

# **Myoinositolo e infertilità maschile**

**Sandro La Vignera**

**Università degli Studi di Catania**

CONSENSUS STATEMENT

## The use of nutraceuticals in male sexual and reproductive disturbances: position statement from the Italian Society of Andrology and Sexual Medicine (SIAMS)

A. E. Calogero<sup>1</sup> · A. Aversa<sup>2</sup> · S. La Vignera<sup>1</sup> · G. Corona<sup>3</sup> · A. Ferlin<sup>4</sup>

### Fertility

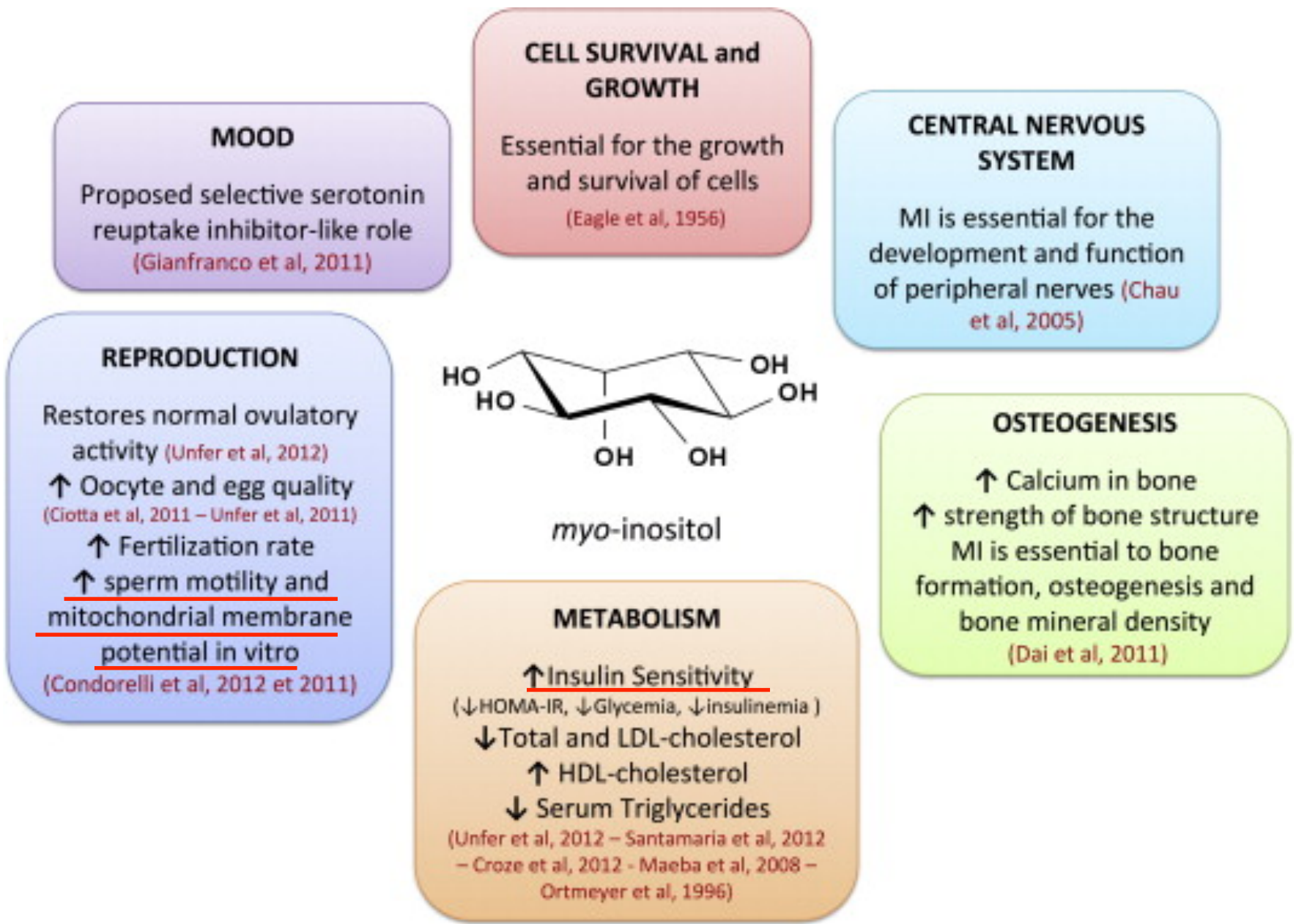
#### Recommendation

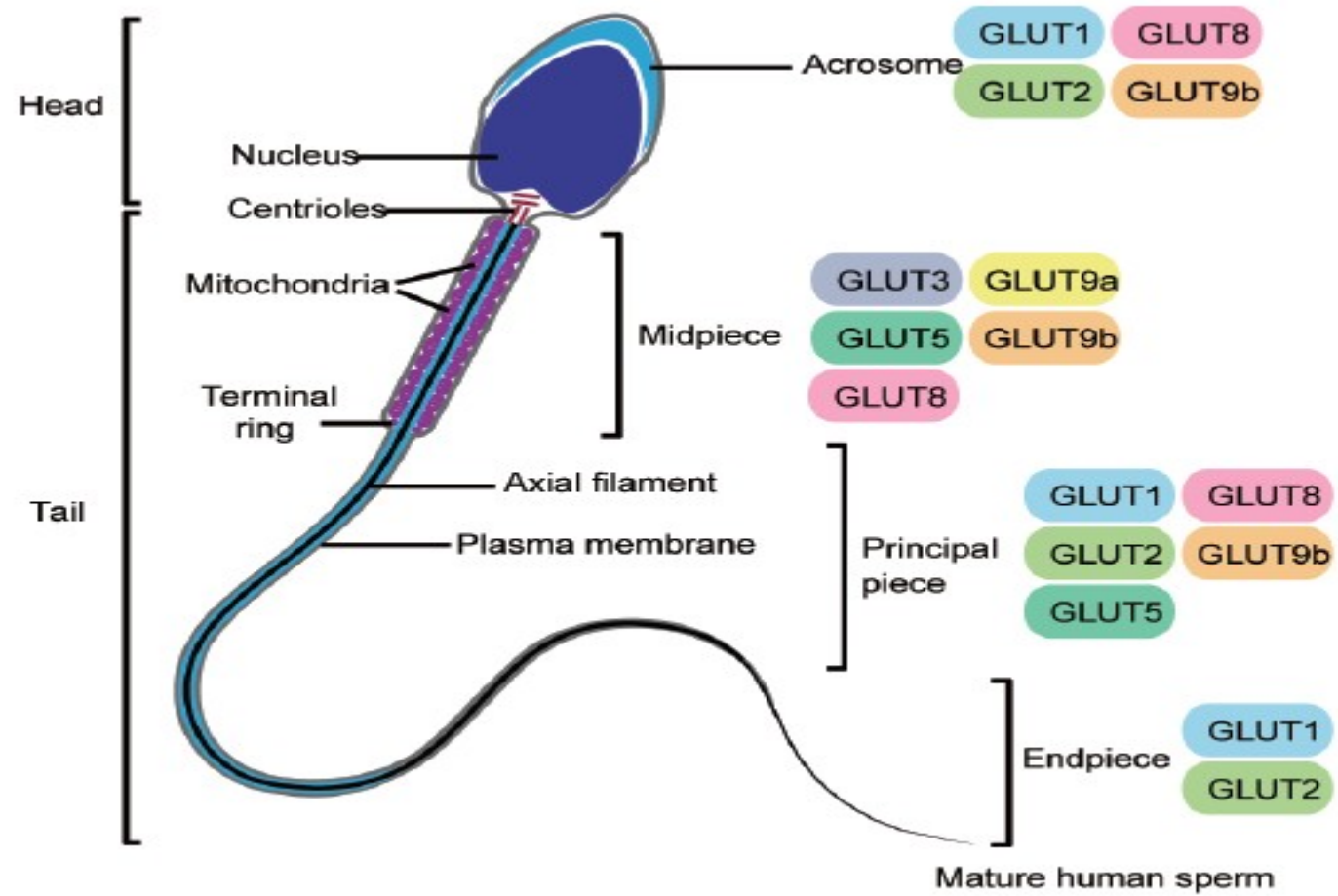
1. We recommend not prescribing antioxidants for improving sperm parameters and pregnancy rate in all subjects with sperm abnormalities before a specific diagnostic workup (1 ØØØØ).
2. We suggest the use of antioxidants in patients with idiopathic infertility in the presence of documented abnormal sperm parameters and altered sperm DNA fragmentation (SDF) only after a thorough diagnostic workup (2 ØØØØ).
3. We suggest no specific antioxidants and therapeutic regimes for improving sperm parameters and pregnancy rate in patients with idiopathic infertility (2 ØØØØ).

