

## ACOG 2020 DISTRICT II VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING Junior Fellow Research Day Oral Presentation and iPoster Session Contests

## **RESEARCH ABSTRACT FORM**

NAME: Brittany Noel Robles

**RESEARCH TITLE: Universal Screening of COVID-19 in Asymptomatic Patients Starting Fertility Treatment in New York City** 

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**INTRODUCTION:** To evaluate a protocol of universal symptom and viral screening prior to initiation of controlled ovarian hyperstimulation among patients receiving care in New York City.

**METHODS:** Prior to initiation of controlled ovarian hyperstimulation for oocyte cryopreservation or in vitro fertilization cycles, patients were screened by phone for symptoms of COVID-19. If negative, patients were scheduled for nasopharyngeal swabs at our center the following day. Upon presentation for swab testing, patients were again screened for symptoms. Nasopharyngeal swabs were collected in accordance with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines. The swabs were tested using the Roche Cobas 6800 SARS-CoV-2 test with results delivered in the same day. A negative test result was required prior to patients' baseline ultrasound and bloodwork the following morning. This study was conducted from April 21- May 21, 2020,

**RESULTS:** The study sample included 151 asymptomatic patients. Overall, 149 (98.68%) tested negative for COVID-19, 1 (0.66%) tested indeterminate, 2 (1.32%) tested invalid, and 0 (0%) tested positive for COVID-19. Of the 149 patients who have tested negative, 81 have successfully undergone oocyte retrieval without complications. One patient screened positive for symptoms at the time of swab presentation and was instructed to return for testing in 2 weeks.

**CONCLUSIONS:** The incidence of COVID-19 infection among asymptomatic patients seeking fertility treatment in NYC is low. We have demonstrated that fertility care can safely resume in a way to limit risk to our patients, staff, and our physicians working in the epicenter of infection.