

Has the number of embryos transferred changed in fresh nondonor transfers for women younger than age 35 who have more embryos available than they choose to transfer?

As shown in Figure 50 (page 56), the number of embryos transferred in fresh nondonor transfers has decreased during the past 10 years. Figure 51 shows the change over time in the number of embryos transferred for nondonor transfers in which the woman was younger than age 35 and chose to set aside some embryos for future cycles rather than transfer all available embryos at one time. Previous research suggests that the number of embryos available for an ART cycle is important in predicting success. Younger women also tend to have higher percentages of ART cycles that result in pregnancies and live births (see Figure 14, page 20).

Overall, the number of embryos transferred decreased among patients younger than age 35 who chose to transfer fewer embryos than were available. In 2003, approximately 7% of transfers involved the transfer of four or more embryos; 29%, three embryos; 62%, two embryos; and 2%, one embryo. By 2012, four or more embryos were transferred in less than 1% of transfers, three in 4% of transfers, two in 70% of transfers, and one in 26% of transfers.

Figure 51

Percentages of Fresh Nondonor Transfers of One, Two, Three, or Four or More Embryos Among Women Younger Than Age 35 Who Set Aside Extra Embryos for Future Use, 2003–2012



* Totals do not equal 100% due to rounding.