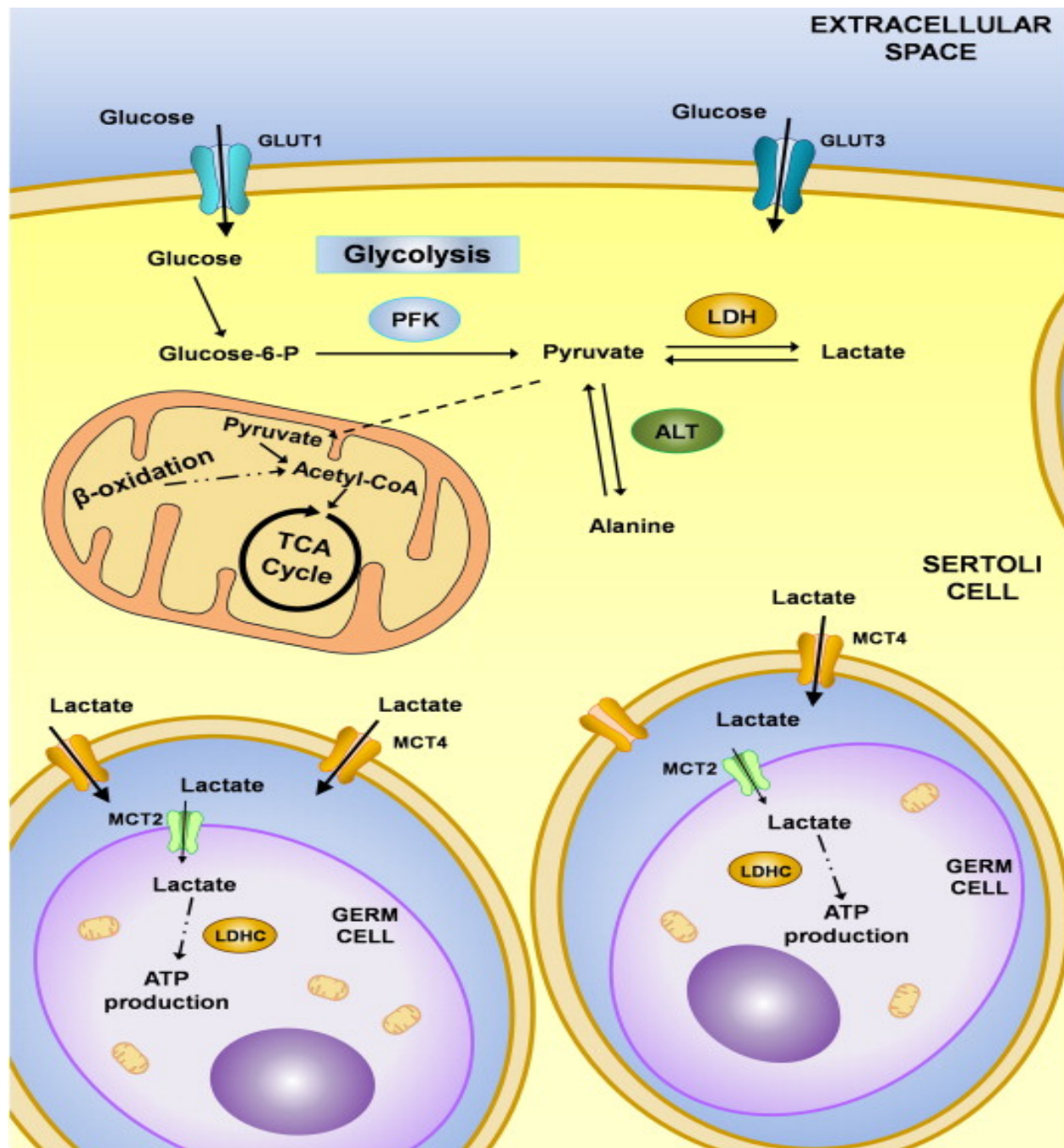
**Table 1** Main nutraceuticals used for the treatment of male infertility

Nutraceuticals	Evidence	Possible indications
Ascorbic acid (vitamin C)	Its administration positively correlates with sperm count and motility [38], and negatively with sperm DNA fragmentation index [39]	Oligo-astheno-teratozoospermia
Carnitine	Improves concentration, total sperm count, and progressive motility [40–45]	Oligo-astheno-teratozoospermia
Carotenoids (lycopene, β-carotene)	Improve sperm parameters [46]	Oligo-astheno-teratozoospermia
Coenzyme Q10	Improves sperm count, motility, and morphology [47–50]	Oligo-astheno-teratozoospermia
Myoinositol	Improves sperm progressive and total motility and the mitochondrial function; increases the number of sperm recovered after swim-up technique [51–53]	Oligo-astheno-teratozoospermia
Glutathione	Improves sperm concentration, motility, and morphology [54, 55]	Oligo-astheno-teratozoospermia
N-acetyl-cysteine	Improves sperm volume, viscosity [56, 57] and motility. Prevents oxidative DNA damage [13]	Oligo-astheno-teratozoospermia
α-Tocopherol (vitamin E)	Increases sperm motility [58]	Oligo-astheno-teratozoospermia

Fig. 1. Functions and benefits of a myo-inositol diet supplement for human health.







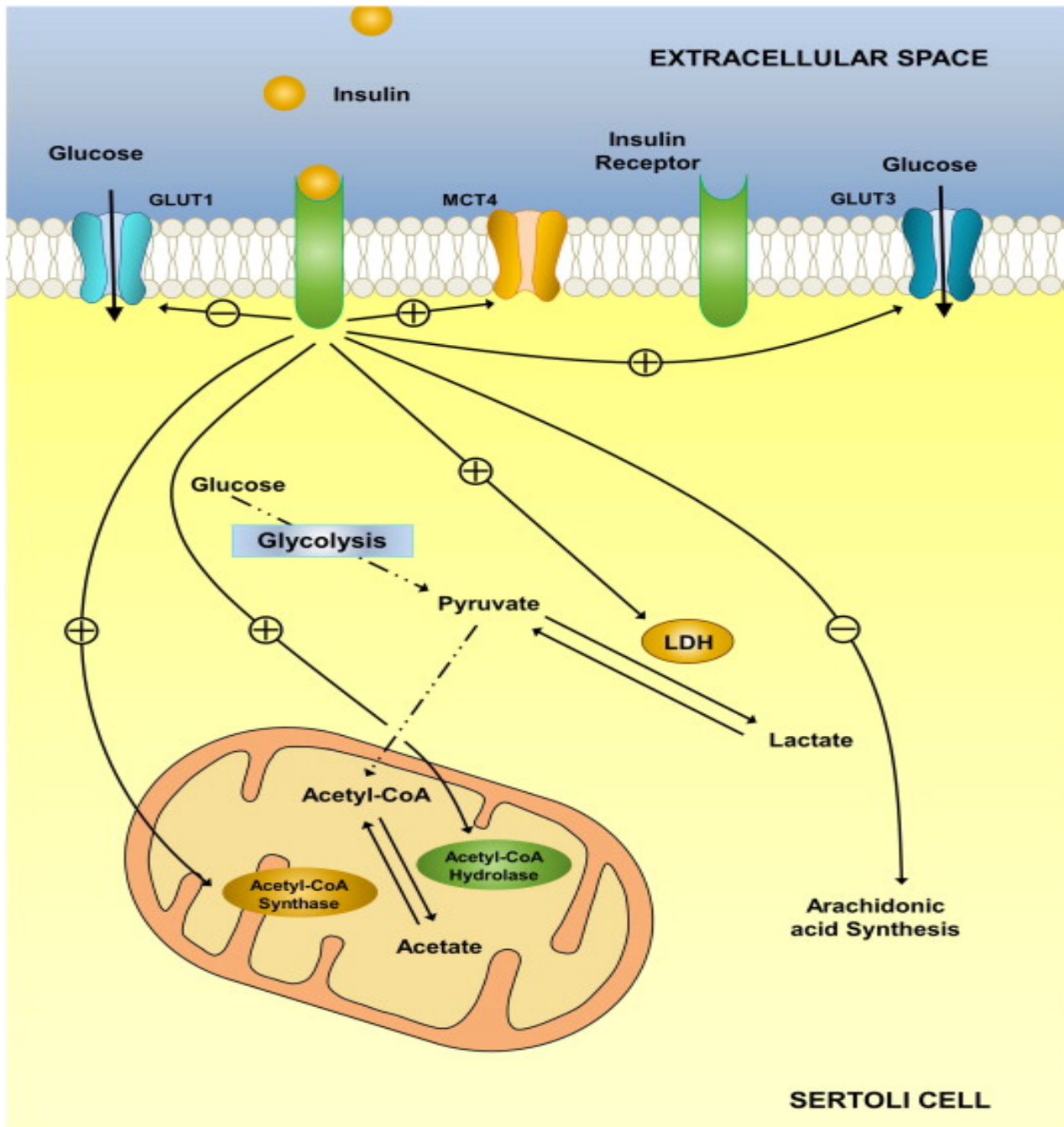
1. Glucosio penetra nelle cc di Sertoli tramite GLUT 1 e GLUT3
2. Conversione in glucosio 6 fosfato
3. Conversione in Piruvato (fosfofruttochinasi)

Piruvato (3 possibili destini metabolici)

- a. Formare Acetil CoA dentro la matrice mitocondriale;
- b. Conversione in lattato (LDH)
- c. Conversione in alanina (ALT)

