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## INTRODUCTION

As the curve of new cases of corona virus disease (COVID-19) in New York City has flattened, the ASRM COVID-19 task force updated their guidelines to allow resumption of fertility treatments with measures to reduce the risk of infection.

In accordance with the task force's recommendations, our New York City-based practice has enacted numerous measures to limit risk to patients, staff, and physicians and resume fertility care in the epi-center of infection.

## OBJECTIVE

- 1) To evaluate a protocol of universal symptom and viral screening for SARS-CoV-2 prior to initiation of controlled ovarian stimulation (COS) among asymptomatic patients receiving care in New York City
- 2) To determine the incidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection among this patient population.

## METHODS

This is a cohort study of adult patients aged 23-48 planning to start COS with oocyte or embryo cryopreservation at our institution from April 21 to May 21, 2020.

Patients were screened via phone for signs, symptoms, of COVID-19 prior to the initiation of treatment. If screened negative, patients were scheduled for nasopharyngeal swabs at our center the following day.

A negative test result was required prior to patients' baseline ultrasound and bloodwork.

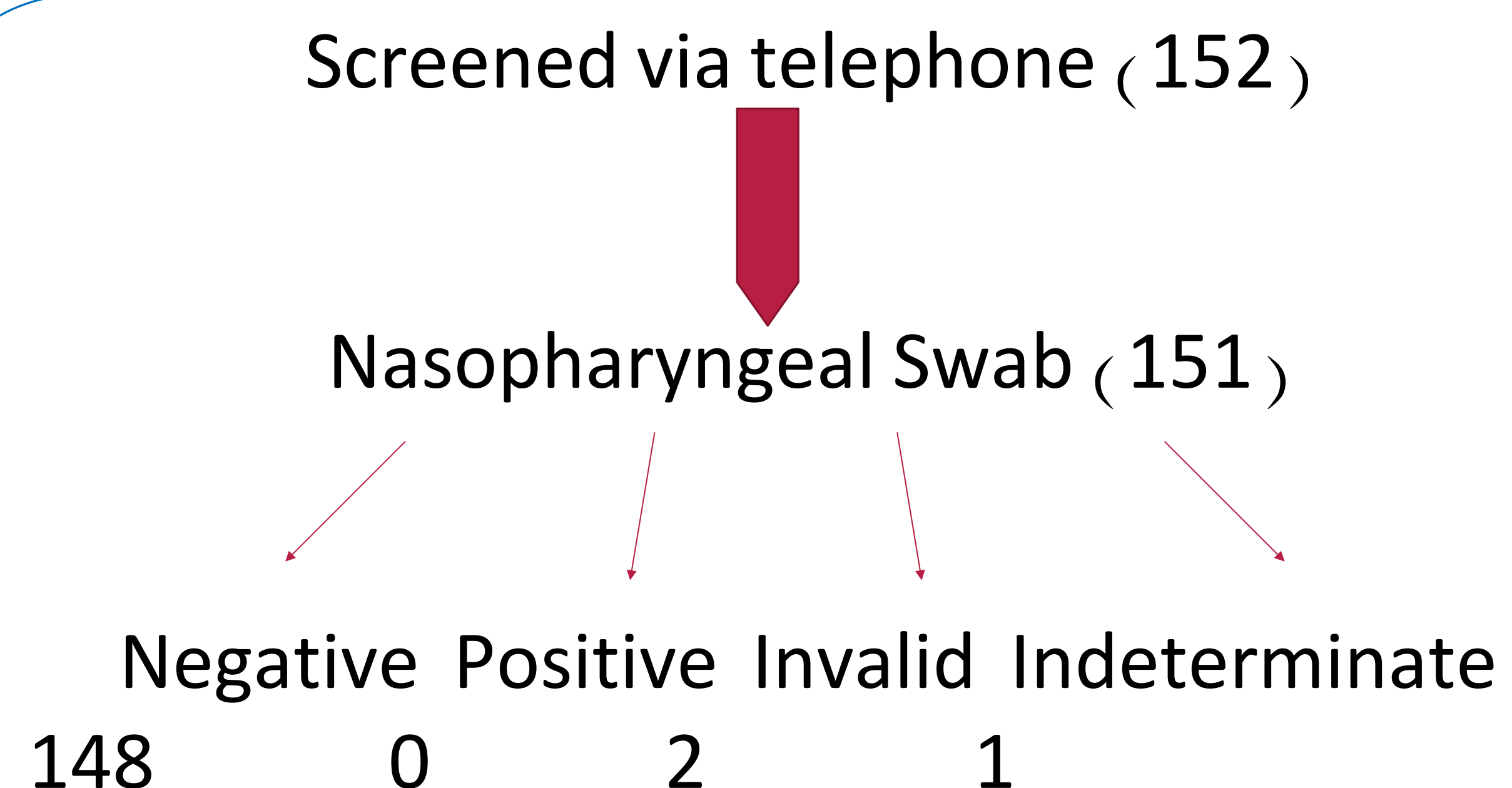
## PROTOCOL

Critical staff were divided into teams working in rotating shifts to minimize exposure. Additionally, telemedicine consultations and spacing out in-person monitoring visits during stimulations further minimized in-person contact.

