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A "miniacrosome" sperm defect causing infertility in two brothers

B. Baccetti, A. G. Burrini, G. Collodel, P. Piomboni and T. Renieri Institute of General Biology, University of Siena, Italy.

A sperm defect causing infertility in two brothers is described. The malformation, named the "miniacrosome sperm defect," occurs in the total sperm population. It involves both the nuclei, which have a roundish apex, and the acrosomes, which are small, located in an apical position on the top of the nucleus, and sometimes ring-shaped. The midpiece and tail segments are normal, and the sperm are perfectly motile but fail to fertilize zona-free hamster ova in vitro. In

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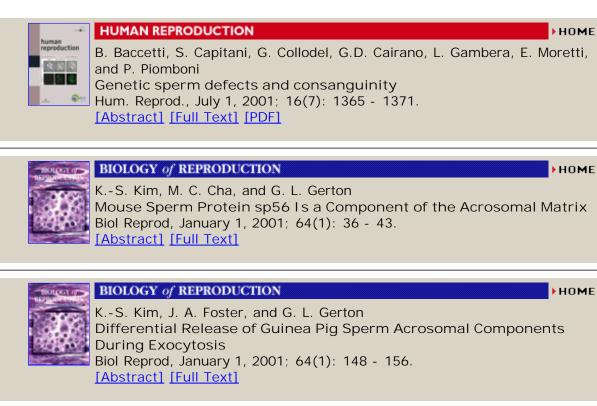
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