

2nd International Conference on Obesity and Weight Loss

October 15-16, 2018 Amsterdam, Netherlands

Obesity: A Worldwide Disease: The Impact on Fertility and General Health

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Obesity is a common problem among women of reproductive age. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), if the body mass index (BMI) equals to or is greater than 25 kg/m², it is considered overweight, whereas if the BMI equals to or is greater than 30 kg/m², it is considered obesity. Obesity plays a significant role in reproductive disorders, particularly in women. It is associated with anovulation, menstrual disorders, infertility, difficulties in assisted reproduction, miscarriage, and adverse pregnancy outcomes. Moreover it brings out many problems such as social, psychological, demographic, and health problems. It is related to increased health risks such as diabetes mellitus, hypertension, coronary heart disease and is linked to various malignancies, particularly endometrium, breast, and colon cancers. Obesity is a complex disease resulting from the interactions of a wide variety of hereditary and environmental factors. The combined progress in quantitative genetics, genomics and bioinformatics has contributed to a better understanding of the genetic and molecular basis of obesity. Moreover, environmental factors can affect pregnancy and may cause epigenetic changes in the fetus leading to obesity and its complication in the later life. The new concepts of the etiology of obesity, its impact on fertility and general health will be briefly discussed.

Biography:

Dr. Adrian Ellenbogen, Clinical Ass. Professor in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Rappaport School of Medicine, Technion Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel, Founder and Director (retired) of in vitro fertilization unit at Hillel Yaffe Medical Center, Hadera, Israel. Fertility Advisor and Head- Fertility Clinic, Meuheded Female Health Center, Bnai-Brack, Israel, Director of the postgraduate course in Obstetrics Gynecology and Infertility, Rappaport School of Medicine, Technion- Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel. He is a Member of many international (ASRM, ESHRE, ISMAAR, ISIVF, ISGE) and national societies (Israeli Fertility Association, Israeli Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology). Editorial Board Member of the Journal of Reproduction System & Sexual Disorders.

Reviewer: Fertility and Sterility, the Journal of Reproduction System & Sexual Disorders, Harefuah, IVF Lite, Dr. Ellenbogen presented more than 110 lectures in different international and national scientific meetings and published many peer review papers in top rated scientific journals.

Received 2003 Israeli Ministry of Health and Israeli Civil Service Commission Award for Excellency in labor.

Receives 2012 and 2013, 2014 and 2015 Star Award of American Society of Reproductive Medicine.