresh C. Sikka ¹

Table 3. Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) algorithms used to evaluate sperm morphology.

| Studies | Dataset/Sample | Algorithm or Model | Performance or Outcomes |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Sato et al., 2022 [40] | JSD | DL | Abnormal sperm: sensitivity = 0.881 and PPV = 0.853 Normal sperm: sensitivity = 0.794 and PPV = 0.689 |
| Abbasi et al., 2021 [41] | MHSMA | DTL DMTL | Detection accuracy: head = 84.0%, acrosome = 80.66%, and vacuole = 94.0% |
| Marín and Chang 2021 [35] | SCIAN-SpermSegGS | DL, U-Net, and Mask-RCNN | Dice coefficient using U-net with transfer learning: head = 0.96, acrosome = 0.94, and nucleus = 0.95 |
| Nygate et al., 2020 [42] | Semen | DL, HoloStain | Virtual (holostain) vs. chemical staining: structural similarity (SSIM) = 0.85 ± 0.03 |
| Valiuškaitė et al., 2020 [34] | VISEM | CNN | Accuracy of sperm head detection = 91.77% |
| Dubey et al., 2019 [20] | Semen | SVM | Accuracy = 89.93%, sensitivity = 91.18%, and specificity = 88.61% |
| Javadi and Mirroshandel 2019 [39] | MHSMA | DL | Detection accuracy: acrosome = 76.67%, head = 77.00%, vacuole = 91.33% |
| Movahed et al., 2019 [43] | SCIAN | CNN and SVM | Dice coefficient: head = 0.90, axial filament = 0.77, acrosome = 0.77, nucleus = 0.78, tail = 0.75, and mid-piece = 0.64 |
| Riordon et al., 2019 [44] | HuSHeM and SCIAN | Deep-CNN, VGG16 | Increased true positive rate: HuSHeM dataset = 94.1%, SCIAN dataset = 62% |
| Mirsky et al., 2017 [45] | Semen | SVM | Good accuracy with AUC = 89.59% |
| Shaker et al., 2017 [46] | SCIAN and HuSHeM | Dictionary learning | Detection accuracy: HuSeM dataset = 92%, SCIAN dataset = 62% |
| Shaker et al., 2016 [37] | Semen | Tail point algorithm | Dice coefficient accuracy: heads = 92%, acrosome = 84%, nucleus = 87%, and tail = 96% |

AUC—area under curve; CNN—convolutional neural network; DL—deep learning; DTL—deep transfer learning; DMTL—deep multi-task transfer learning; HuSHeM—Human Sperm Head Morphology; JSD—Jikei sperm data set; MHSMA—Modified Human Sperm Head Morphology analysis; R-CNN—region-based convolutional neural network; SVM—support vector machine;

- Form, shape, size
- Stained images - Con
- Real time analysis - Pro

Systematic review

Sperm DNA integrity

Systematic Review

Current Updates on Involvement of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Semen Analysis

Manesh Kumar Panner Selvam ^{1,*†}, Ajaya Kumar Moharana ^{1,2,†}, Saradha Baskaran ¹, Renata Finelli ³,
Matthew C. Hudnall ⁴ and Suresh C. Sikka ¹

Table 4. Artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms developed to measure or predict sperm DNA integrity or damage.

| Studies | Dataset/Sample | Algorithm or Model | Performance or Outcomes |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------------------|--|
| Kuroda et al., 2023 [50] | Semen | CNN | AI algorithm vs. manual scoring ($r = 0.97, p < 0.001$) |
| Noy et al., 2023 [51] | Semen | MobileNet CNN | Prediction accuracy = 90%, sensitivity = 0.93, specificity = 0.9 |
| McCallum et al., 2019 [49] | Semen | Deep CNN | Sperm cell image vs. DNA quality (bivariate correlation ~0.43) |
| Wang et al., 2019 [52] | Semen | Logistic regression | Test accuracy = 82.7% |

CNN—Convolutional Neural Network.

- Sperm chromatin structure assay (SCSA) – fixation and staining
- Real time evaluation - Good correlation to manual evaluation – Accuracy of 90%

Systematic review

Testicular sperm

Systematic Review

Current Updates on Involvement of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Semen Analysis

Manesh Kumar Panner Selvam ^{1,*†}, Ajaya Kumar Moharana ^{1,2,†}, Saradha Baskaran ¹, Renata Finelli ³,
Matthew C. Hudnall ⁴ and Suresh C. Sikka ¹

Table 5. Artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms developed to detect sperm and predict success of testicular sperm extraction.

| Studies | Dataset/Sample | Algorithm or Model | Performance or Outcomes |
|----------------------------|----------------|--------------------|---|
| Bachelot et al., 2023 [53] | Semen | DNN | RF model: detected AUC = 0.90, sensitivity = 100%, specificity = 69.2% |
| Lee et al., 2022 [58] | Semen | CNN | For dissociated micro-TESE samples doped with an abundant quantity of sperm obtained: PPV = 84.0%, sensitivity = 72.7%, F1-score = 77.9% For dissociated micro-TESE samples doped with rare sperm obtained: PPV = 84.4%, sensitivity = 86.1%, F1-score = 85.2% |
| Wu et al., 2021 [57] | Semen | DNN | Obtained mean average precision (mAP) = 0.741, average recall (AR) = 0.376 |
| Zeadna et al., 2020 [54] | Semen | GBTs | Detected AUC = 0.8, sensitivity = 91%, specificity = 25% |
| Ramasamy et al., 2013 [56] | Semen | ANN | Achieved ROC = 0.641, accuracy = 59.4% |
| Samli and Dogan 2004 [55] | Semen | ANN | Prediction accuracy = 80.80% |

ANN—artificial neural network; AR—average recall; AUC—area under the curve; CNN—convolutional neural network; DNN—deep neural network; GBTs—gradient-boosted trees; mAP—mean average precision; PPV—positive predictive value; RF—random forest; ROC—receiver operating characteristic.

