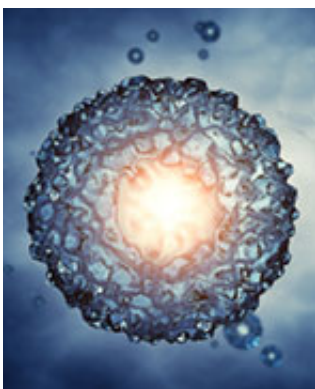


Embryo cryopreservation feasible for women with breast cancer

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(HealthDay)—For women with breast cancer, embryo cryopreservation after aromatase inhibitor treatment and ovarian stimulation preserves fertility, according to a study published online June 22 in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

Kutluk Oktay, M.D., from New York Medical College in Valhalla, and colleagues provided pregnancy and [fertility preservation](#) outcomes for 131 women with [breast cancer](#). Participants underwent ovarian stimulation and received concurrent letrozole 5 mg per day before receiving [adjuvant chemotherapy](#) and cryopreserving embryos.

The researchers found that 33 of the women (mean age, 41.5 ± 4.3

years) underwent 40 attempts to transfer embryos to their uterus (18 women) or via use of a gestation carrier (22 women) with a median of 5.25 years after embryo cryopreservation. Per embryo transfer, the overall live birth rate was similar to the U.S. national mean among similar-aged infertile women undergoing in vitro fertilization-embryo transfer (45.0 versus 38.2; $P = 0.2$). Overall, 38.8 percent of the 18 pregnancies were twins, with no higher-order pregnancies. After a mean follow-up of 40.4 ± 26.4 months, no fetal anomalies or malformations were reported. Seventeen of the 33 women had one or more children, with a fertility preservation rate of 51.5 percent.

"Embryo cryopreservation after [ovarian stimulation](#) with the letrozole and follicle-stimulating hormone protocol preserves fertility in women with breast cancer and results in pregnancy rates comparable to those expected in a noncancer population undergoing in vitro fertilization," the authors write.

More information: [Abstract](#)

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