Lattato

1. Trasporto attivo nel fluido intra-tubulare (MCT4)
2. Uptake cellula germinale (MCT2)



L'INSULINA DOPO  
 LEGAME CON IL  
 PROPRIO RECETTORE  
 ESERCITA EFFETTI  
 REGOLATORI POSITIVI  
 SU MCT4

# Increased insulin resistance in men with unexplained infertility

REPRODUCTIVE BIOMEDICINE ONLINE 35 (2017) 571–575

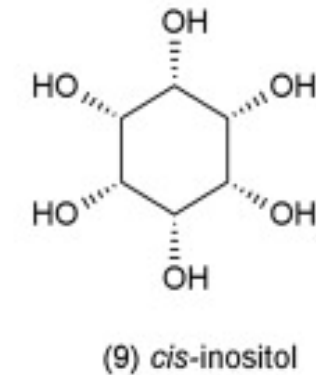
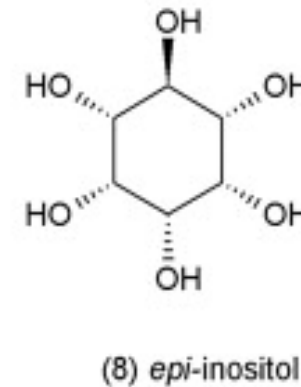
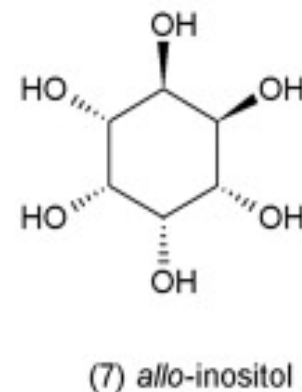
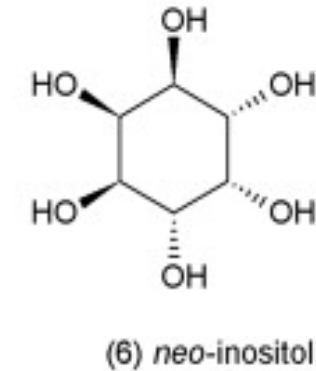
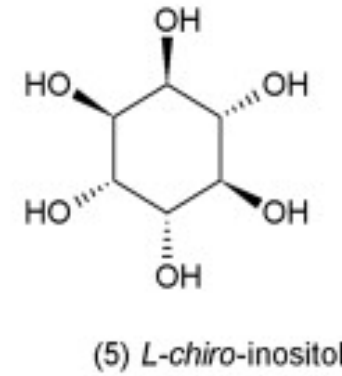
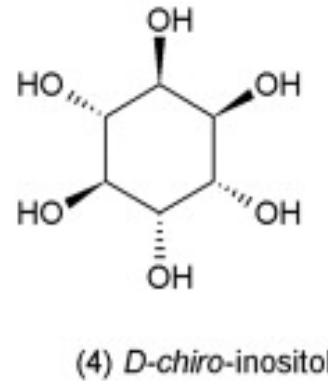
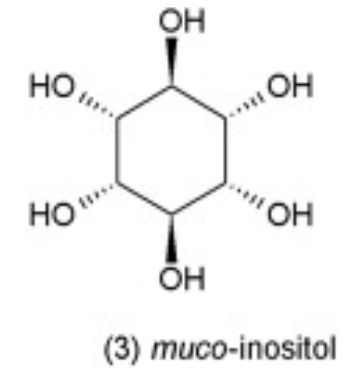
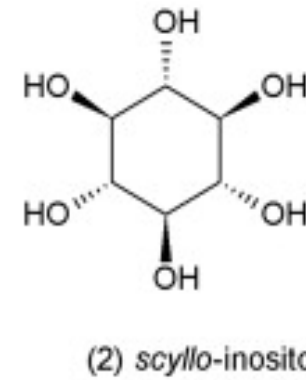
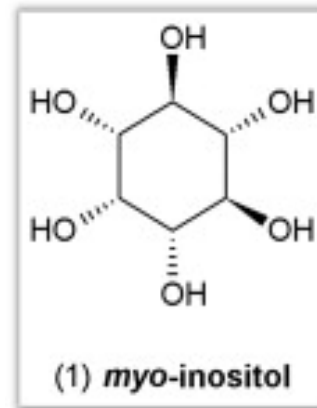
Table 1 – Participants' characteristics and study results.

	Study group (n = 160)	Control group (n = 79)	Reference ranges	P-value
Age (years)	35.12 ± 6.15	34.51 ± 5.61	–	NS
BMI	29.79 ± 3.21	29.12 ± 3.75	–	NS
Fasting serum insulin (mIU/ml)	13.67 ± 10.44	5.46 ± 3.15	0–25	<0.0001
Fasting blood glucose (mg/dl)	95.86 ± 25.22	94.41 ± 30.40	65–105	NS
Insulin resistance (inverse QUICKI)	2.99 ± 0.33	2.61 ± 0.33	–	<0.0001
Insulin resistance (HOMA)	3.07 ± 2.81	1.25 ± 0.75	–	<0.0001
Total cholesterol(mg/dl)	198.29 ± 37.52	182.45 ± 35.92	116–212	<0.05
Triglycerides(mg/dl)	142.82 ± 105.31	114.59 ± 61.42	50–150	NS
High-density lipoproteins (mg/dl)	43.15 ± 10.62	43.65 ± 15.02	40–80	NS
Low-density lipoproteins (mg/dl)	139.52 ± 106.54	140.74 ± 138.43	85–125	NS
FSH (mIU/ml)	4.71 ± 2.57	3.15 ± 1.92	1–10	<0.0001
LH (mIU/ml)	4.98 ± 2.41	3.15 ± 1.12	1.8–12	<0.0001
Prolactin (ng/ml)	12.82 ± 6.95	12.01 ± 7.96	3–15	NS
Total testosterone (ng/ml)	5.35 ± 3.02	6.62 ± 3.51	2.49–8.36	<0.001

Values presented as mean ± SD.

BMI = body mass index; NS = not statistically significant.

In vivo conversion of myoinositol to D-chiro-inositol can occur in tissues expressing the specific epimerase.





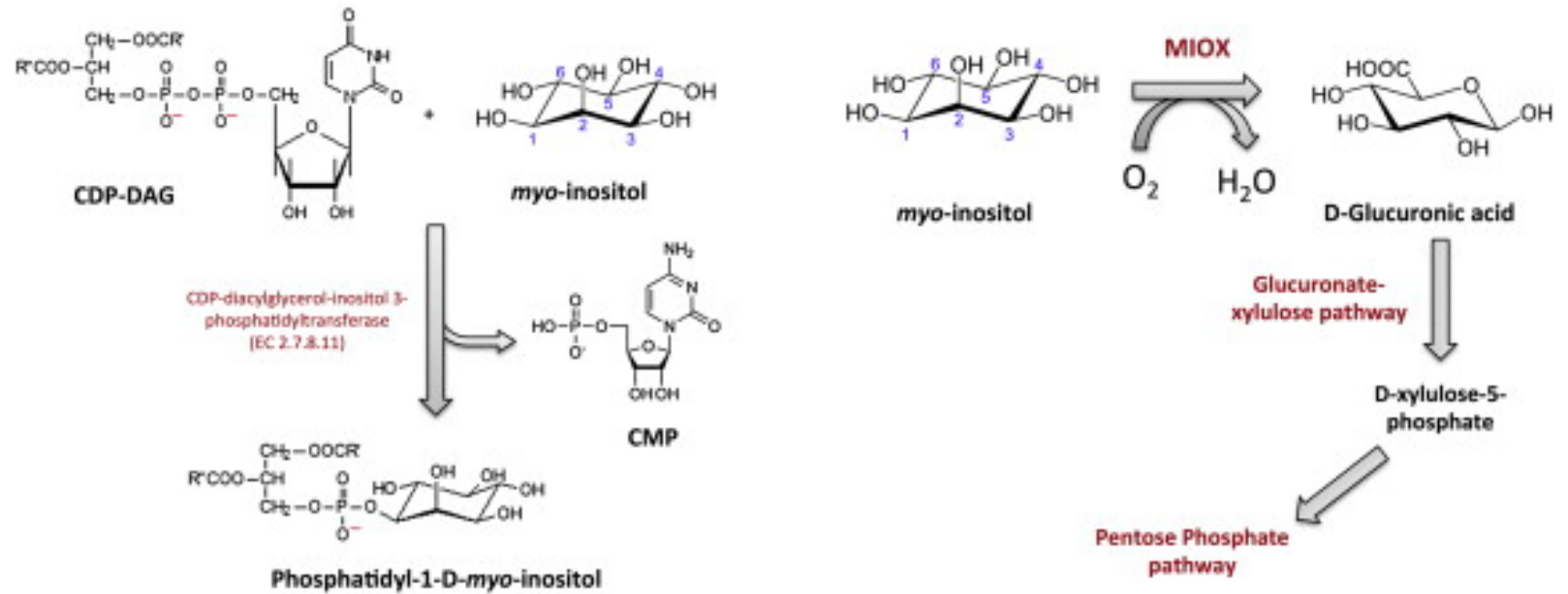
# Sintesi de novo da G6P



## MI de novo BIOSYNTHESIS from D-glucose

Defosforilazione fosfolipidi membrane

Uptake da fluido extra-cellulare (myotransporters)



## PHOSPHATIDYLINOSITOL synthesis from MI

## MI CATABOLISM in kidney

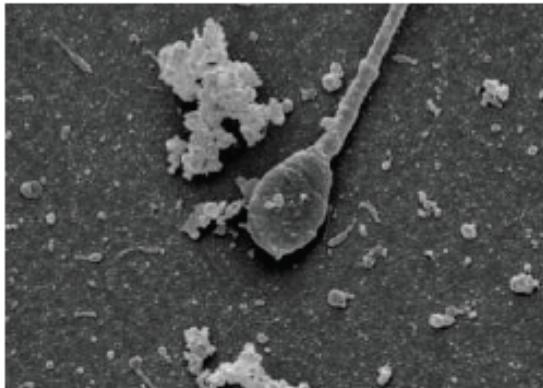
Quali evidenze ?

Esiste un paziente ideale ?

