



Middle East Fertility Society

## Middle East Fertility Society Journal

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### BOOK REVIEW

**The Fallopian Tube, Gautam N. Allahbadia, Ertan Saridogan, Ovrang Djahanbakhch (Eds.). Foreword by Ivo Brosens. Anshan Ltd. (2009). p. 723**

The editors describe the fallopian tube as being an organ that is by far the most immunologically privileged, physiologically and architecturally efficient, and chronologically coordinated in initiating the important task of procreation. They then pose an important question – Is ART always justified from a clinical, financial and, psychological perspective?

They then proceed in this book to offer “rational, clinically decisive and thought-provoking answers” to this and additional questions that one faces in clinical practice. To do this they have divided the book into 10 sections including anatomy and physiology of the fallopian tube, imaging techniques for assessing the fallopian tube, tubal infertility, non-tubal infertility, assisted reproductive technology, endometriosis, ectopic pregnancy, infection and the fallopian tube, fallopian tube carcinoma, the fallopian and fertility control and finally advances and recent trends.

This exhaustive review is undertaken in the form of sixty-nine chapters contributed by more than a hundred experts from all over the world.

Basic science topics covered include anatomy, embryology and gamete and embryo transport. Also included are hormonal control of the fallopian tube, estrogen and progesterone receptors and their potential roles in female reproduction, role of ovarian steroids, interleukins, activins, cytokines and growth factors.

The imaging section includes chapters on the use of X-rays, ultrasound and endoscopy. Of special interest is a detailed

description of the “Sion Test” (sonosalpingography), which was originally proposed by Dr. Allahbadia as a screening technique during an infertility work up.

The clinical chapters cover varied topics including tubal catheterization, tubal surgery and no less than four chapters on the management of hydrosalpinx. The chapter on fallopian tube sperm perfusion for non-tubal infertility gives an update on the limited success of a technique that was initially reported to have high pregnancy rates.

The rest of the book is devoted to assisted reproductive technology, endometriosis, ectopic pregnancy, infections, carcinoma and fertility control. I would like to especially mention the chapter on “Modern Management of the Ischemic Black-blue Twisted Adnexa”. The authors discuss the merits of conservative management of adnexal torsion. Following their advice would result in the prevention of several unnecessary salpingo-oophorectomies!

This excellent book is comprehensive and offers a thorough review of all aspects of the fallopian tube. It will be of interest to medical students, residents, fellows as well as practicing physicians.

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