- Prediction models for the presence of sperm
- Detection and identification of sperm

Other applications using AI for sperm



Mobile AI Applications for Sperm Analysis

Do it yourself

- Rapid and Cost-Effective

- Modern kits are accurate and user-friendly.
- Do not assess all semen parameters.
 - sperm **concentration** and **motility**.
 - Range from red (not ok) – orange – green (ok)

- Privacy and Convenience

- Lowers the first step for men to go to a fertility clinic.

Review Article

Male reproductive health and infertility

ISSN: 2287-4208 / eISSN: 2287-4690
World J Mens Health 2021 Oct 39(4): 615-625
<https://doi.org/10.5534/wjmh.200130>

N The World Journal of
MEN's HEALTH



Clinical Update on Home Testing for Male Fertility

Daniel Gonzalez¹*, Manish Narasimman¹, Jordan C. Best¹, Jesse Ory¹, Ranjith Ramasamy¹

Department of Urology, Miller School of Medicine, University of Miami, Miami, FL, USA



Fig. 4. Men's Loupe (Tenga Health Care) device and smartphone-based SEEM kit. (A) Men's Loupe 0.8 mm diameter ball lens microscope attached to smartphone. (B) Technique for loading semen sample into plastic jacket of ball lens microscope. (C) Magnifying lens semen analysis device with QR code sheet to download the application for operating. (D) Instructions of kit for use. (E) Screenshot of sample test results with concentration and motility.



Advanced selection techniques

Sperm identification device SiD



Discover SiD™ for ICSI:
AI sperm-selector assistant
that improves your outcome

Sperm selection assistant SiD

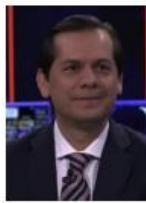
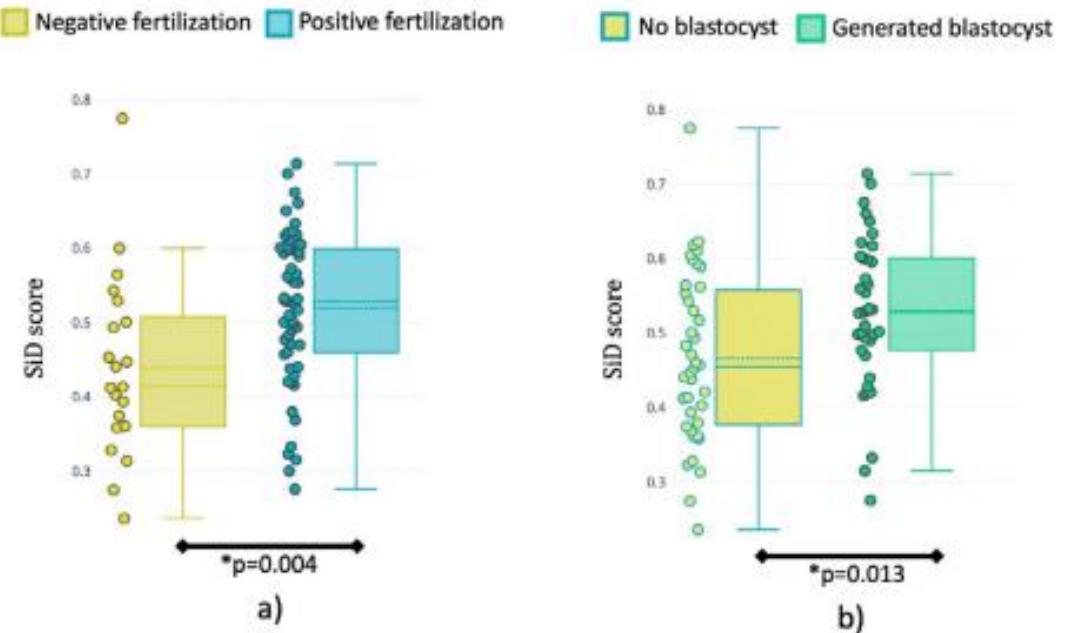
Retrospective analysis

RBMO



ARTICLE

Computer software (SiD) assisted real-time single sperm selection associated with fertilization and blastocyst formation



BIOGRAPHY

Dr Chavez-Badiola graduated with honours from medical school in 1999. He is Medical Director and Founder of New Hope Fertility Mexico (2009), and Founder of IVF 2.0 LTD. His research interests include the meiotic spindle, the fertilization process and the applications of artificial intelligence in reproductive medicine.