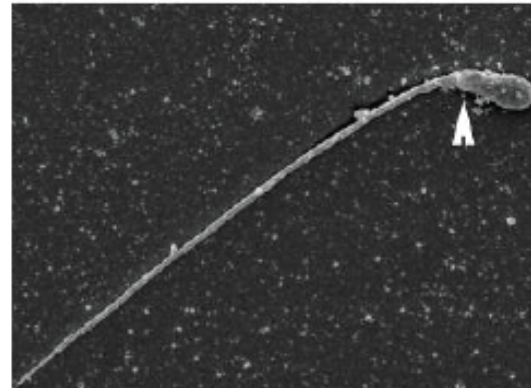
# MYO-INOSITOLO: EFFETTI IN VITRO SUL SEME

## AZIONE SU :MORFOLOGIA

**PRIMA**  
**CTR**

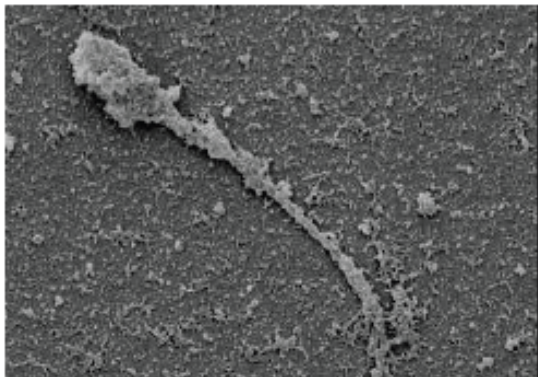


**DOPO MYO-INOSITOLO**

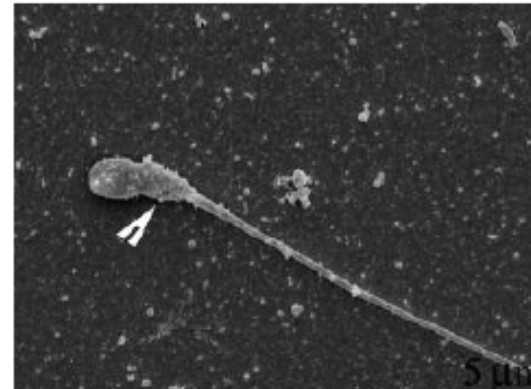


Assenza di materiale amorfo associato ad alterazioni della viscosità.

**PRIMA**  
**OAT**



**DOPO MYO-INOSITOLO**

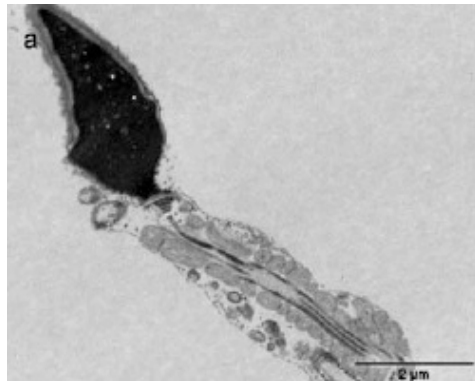


Incremento del volume della guaina mitondriale, in campioni sia sani che patologici

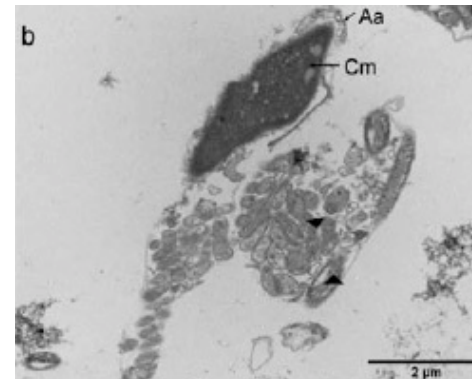
# MYO-INOSITOLO: EFFETTI IN VITRO SUL SEME

Seme di pazienti OAT incubato con Myo mostra morfologia mitocondriale più simile al seme di soggetti sani

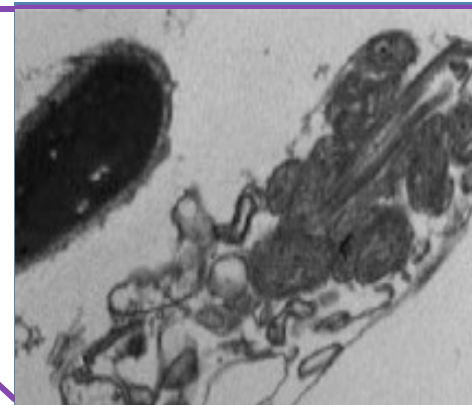
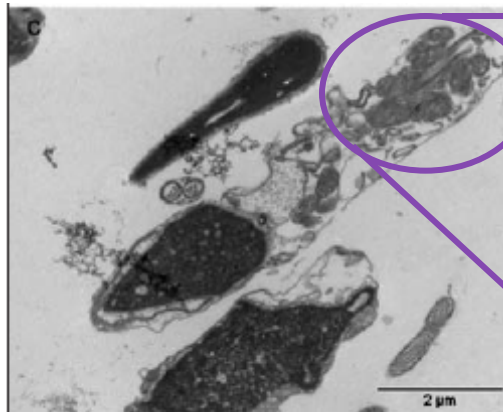
a. CONTROLLO



b. OAT



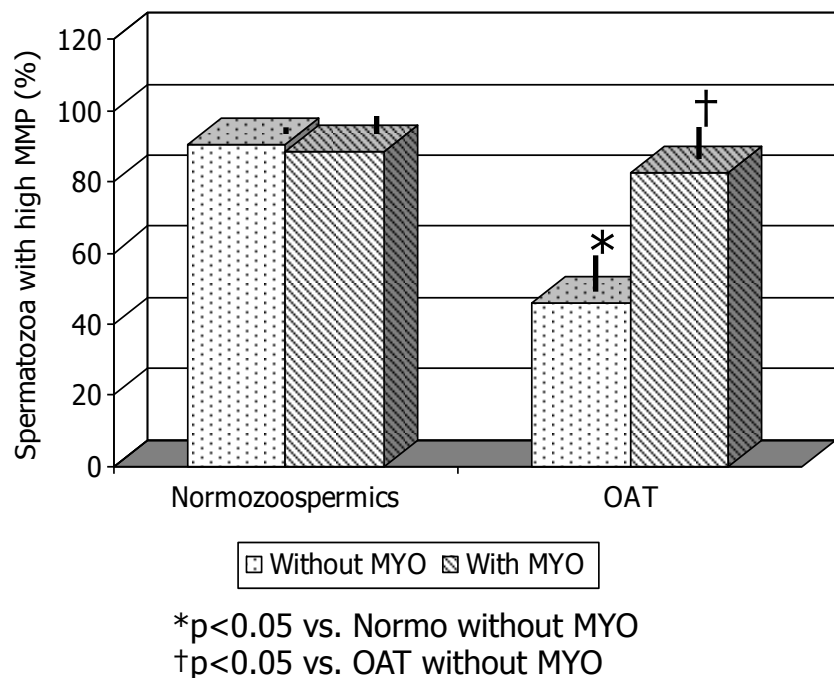
c. OAT trattato con inositolo



Microscopia TEM

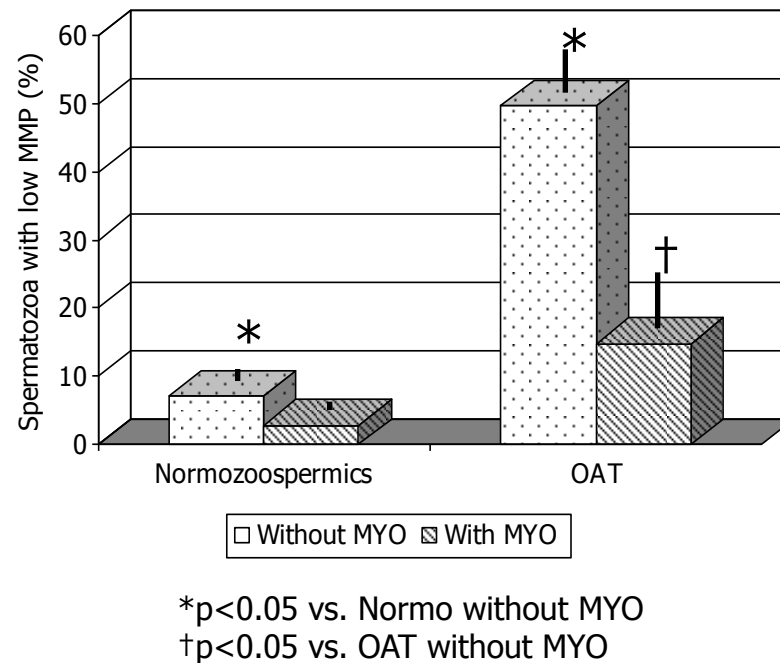
Ingrandimento  
del tratto  
intermedio di  
spermatozoo  
OAT trattato