Patients and all staff were screened for symptoms and temperature checks at every visit.

Procedures were also spaced out to allow adequate disinfection of our OR and to minimize patient volume in the recovery room.

## RESULTS



The study sample included 152 patients aged 23-48 years from 106 different zip codes in the tristate area.

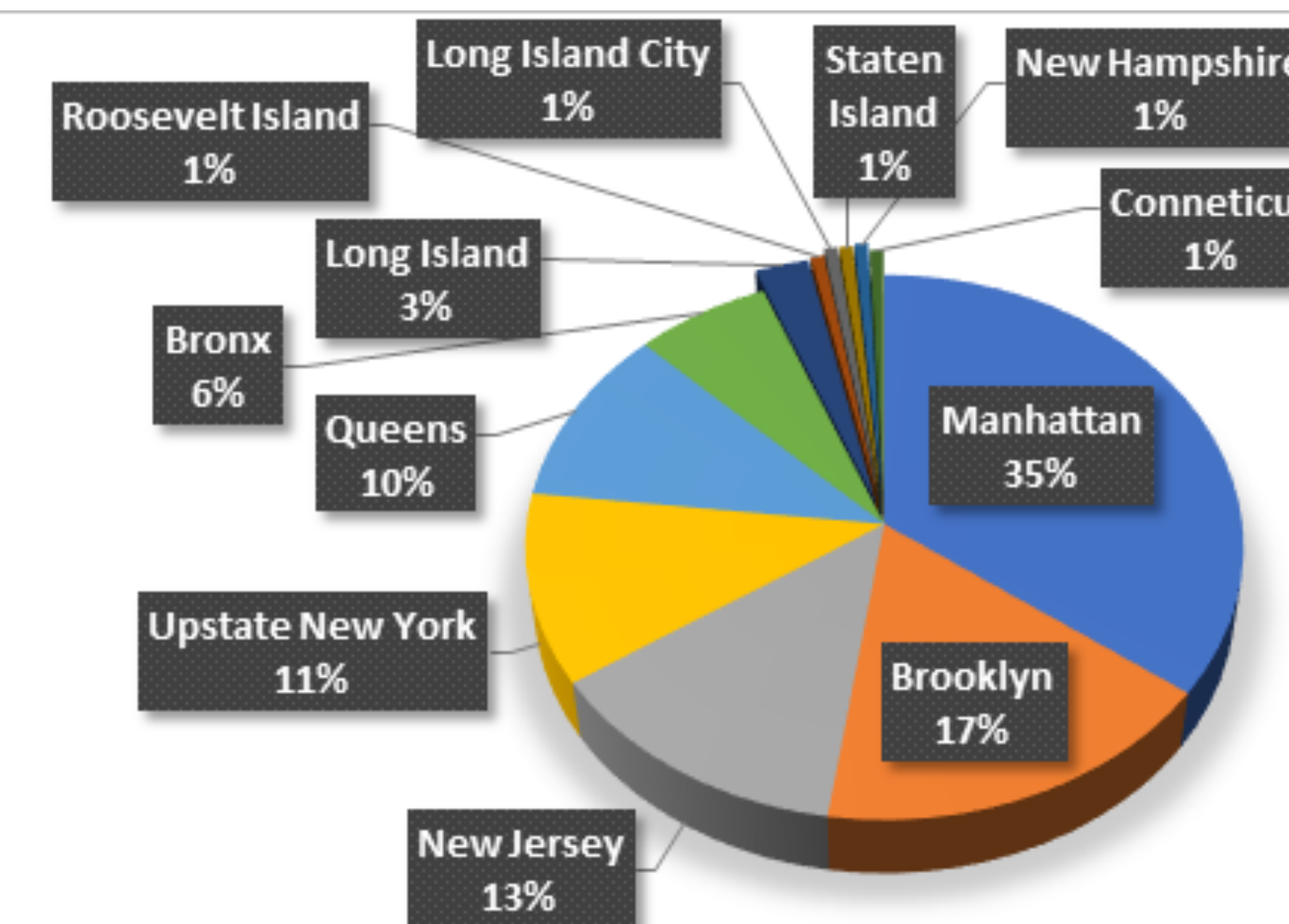
Of the 151 asymptomatic patients, 149 tested negative, 1 tested indeterminate, 2 tested invalid and 0 tested positive for SARS-CoV-2.

## TREATMENT OUTCOMES

Treatment	(N = 151)
COS Start	135
- Oocyte Retrieval	127
- Cancelled	7
Diagnostic Hysteroscopy	6
No Start	10

COS – controlled ovarian stimulation

Of the 150 patients who have tested negative, 127 have successfully undergone oocyte retrieval with no complication



## CONCLUSIONS

The incidence of SARS-COV-2 infections among asymptomatic patients seeking fertility treatment is extremely low.

We have demonstrated that fertility care can be resumed in a way to limit risk to our patients, staff and our physicians working in the epicenter of infection.