Gerardo Mendizabal-Ruiz^{1,2}, Alejandro Chavez-Badiola^{1,3,4,*}, Isaac Aguilar Figueroa², Vladimir Martinez Nuño², Adolfo Flores-Saiffe Farias¹, Roberto Valencia-Murilloa¹, Andrew Drakeley^{1,5}, Juan Paulo Garcia-Sandoval⁶, Jacques Cohen^{1,7,8}

- Higher SiD scores gives **higher successful fertilization** ($P = 0.004$) and **better blastocyst formation** ($P = 0.013$)
- Real-time assisting of the ICSI operator

Sperm selection assistant SiD

Prospective sibling oocyte study

Article

Automated Single-Sperm Selection Software (SiD) during ICSI: A Prospective Sibling Oocyte Evaluation

 Debbie Montjean ^{1,*}, Marie-Hélène Godin Pagé ¹, Carmen Pacios ¹, Annabelle Calvé ¹, Ghenima Hamiche ¹, Moncef Benkhalfa ^{1,2} and Pierre Miron ^{1,2}

Table 1. Laboratory outcomes in the ICSI-SiD group (n = 326) compared to the ICSI group (n = 320).

* Includes day 5 and day 6 embryos, ns: non-significant. OR: odds ratio, CI; confidence interval.

| Outcome (%) | ICSI-SiD | ICSI | OR | 95% CI | p-Value |
|---|----------|------|-----|---------|---------|
| Fertilization rate | 83.1 | 82.4 | 1.1 | 0.7–1.6 | ns |
| Cleavage rate | 97.6 | 97.2 | 1.2 | 0.4–3.7 | ns |
| Day 2 embryo development rate | 70.6 | 74.6 | 0.8 | 0.5–1.2 | ns |
| Top-quality development rate on day 2 | 48.6 | 52.8 | 0.9 | 0.6–1.2 | ns |
| Day 3 embryo development rate | 72.9 | 70.6 | 1.1 | 0.8–1.7 | ns |
| Top-quality embryo development rate on day 3 | 51.4 | 51.6 | 1.0 | 0.7–1.4 | ns |
| Blastocyst development rate on day 5 | 49.0 | 44.8 | 1.2 | 0.8–1.7 | ns |
| Good-quality blastocyst development rate on day 5 | 45.1 | 41.5 | 1.2 | 0.8–1.7 | ns |
| Top-quality blastocyst development rate on day 5 | 25.9 | 22.2 | 1.2 | 0.8–1.9 | ns |
| Blastocyst development rate * | 70.2 | 62.5 | 1.4 | 1.0–2.0 | ns |
| Good-quality blastocyst development rate * | 57.3 | 53.6 | 1.1 | 0.8–1.7 | ns |
| Top-quality blastocyst development rate * | 29.0 | 24.2 | 1.3 | 0.9–1.9 | ns |

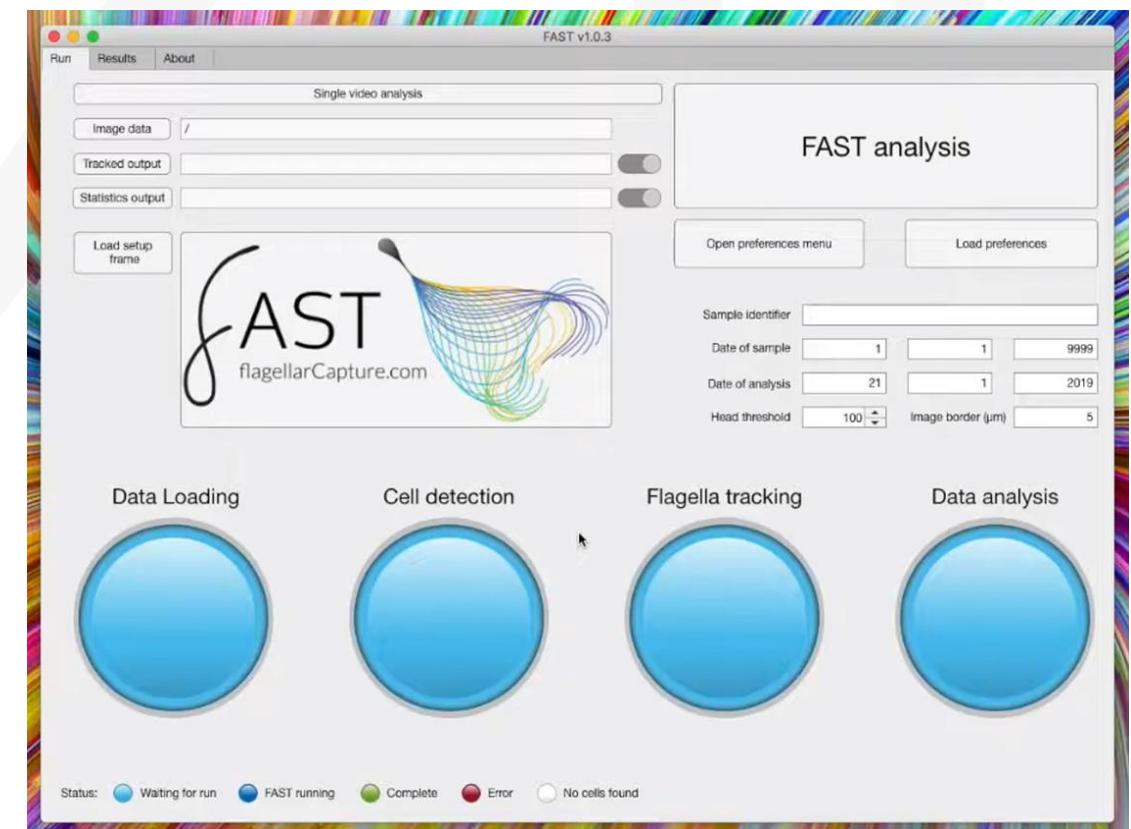
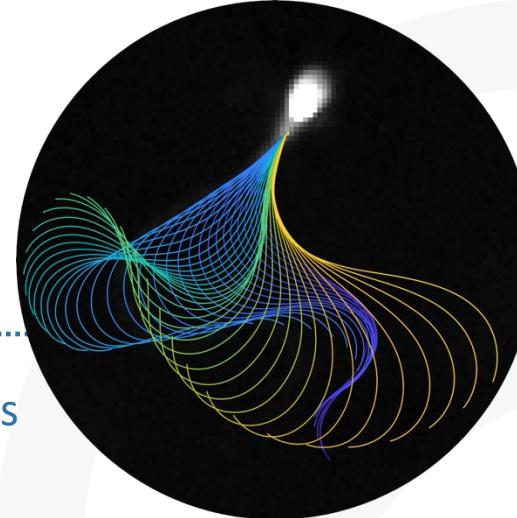
- Comparable biological outcomes
- Takes out differences between laboratory staff experience