# MYO-INOSITOLO: EFFETTI IN VITRO SUL SEME

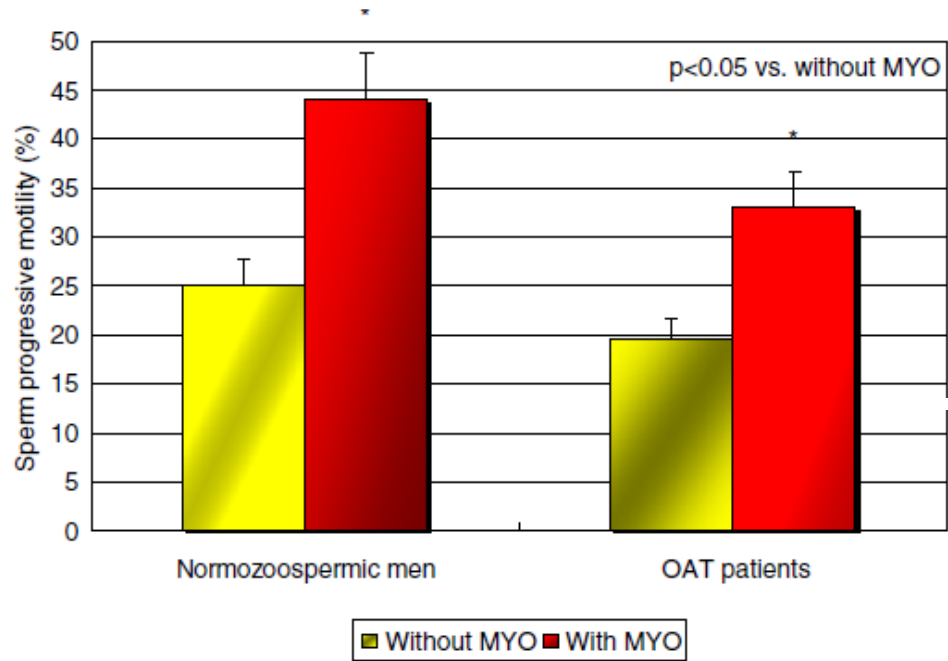


**% di spz con elevato PMM  
aumento significativo dopo  
incubazione con MYO nei pz con  
OAT**

**% di spz con basso PMM  
riduzione significativa dopo  
incubazione con MYO (normali  
e OAT)**

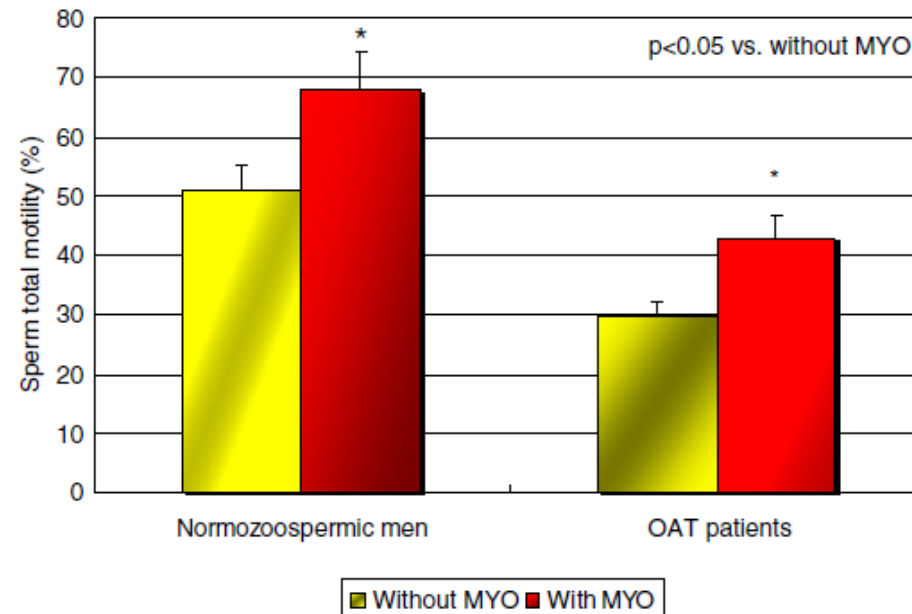


# MYO-INOSITOLO: EFFETTI IN VITRO SUL SEME



Aumento significativo della MP

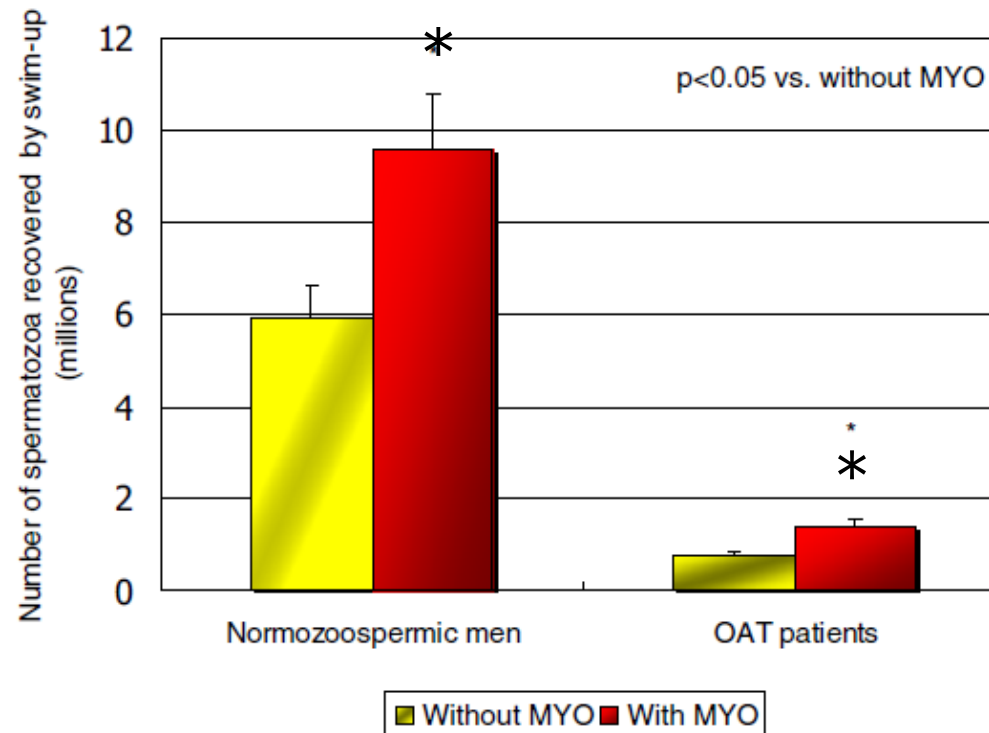
Aumento significativo della MT



# MYO-INOSITOLO: EFFETTI IN VITRO SUL SEME

Dopo swim up aumento del 70% di spz mobili progressivi dopo incubazione con MYO (nei normo)

Dopo swim up aumento del 91% di spz mobili progressivi dopo incubazione con MYO (nei pz OAT)



Esistono evidenze cliniche ?



# Myoinositol improves sperm parameters and serum reproductive hormones in patients with idiopathic infertility: a prospective double-blind randomized placebo-controlled study

<sup>1</sup>A. E. Calogero, <sup>2</sup>G. Gullo, <sup>1</sup>S. La Vignera, <sup>1</sup>R. A. Condorelli and <sup>3</sup>A. Vaiarelli

<sup>1</sup>Section of Endocrinology, Andrology and Internal Medicine, Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, University of Catania, Catania, <sup>2</sup>Dipartimento di Ostetricia Ginecologia e Medicina Interna, Università degli Studi di Messina, and <sup>3</sup>Reproductive Medicine Unit, Policlinico Universitario di Messina, Messina, Italy

## double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled trial

**Table 1** BMI, hormonal values and sperm parameters at baseline in patients treated with myoinositol or placebo

Parameters	Myoinositol (n = 98)		Placebo (n = 96)	
	Before treatment	After treatment	Before treatment	After treatment
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	26.6 ± 2.7	25.9 ± 2.5	26.8 ± 2.4	26.4 ± 2.2
LH (IU/L)	12.1 ± 2.6	8.8 ± 2.6*	12.4 ± 2.4	12.6 ± 2.4
FSH (IU/L)	16.7 ± 4.1	10.7 ± 4.1*	16.6 ± 4.1	16.8 ± 4.2
Prolactin (pmol/L)	374 ± 120	368 ± 118	361 ± 123	365 ± 121
Inhibin (ng/L)	86.0 ± 24.0	105.0 ± 28.0*	87.0 ± 25.0	88.0 ± 25.0
Testosterone (nmol/L)	15.8 ± 5.4	18.6 ± 5.6	15.6 ± 4.8	15.8 ± 4.6
Ejaculate volume (mL)	2.7 ± 1.3	2.7 ± 1.4	2.8 ± 1.4	2.7 ± 1.7
Sperm concentration (million/mL)	20.2 ± 4.6	26.4 ± 4.4*	20.4 ± 4.4	20.8 ± 4.3
Total sperm count (spermatozoa/ejaculate)	46.6 ± 12.6	57.6 ± 14.4*	47.2 ± 12.2	47.8 ± 11.2
Progressive motility (%)	22.2 ± 2.1	27.6 ± 1.8*	22.3 ± 2.6	23.3 ± 2.1
Acrosome-reacted spermatozoa (%)	34 ± 8	41 ± 11*	35 ± 8	36 ± 10

BMI, Body mass index; LH, luteinizing hormone; FSH, follicle-stimulating hormone. \**p* < 0.05 vs. after treatment with placebo.

2 g of MI and 200 µg of folic acid

folic acid alone

## Clinical Study

# Effect of Myoinositol and Antioxidants on Sperm Quality in Men with Metabolic Syndrome

TABLE 1: Metabolic and hormone profiles before and after treatment.

