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JOURNAL ARTICLE

Effect of sperm-associated antibodies on the acrosomal status of human sperm

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The acrosomal status of human sperm was assessed by the specific binding of *Pisum sativum* lectin to the acrosomal matrix.

Immunoglobulin G (IgG) fractions of plasmas that were positive for IgG antisperm antibodies inhibited acrosomal loss, initiated acrosomal loss, or had no effect on acrosomal loss. Two of five sperm samples associated in vitro with only IgG, zero of one sample associated with only sperm-associated immunoglobulin A (IgA), and six of eight samples associated with both IgA and IgG underwent acrosomal loss prior to exposure to calcium ionophore. Two sperm samples associated with IgG or IgA or both were inhibited from undergoing acrosome loss after exposure to calcium ionophore. None of the seven antibody-negative sperm samples underwent an increased spontaneous acrosomal loss or were inhibited from undergoing acrosomal loss after exposure to calcium ionophore.

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