Sperm tail beat

Sperm flagellar movement, FAST (Flagellar Analysis and Sperm Tracking).

- Combining imaging, mathematics, fluid dynamics and computer science
- Better fertility diagnostics and improving treatment
- Vital to understand how the tail of sperm cells move and consume energy

Free download: <https://www.flagellarcapture.com>



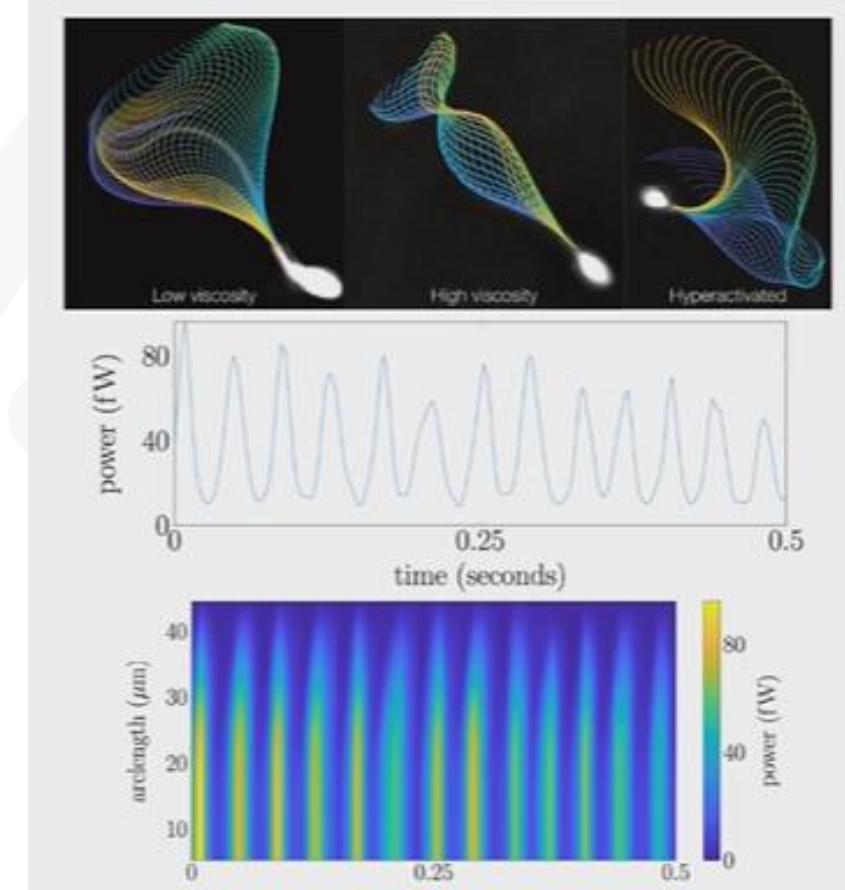
Sperm tail beat



Image analysis (FAST) gives flagellar waveforms

- Hyperactivation can be analysed

Calculates the **metabolic health of the sperm**



Advanced selection techniques

Automatic SpermSearch

JOURNAL ARTICLE

O-136 Artificial intelligence to assist in surgical sperm detection and isolation FREE

D Goss, S Vasilescu, P Vasilescu, G Sacks, D Gardner, M Warkiani

Human Reproduction, Volume 38, Issue Supplement_1, June 2023, dead093.163,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/humrep/dead093.163>

Published: 29 June 2023

Study question

Can an artificial intelligence (AI) improve the speed and accuracy of identifying sperm in complex testicular tissue samples?

Automatic SpermSearch

**This AI tool can find sperm in infertile men
1,000 times faster than a human**

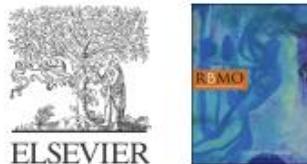
| Metric | AI Model | Trained Embryologist | P-Value |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Time per Field of View | $0.019 \pm 1.4 \times 10^{-4}$ s | 22.87 ± 0.98 s | $P < 0.0001$ |
| Accuracy (%) | 89.88 ± 1.56 | 83.22 ± 2.02 | $P = 0.017$ |
| Precision (%) | 91.27 ± 1.27 | 100 (considered baseline) | NA |
| Sperm Identified (out of 688) | 611 | 560 | NA |

Summary answer: Trained AI can identify sperm in real-time instantly with higher accuracy, not only reducing strain on embryologists but increasing sample coverage in a shorter time.

