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## JOURNAL ARTICLE

# A modified and improved assay for sperm amidase activity

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An assay for sperm amidase activity has been modified so that many samples can be measured rapidly, making it more suitable for use in a clinical setting. The modified assay gave the same results ( $P$  greater than 0.05) as its lengthier parent assay (Kennedy et al, 1989). The measured enzyme activity was proportional to the number of sperm assayed over the range tested ( $3.5 \times 10^5$  to  $2.1 \times 10^6$  sperm). The within-assay coefficient of variation was  $7.8 \pm 1.8\%$  (average  $\pm$  SE,  $n = 12$ ), and the between-assay coefficient of variation was  $7.2 \pm 1.2\%$  ( $n = 3$ ). The sensitivity was 7.6 microIU/well.

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