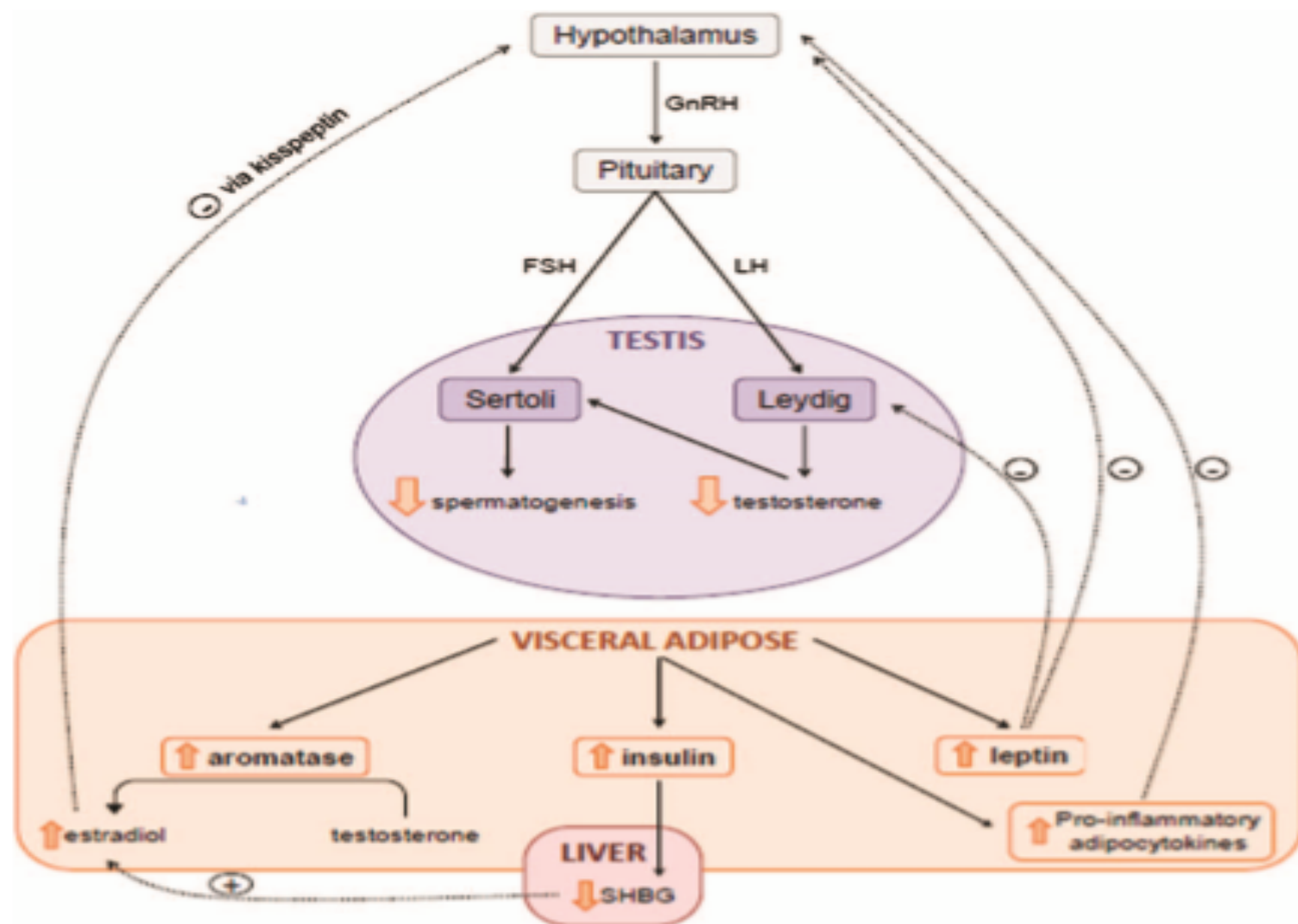
Analysis	Before	After	P value
<i>Metabolic profile</i>			
BMI (kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )	28.1 ± 3.5	27.0 ± 3.1	NS
WC (cm)	107.1 ± 4.2	105.3 ± 3.3	NS
Triglycerides (mg/dL)	175.4 ± 12.5	173.2 ± 13.4	NS
HOMA index	2.8 ± 1.2	1.6 ± 0.7	<0.001
SBP	135.3 ± 12.7	128.9 ± 11.0	NS
DBP	91.2 ± 9.2	82.6 ± 9.3	NS

TABLE 2: Semen analysis before and after treatment.

Semen parameter	Before	After	P value
Concentration (10 <sup>6</sup> /mL)	16.2 ± 3.4	20 ± 4.2	<0.001
Motility (%)	39.6 ± 6.1	51.4 ± 7.2	<0.001
Normal morphology (%) (normal)	24.9 ± 2.0	30.1 ± 2.3	<0.001

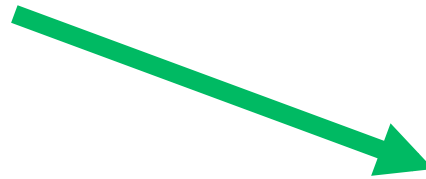
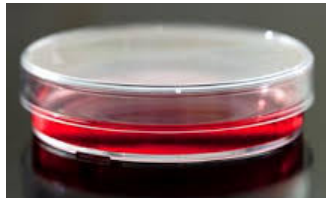
Data are mean ± standard deviation.

Hormone and metabolic profiles as well as semen parameters were evaluated in the relevant study at the beginning and after three months of therapy. The patients were treated by a dietary supplement administered twice a day containing 1 g MI, 30 mg L-carnitine, L-arginine and vitamin E, 55 µg selenium, and 200 µg folic acid (Andrositol, Lo.Li. Pharma s.r.l., Rome).



# MYO-INOSITOLO

**IN VITRO**

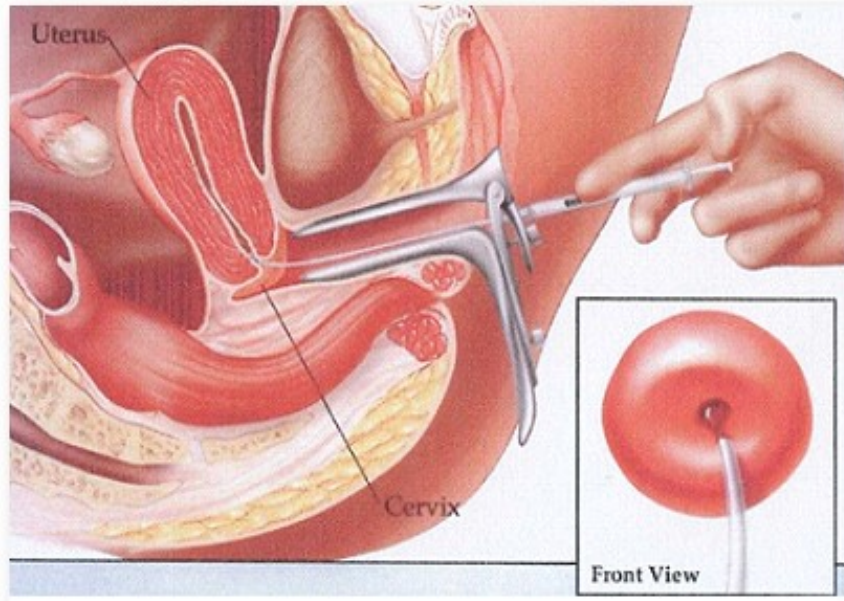


MYO-INOSITOLO  
in ovuli vaginali

**IN VIVO**

# POST-COITAL TEST

**Nasce come test diagnostico per valutare l'interazione spermatozoo-muco cervicale**



## **PROCEDURA del post-coital test:**

- introdurre in vagina uno speculum
- aspirare un campione di muco dal canale endocervicale
- depositarlo su vetrino porta-oggetto, coprirlo con vetrino copri-oggetto ed esaminarlo