Automatic SpermSearch

Proof of concept

RBMO



ARTICLE

Evaluation of an artificial intelligence-facilitated sperm detection tool in azoospermic samples for use in ICSI



BIOGRAPHY

Dale Goss is a PhD student at the University of Technology Sydney and a graduate of Stellenbosch University and Monash University. He is a clinical embryologist at IVFAustralia and as a scientific advisor for NeoGenix Biosciences. His research focuses on human embryology, male infertility, and technology in assisted reproduction.

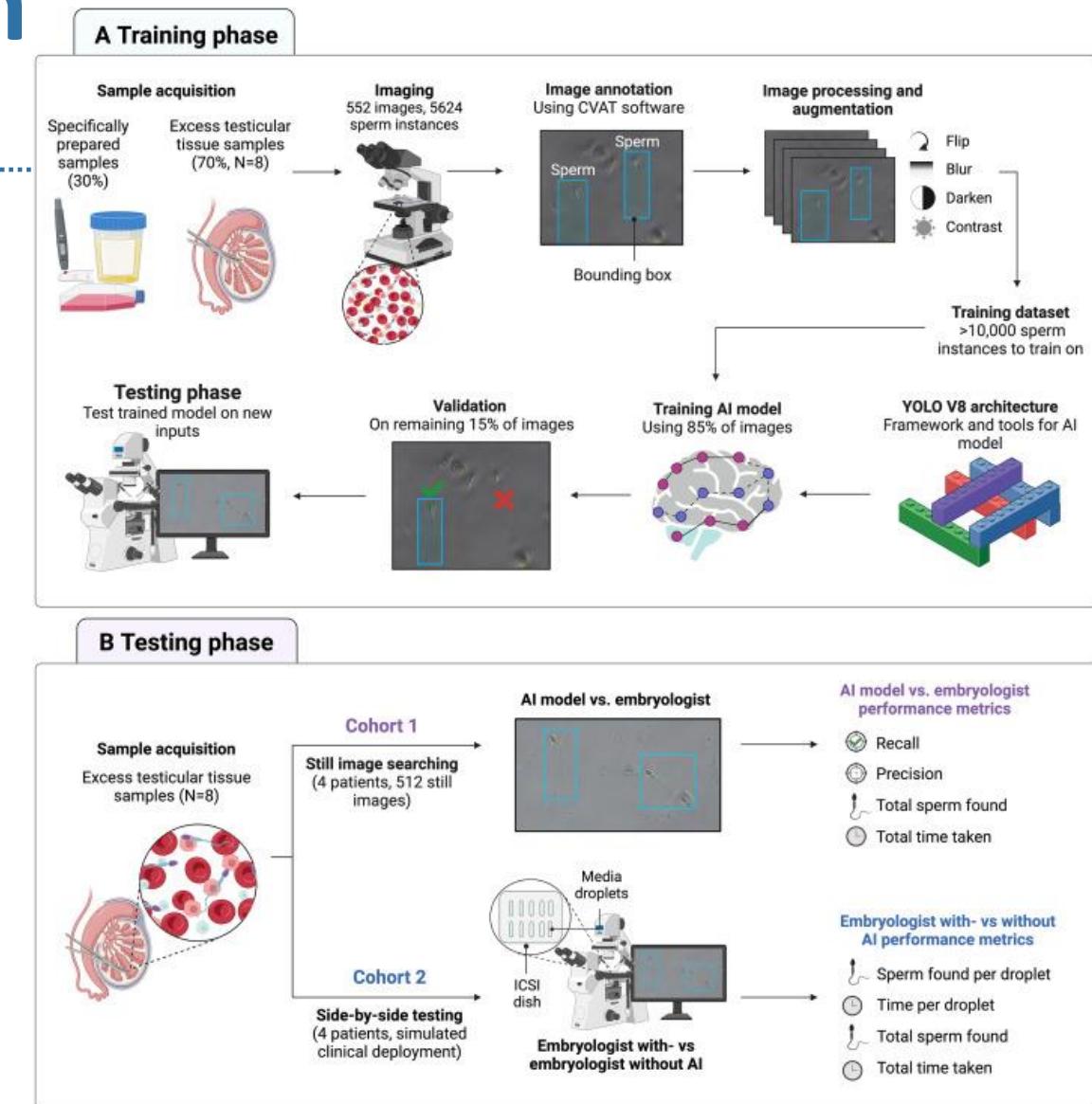
Dale M. Goss^{1,2,3,†}, Steven A. Vasilescu^{1,2,†}, Phillip A. Vasilescu², Simon Cooke³,
Shannon HK. Kim^{3,4}, Gavin P. Sacks^{1,3,4}, David K. Gardner^{2,5},
Majid E. Warkiani^{1,2,6,*}

