

Is the use of ICSI increasing?

ICSI was originally developed for use in ART cycles to improve fertilization rates when severe male factor infertility was the indication for using ART. Today, this procedure is widely used even without a reported diagnosis of male factor infertility.

Figure 46 shows the number of ART cycles performed using ICSI from 2003 through 2012. Overall, the number of ART cycles with ICSI procedures continued to increase for all fresh cycles. During the past 10 years, the number of fresh nondonor cycles performed with ICSI increased more than 30%, from 50,872 in 2003 to 67,662 in 2012. The number of fresh donor cycles with ICSI increased almost 50%, from 5,565 to 8,245 during the same period.

Information on use of ICSI is not consistently collected across clinics for ART cycles using frozen embryos. The number of frozen cycles (with or without ICSI) more than doubled, from 17,517 in 2003 to 38,150 in 2012 for nondonor cycles, and almost doubled from 4,464 to 8,893 for donor cycles during the same period.

Figure 46

Numbers of ICSI Procedures Performed, by Type of ART Cycle, 2003–2012