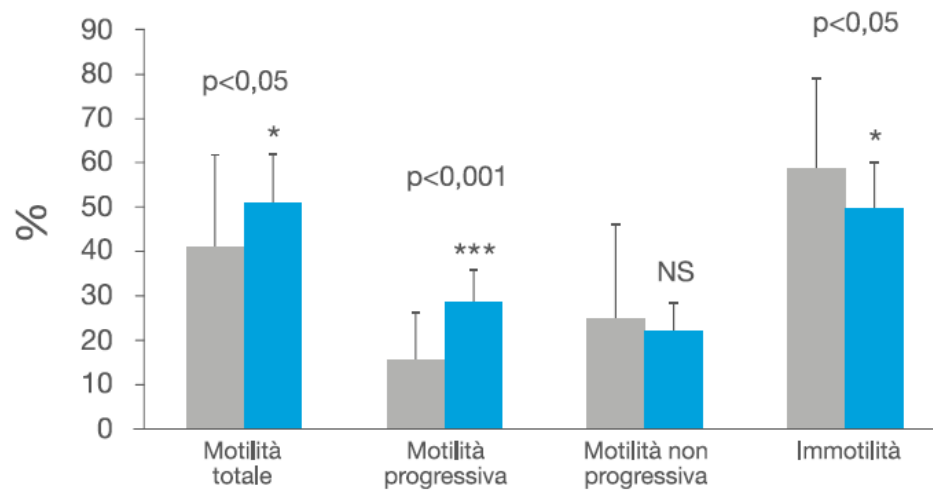
## **ANALISI:**

- Motilità spermatica
- Proprietà del muco
- pH

# RISULTATI DA POST-COITAL TEST:

## Analisi motilità spermatica

### SUL SEME



■ 1° CICLO CTRL  
■ 2° CICLO MYO-INOSITOLO

***INCREMENTO***  
*significativo della motilità  
progressiva e totale*



## POSOLOGIA

**1 ovulo a giorni alterni, preferibilmente la sera prima di coricarsi da giorno 11 in un ciclo regolare di 28 giorni**

PROGRAMMARE IL RAPPORTO SESSUALE IL GIORNO SUCCESSIVO ALLA SOMMINISTRAZIONE DELL'OVULO

**Dispositivo medico di classe I: 3 ovuli vaginali da 1 gr  
2 mg di MYO-INOSITOLO**

## Editorial – Modern approach to the infertile male: the use of andrositol® test (myo-inositol in diagnostics)

M. NORDIO



Dispositivo medico **CE**

Andrositol DGN 66x (µl)	VOLUME FINALE (ml)
15	1
30	2
45	3
75	5
150	10



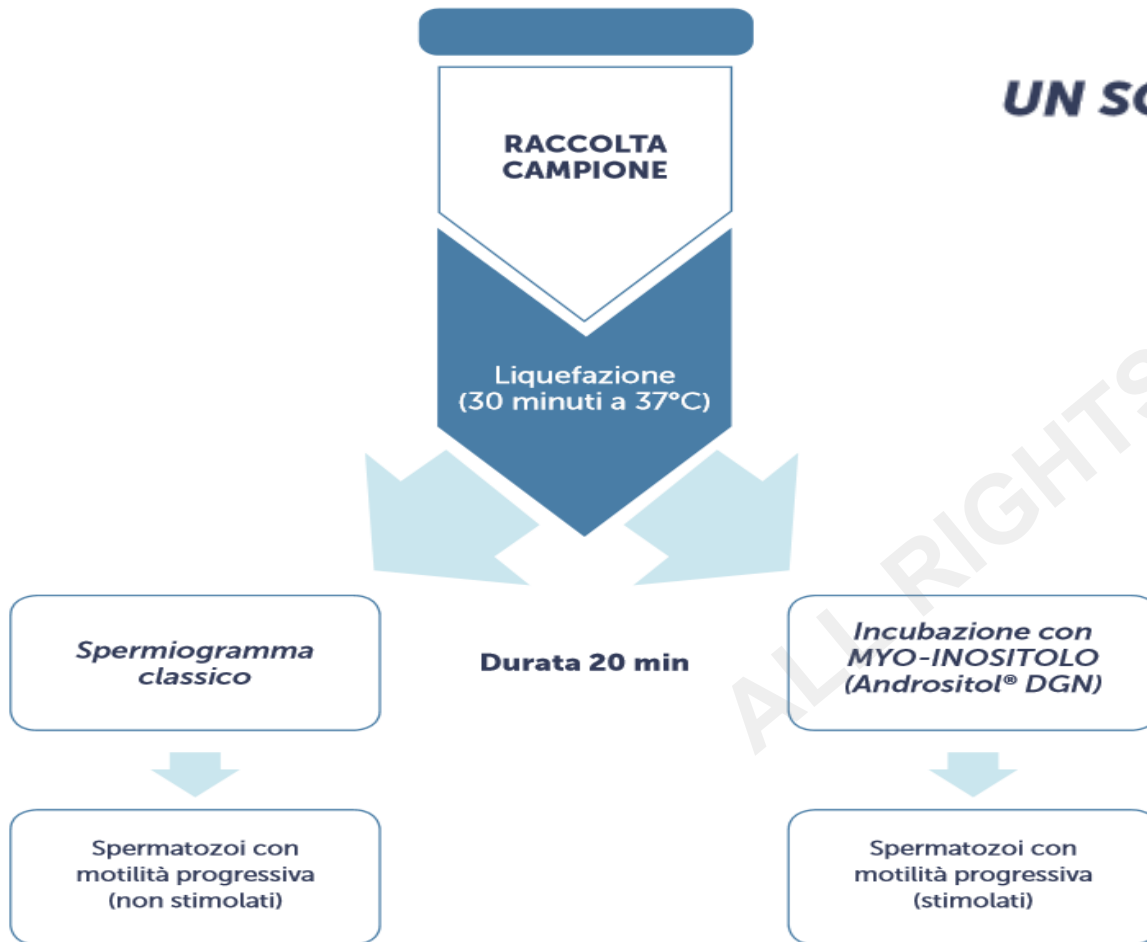
Concentrazione finale 2 mg/ml



# ANDROSITOL® Test

European patent  
N:2764361

## UN SOLO CAMPIONE PER UN'ANALISI COMPLETA



- La fiala, una volta aperta, può essere utilizzata per 15 minuti e poi va buttata
- Una volta fatta la diluizione, la molecola di inositolo è stabile anche dopo i 15 minuti
- Dopo l'aggiunta di myo-inositolo, si lascia il campione ad incubare a 37°C per 20-30 minuti

# ANDROSITOL<sup>®</sup> Test



## **ESEMPIO:**

- a. Numero spermatozoi con motilità progressiva prima del trattamento con Andrositol DGN: 60
- b. Numero spermatozoi con motilità progressiva dopo trattamento con Andrositol DGN: 90

$$\text{Incremento \%} = (b-a)/a*100$$

$$\text{Incremento \%} = (90-60)/60*100 = 50\% \text{ (Medium Responder)}$$

## **Interpretazione del risultato**

Low responder: paziente non compromesso – molti spermatozoi con alto potenziale di membrana mitocondriale;

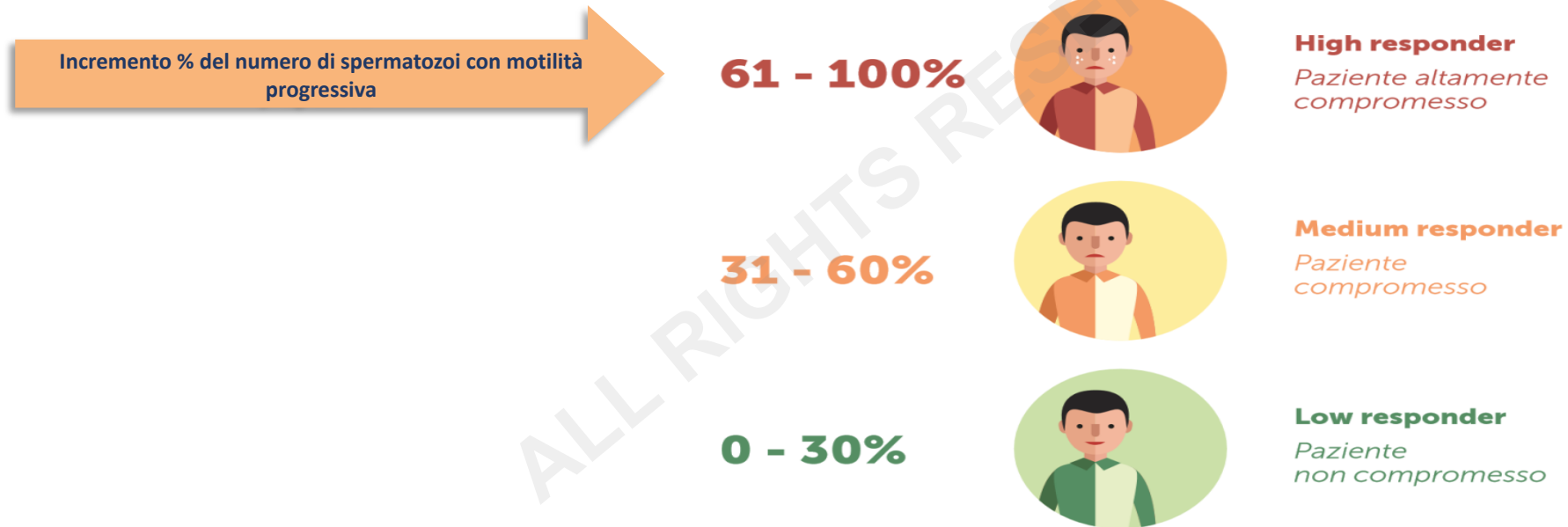
Medium responder: paziente compromesso - molti spermatozoi con basso potenziale di membrana mitocondriale;

High responder: paziente altamente compromesso - quasi tutti gli spermatozoi con basso potenziale di membrana mitocondriale.

# ANDROSITOL® Test

European patent  
N:2764361

L'ANDROSITOL® TEST sfrutta la proporzione diretta tra carenza di myo-inositolo e incremento del numero di spermatozoi con motilità progressiva, per riclassificare i liquidi seminali



Questo permette di distinguere, tra campioni identici allo spermogramma (ad es. i normospermici), quelli carenti in MYO-INOSITOLO e quindi funzionalmente e qualitativamente peggiori

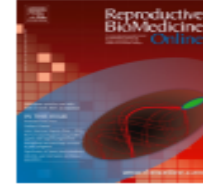
A chi suggerire MYO ?  
**(in tema di infertilità maschile)**





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www.rbmonline.com



## ARTICLE

## Prevalence of human papilloma virus infection in patients with male accessory gland infection


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G Morgia <sup>c</sup>, A Perino <sup>d</sup>, R Schillaci <sup>d</sup>, AE Calogero <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Section of Andrology, Endocrinology and Internal Medicine, Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine; <sup>b</sup> Clinical Virology Unit, A.O.U. 'Policlinico-Vittorio Emanuele', University of Catania, 95123 Catania, Italy; <sup>c</sup> Department of Urology, University of Catania, 95123 Catania, Italy; <sup>d</sup> Dipartimento di Scienze per la Promozione della Salute e Materno Infantile "G. d'Alessandro", University of Palermo, 90100 Palermo, Italy

\* Corresponding author. E-mail address: sandrolavignera@unict.it (S La Vignera).