Automatic SpermSearch

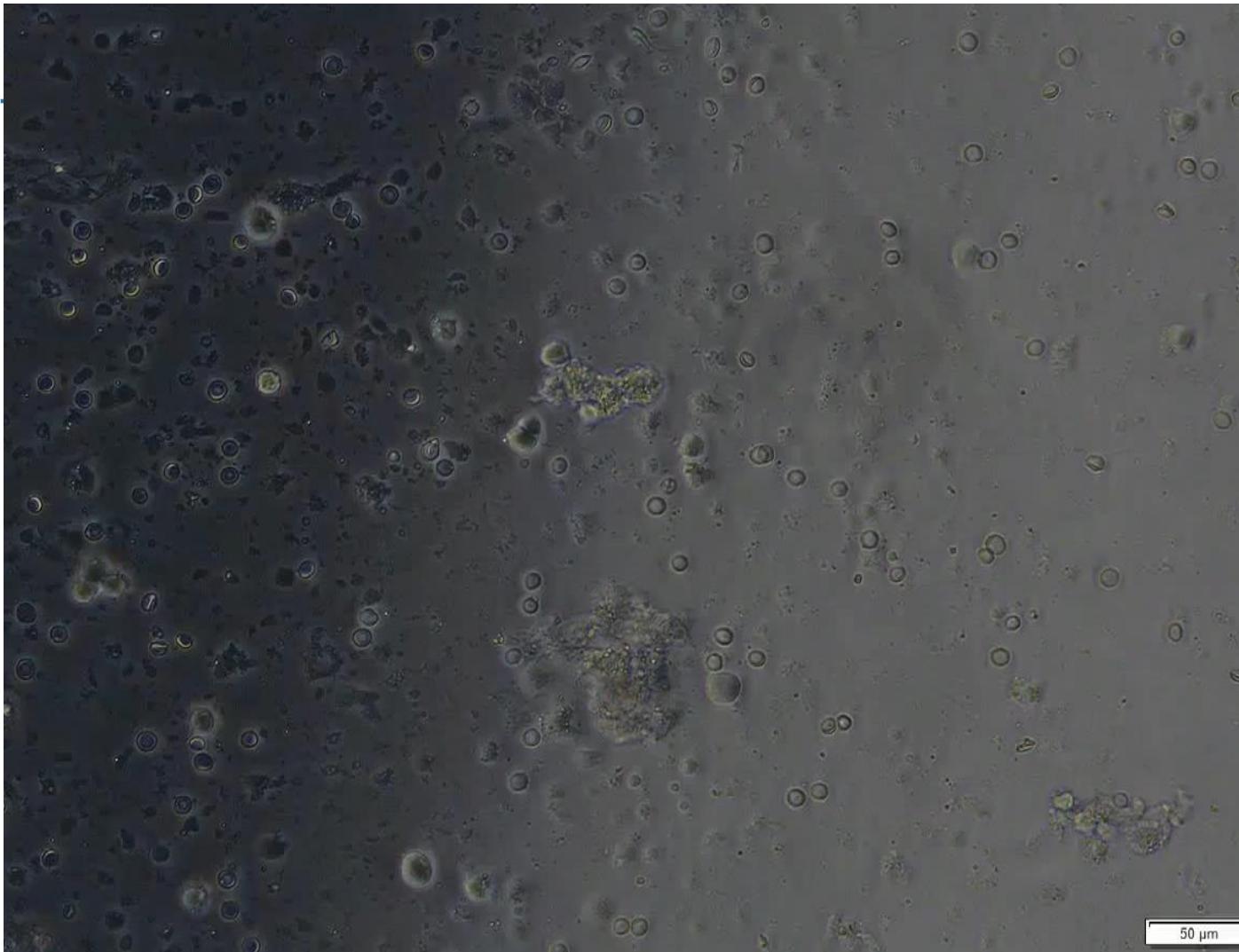
Study question

Can artificial intelligence (AI) improve sperm searches in azoospermic samples?

- compare AI with embryologists on static images (time, recall and number of spermatozoa)
- sperm search with AI integrated into an ICSI microscope embryologist using with or without AI



Automatic SpermSearch



Evaluation of an artificial intelligence-facilitated sperm detection tool in azoospermic samples for use in ICSI

Author: Dale M. Goss, Steven A. Vasilescu, Phillip A. Vasilescu, Simon Cooke, Shannon HK. Kim, Gavin P. Sacks, David K. Gardner, Majid E. Warkiani

Publication: Reproductive BioMedicine Online

Publisher: Elsevier

Date: July 2024



Automatic SpermSearch

Results

1/ Images

- Reduce the time
- Better recall

2/ Side by side

- Reducing the time using the AI
- No difference in number of sperm found

RBMO

ARTICLE

Evaluation of an artificial intelligence-facilitated sperm detection tool in azoospermic samples for use in ICSI



