

## Are percentages of day 5 transfers that result in live births affected by the number of embryos transferred for women who have more embryos available than they choose to transfer?

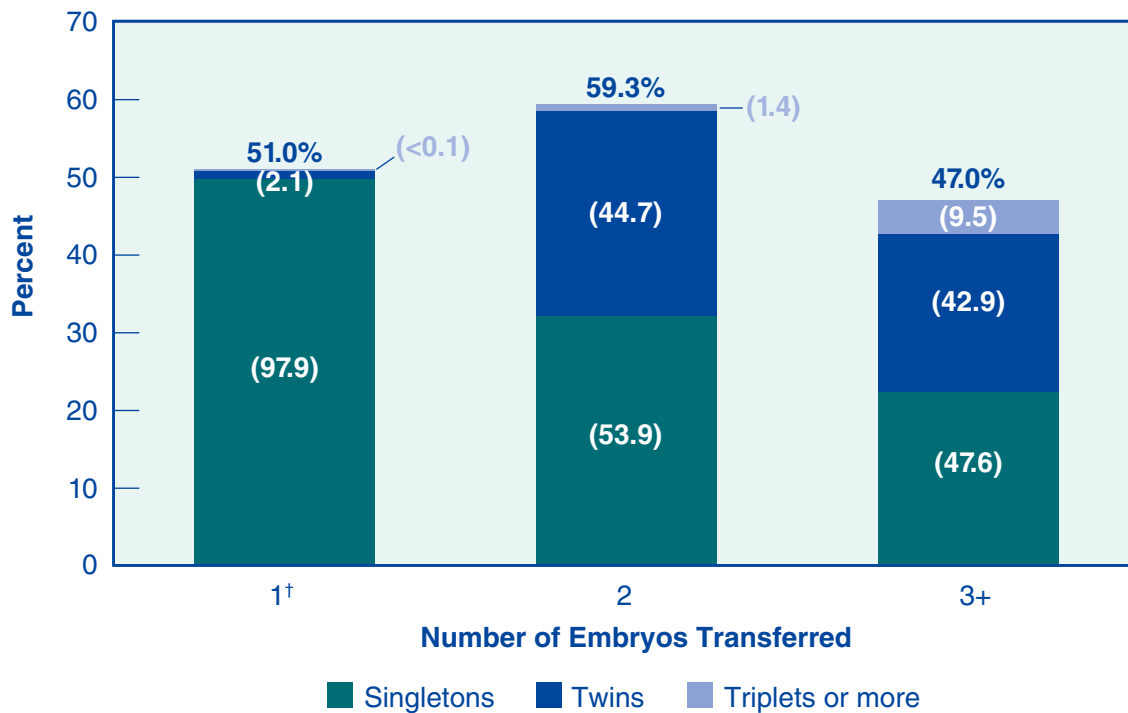
As shown in Figure 32 (page 38), the transfer of fresh nondonor embryos on day 5 resulted in a higher percentage of multiple-infant births compared with embryos transferred on day 3. Figure 33 shows the relationship between the number of embryos transferred, the percentage of transfers resulting in live births, and the percentage of multiple-infant births for day 5 transfers among women who were younger than age 35 and set aside extra embryos for future cycles rather than transfer all available embryos at one time.

In 2012, the percentage of transfers resulting in live births was the highest (about 59%) when two embryos were transferred; however, the proportion of live births that were multiples (twins or more)—which present a higher risk of poor health outcomes—was about 46%. The percentage of live births that were higher-order multiples (triplets or more) was much higher when three or more embryos were transferred on day 5 (approximately 10%) than when two embryos were transferred on day 5 (approximately 1%).

If one measures success as the percentage of transfers resulting in singleton live births, the highest percentage (51%) resulted from the transfer of a single embryo on day 5.

**Figure 33**

Percentages of Day 5 Transfers Using Fresh Nondonor Eggs or Embryos That Resulted in Live Births and Distribution of Number of Infants Born Among Women Younger Than Age 35 Who Set Aside Extra Embryos for Future Use, by Number of Embryos Transferred,\* 2012



\* Percentages of live births that were singletons, twins, and triplets or more are in parentheses. Cycles using GIFT or ZIFT are excluded. Note: In rare cases a single embryo may divide and thus produce multiple-infant births. For this reason, a small percentage of twins and triplets or more resulted from a single embryo transfer, and a small percentage of triplets or more resulted when two embryos were transferred.

<sup>†</sup> Total does not equal 100% due to rounding.