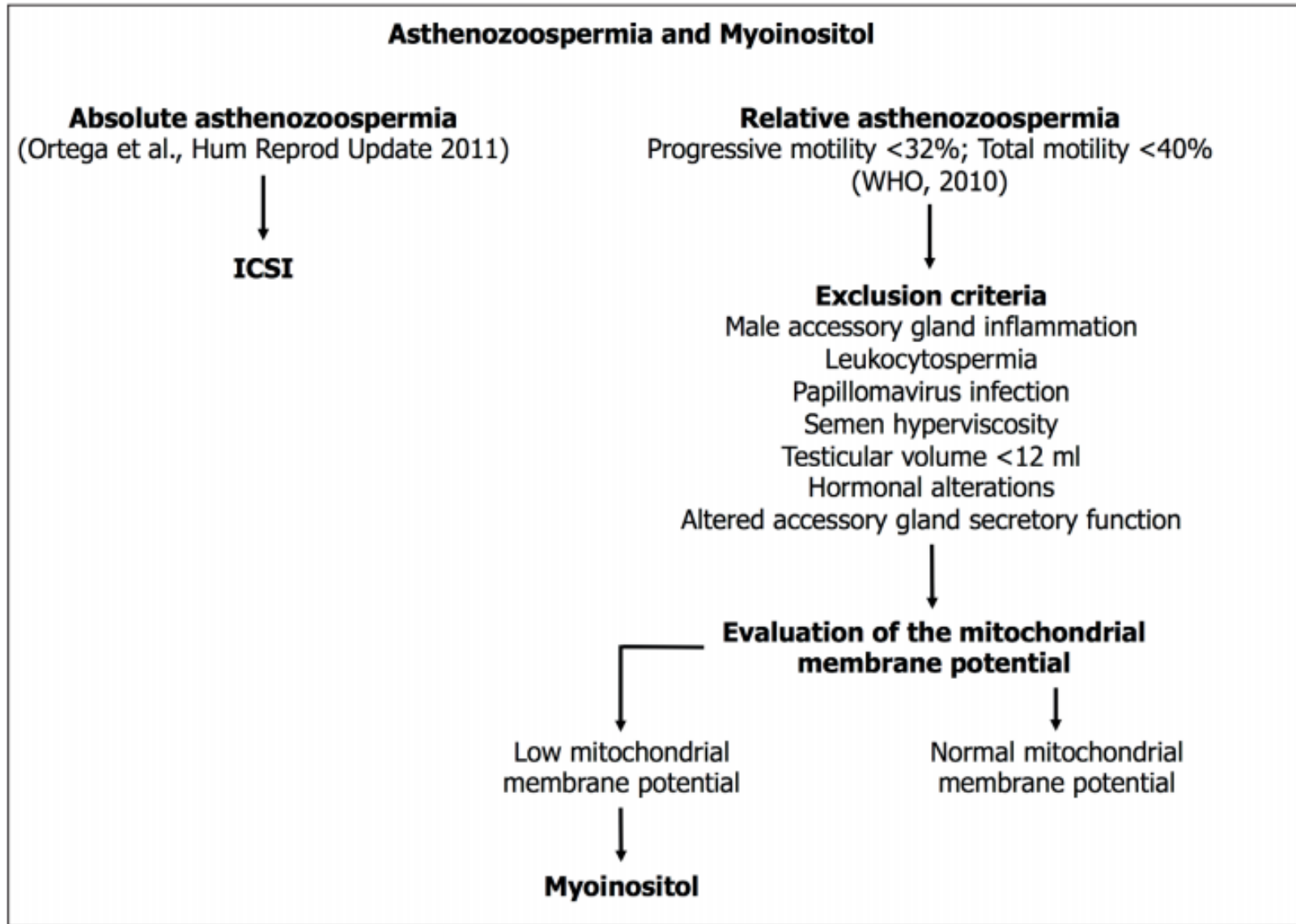


Sandro La Vignera, MD, is a specialist in Endocrinology and has a PhD in Andrology. He is currently Clinical Researcher and Assistant Professor of Endocrinology at the University of Catania, Italy. Sandro La Vignera is a Member of the European Academy of Andrology (Academician) and the Italian Society of Andrology and Sexual Medicine. He specializes in the field of male infertility.

**Abstract** The frequency of human papillomavirus (HPV) infection in the semen of patients with male accessory gland infection (MAGI) was evaluated. One hundred infertile patients with MAGI were classified into group A: patients with an inflammatory MAGI ( $n = 48$ ) and group B: patients with a microbial form ( $n = 52$ ). Healthy age-matched fertile men ( $34.0 \pm 4.0$  years) made up the control group ( $n = 20$ ). Amplification of HPV DNA was carried out by HPV-HS Bio nested polymerase chain reaction for the detection of HPV DNA sequences within the L1 ORF. **Ten patients in group A (20.8%) and 15 patients in group B (28.8%) had a HPV infection;** two controls (10.0%) had HPV infection. **Patients with MAGI had a significantly higher frequency of HPV infection compared with controls; patients with a microbial MAGI had significantly higher frequency of HPV infection compared with patients with an inflammatory form (both  $P < 0.05$ ).** Patients with MAGI and HPV had a slight, but significantly lower sperm progressive motility and normal morphology compared with patients with MAGI HPV-negative ( $P < 0.05$ ). Elevated frequency of HPV infection occurred in patients with MAGI, suggesting that HPV should be investigated in the diagnostic work-up of these patients. 

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**KEYWORDS:** HPV, MAGI, Prevalence



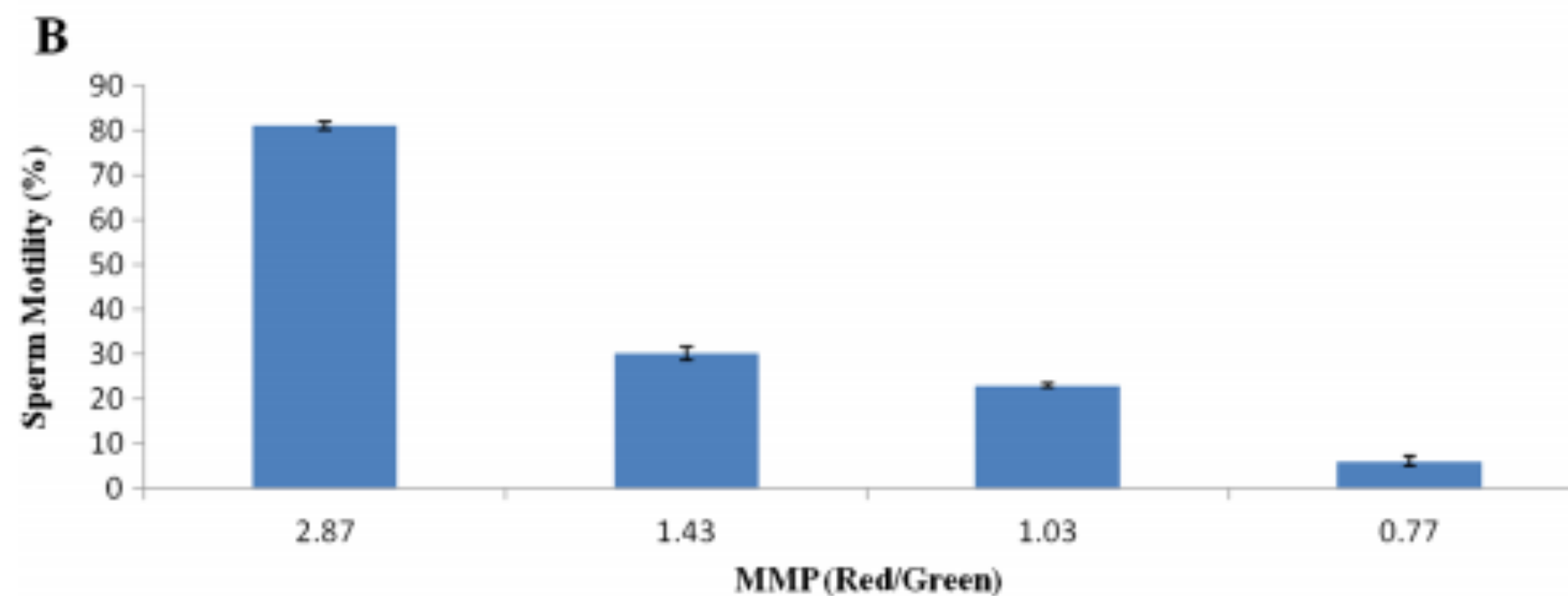
**Figure 1.** Possible use of MYO it patients with asthenozoospermia.

# Mitochondrial membrane potential (MMP) regulates sperm motility

*In Vitro Cell.Dev.Biol.—Animal* (2016) 52:953–960

DOI 10.1007/s11626-016-0061-x

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CONSENSUS STATEMENT

## The use of nutraceuticals in male sexual and reproductive disturbances: position statement from the Italian Society of Andrology and Sexual Medicine (SIAMS)

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### Fertility

#### Recommendation

1. We recommend not prescribing antioxidants for improving sperm parameters and pregnancy rate in all subjects with sperm abnormalities before a specific diagnostic workup (1 ØØØØ).
2. We suggest the use of antioxidants in patients with idiopathic infertility in the presence of documented abnormal sperm parameters and altered sperm DNA fragmentation (SDF) only after a thorough diagnostic workup (2 ØØØØ).
3. We suggest no specific antioxidants and therapeutic regimes for improving sperm parameters and pregnancy rate in patients with idiopathic infertility (2 ØØØØ).

**Table 1** Main nutraceuticals used for the treatment of male infertility

Nutraceuticals	Evidence	Possible indications
Ascorbic acid (vitamin C)	Its administration positively correlates with sperm count and motility [38], and negatively with sperm DNA fragmentation index [39]	Oligo-astheno-teratozoospermia
Carnitine	Improves concentration, total sperm count, and progressive motility [40–45]	Oligo-astheno-teratozoospermia
Carotenoids (lycopene, β-carotene)	Improve sperm parameters [46]	Oligo-astheno-teratozoospermia
Coenzyme Q10	Improves sperm count, motility, and morphology [47–50]	Oligo-astheno-teratozoospermia
Myoinositol	Improves sperm progressive and total motility and the mitochondrial function; increases the number of sperm recovered after swim-up technique [51–53]	Oligo-astheno-teratozoospermia
Glutathione	Improves sperm concentration, motility, and morphology [54, 55]	Oligo-astheno-teratozoospermia
N-acetyl-cysteine	Improves sperm volume, viscosity [56, 57] and motility. Prevents oxidative DNA damage [13]	Oligo-astheno-teratozoospermia
α-Tocopherol (vitamin E)	Increases sperm motility [58]	Oligo-astheno-teratozoospermia



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