TABLE 1 COMPARISON OF AI AND EMBRYOLOGIST SPERM SEARCH PERFORMANCE METRICS

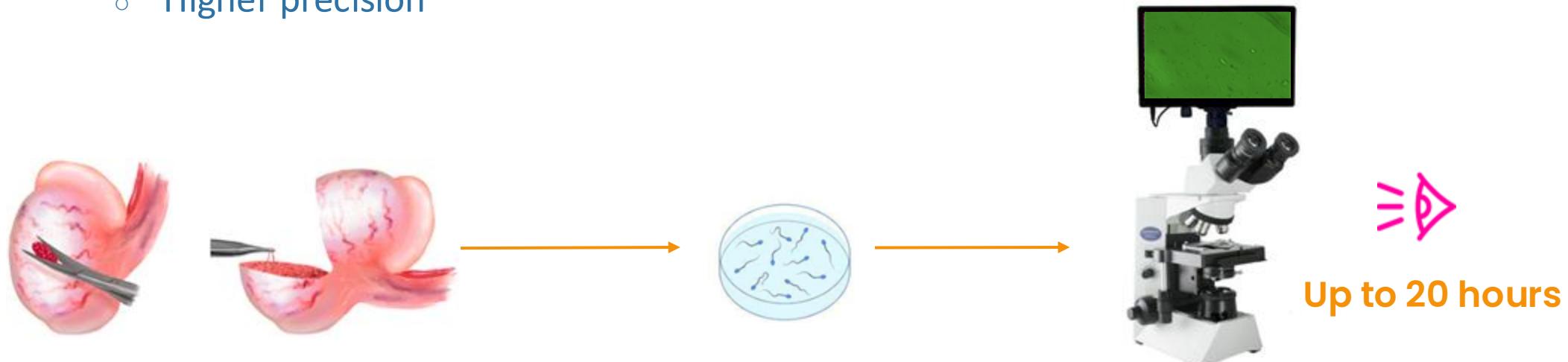
| Parameter | Embryologist | AI | P-value |
|------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Cohort 1 (still images) | | | |
| Time per FOV (s) | 36.10 ± 1.18 | $0.02 \pm 0.3 \times 10^{-5}$ | <0.0001 ^a |
| Recall (%) | 86.52 ± 1.34 | 91.95 ± 0.81 | 0.0006 ^a |
| Precision (%) | 98.18 ± 0.38 | 89.58 ± 0.87 | <0.0001 ^a |
| No. of sperm found (from 2660) | 1937 | 1997 | N/A |
| Cohort 2 (side-by-side deployment) | | | |
| Time taken per drop (s) | 168.7 ± 7.84 | 98.9 ± 3.19 | <0.0001 ^b |
| Total time taken (s) | 6749.71 | 3955.89 | N/A |
| Sperm found per drop | 31.85 ± 3.09 | 34.9 ± 3.43 | 0.3843 ^b |
| Total no. of sperm found | 1274 | 1396 | N/A |

Data are presented as the mean \pm SEM or total. Between-group differences were tested using a Mann–Whitney *U*-test^a, and variance effects between groups were assessed using two-way analysis of variance.^b

AI, artificial intelligence; FOV, field of view; N/A, not applicable.

Brussels IVF use case

- Problem
 - Time consuming (manual) sperm search
 - Special skill required
 - Fatigue – losing focus
- Solution
 - Fully automated solution
 - Higher precision



T'Easy

Making TESE easy...

- Fully automated tool for sperm search
 - Lower the risk of false negatives
 - To help with objective decision making
 - When to stop, very important question!!
 - Decision impacts genetically own children

Fresh vs frozen testicular sperm for assisted reproductive technology in patients with non-obstructive azoospermia: A systematic review

Medhat Amer^{a,b} and Emad Fakhry^a

Table 3. A comparison between the different policies while dealing with a NOA case.

| Policy | Indications | Advantages | Disadvantages | Special counselling |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| A. TESE on the day of oocyte retrieval OPU (with sperm cryopreservation of the remaining samples) | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Expected positive cases: previous positive TESE, cryptozoospermic ejaculate or virtual azoospermia (pervious presence of spermatozoa in the ejaculate), favourable previous histopathological diagnosis such as hypospermatogenesis, maturation arrest at spermatid, mixed patterns with normal spermatogenesis.2. Expected difficulty with limited possibility to repeat TESE in the future: severe gonadal failure, e.g. previous genetic or histopathological diagnosis of Klinefelter syndrome or small testes where repeating biopsy seems improbable.3. Expected low sperm number with difficulty in freezing (redo-patients and patients with documented deletions of the AZFb region) if the couple accept the high possibility of sperm retrieval failure [3]. | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The use of fresh testicular sperm sample with no fear of losing sperm motility after freezing.2. Avoidance of repeating the TESE procedure if no motile spermatozoa were found in the frozen-thawed sample on the day of ICSI in a small testicular size male.3. The possibility of use of very limited number of sperms with poor or no motility that are not suitable for freezing. | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Pointless ovarian stimulation, risk of hyperstimulation, financial burden if no spermatozoa were retrieved.2. The TESE procedure must be scheduled on the day of OPU, which is not practical in a busy IVF laboratory or for the surgeon.3. Risk of <i>in vitro</i> post maturity of oocytes associated with low fertilisation rate and poor embryo quality after ICSI in difficult prolonged sperm search [45]. | <p>Risk of finding no sperms is great, so the couple should accept this fact and according to their preference, oocyte retrieval can be cancelled or the oocytes are collected and vitrified for future hope: Possibility of finding sperm in the future in a redo TESE, spontaneously in extended ejaculated sperm pellet analysis, hormonal treatment or future advances in NOA management (spermatid injection, <i>in vitro</i> maturation). TESE before oocyte retrieval for expected difficult cases should preferably be scheduled 4-8 h before ovum pick-up to allow more time to extract and collect sufficient normal motile testicular sperm for injection of all available oocytes [45].</p> |

Special counselling
Risk of finding no sperms is great, so the couple should accept this fact and

3. Risk of *in vitro* post maturity of oocytes associated with low fertilisation rate and poor embryo quality after ICSI in difficult prolonged sperm search [45].

Funding

Belcoo – transregional R&D project



Collaboration



Brussels IVF



ROBOVISION

EVIDENT™
OLYMPUS



Human versus Machine

Proof of concept

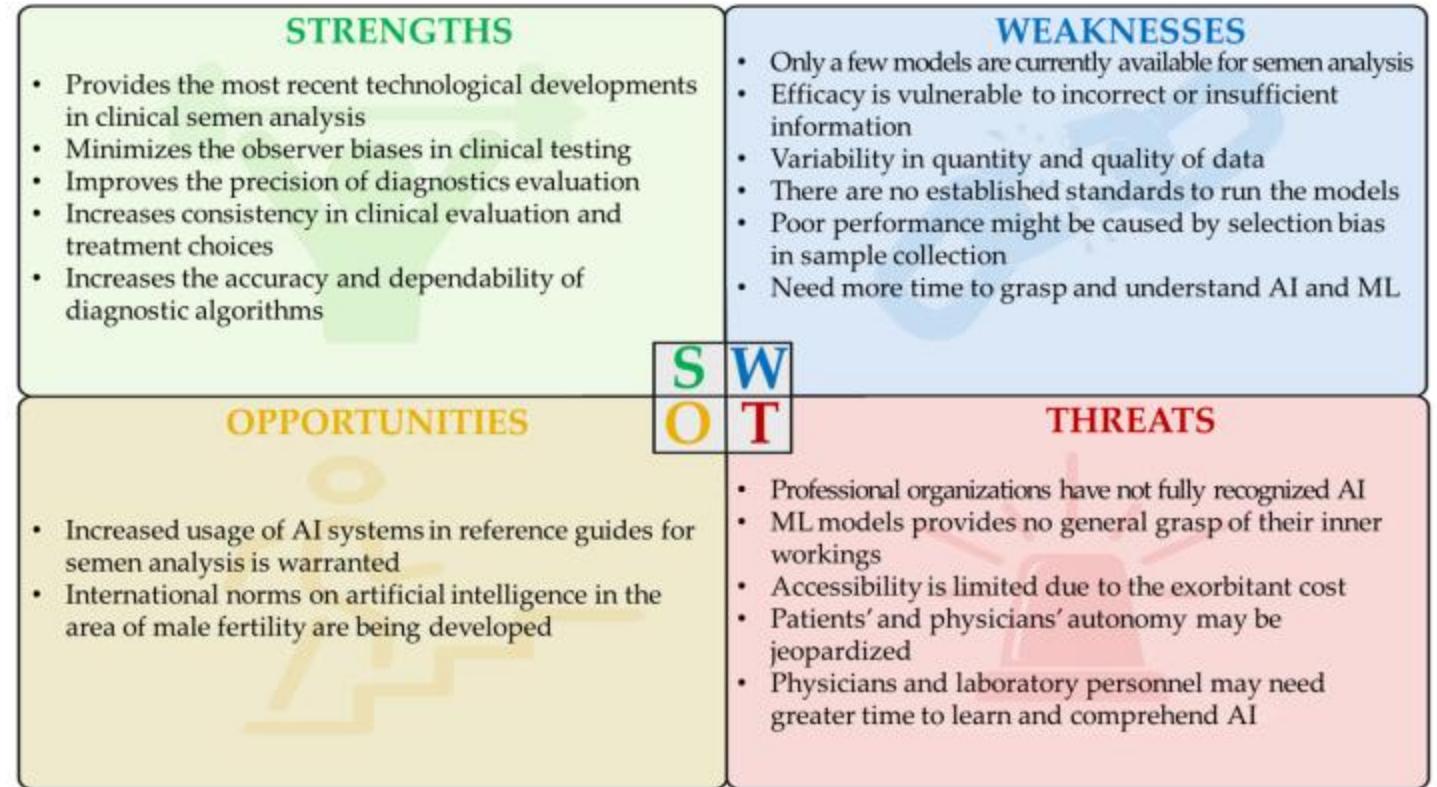
| | T'Easy | Confirmed | Human | False positives | Missed detection | Precision | Recall |
|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Sample 1 | 309 | 304 | 340 | 5 | 36 | 98,4% | 89,4% |
| Sample 2 | 227 | 223 | 240 | 4 | 17 | 98,2% | 92,9% |

Advantages of AI in Sperm Selection

- More objective and consistent
- Faster and more efficient analysis
- Make better-informed decisions for patients

Limitations and Challenges

- High setup costs
- Need for robust training datasets
- Watch out for BIAS!
- Ethical concerns
- Patient data privacy



Panner Selvam et al, 2024

Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) analysis of AI and ML in andrology

Clinical Implications

- Potential to increase fertilization and pregnancy rates
- Can support subjective human assessments
- Role in personalized medicine

Future Directions

- Development of real-time AI-assisted sperm selection systems
- Integration with other ART technologies
- Ongoing research and collaboration between AI developers and fertility clinics

AI in sperm selection: Study highlights

AI won't replace us,
but someone using AI will

AI in sperm selection: Study highlights

Thank you!



Brussels IVF

24/1/25



VRIJE
UNIVERSITEIT
BRUSSEL



Universitair
Ziekenhuis
Brussel