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妊孕性温存療法を実施した乳癌患者の実態調査及び着床前遺伝学的検査に対する意識調査
A Survey on Attitudes Toward PGT-M Among Breast Cancer Patients Who Underwent
Fertility Preservation

小西 晴久¹⁾ 庵前美智子¹⁾ 門上 大祐¹⁾ 中岡 義晴¹⁾ 福田 愛作²⁾ 森本 義晴³⁾

¹⁾ IVF なんばクリニック

²⁾ IVF 大阪クリニック

³⁾ HORAC グランフロント大阪クリニック

Background:

Preimplantation genetic testing for monogenic disorders (PGT-M) enables the transfer of embryos free from pathogenic variants. In Western countries, PGT-M for hereditary cancer syndromes is ethically accepted as part of reproductive autonomy. However, in Japan, no PGT-M cases for hereditary breast and ovarian cancer have been approved, likely due to differing ethical and medical frameworks. To anticipate future demand, we conducted a survey among breast cancer patients who underwent fertility preservation to evaluate their awareness and attitudes toward PGT-M.

Methods:

We surveyed 264 breast cancer patients who received fertility preservation between 2014 and 2023 at three IVF JAPAN Group clinics. 161 responses were collected (response rate: 61%). The survey investigated BRCA1/2 testing status and attitudes toward PGT-M.

Results:

Among respondents, 54% had undergone *BRCA1/2* testing, with 14% identified as variant carriers. In total, 52% expressed a desire to undergo PGT-M. The most commonly cited benefit was to avoid having their child experience the same cancer treatment (74%). Additional perceived benefits included emotional stability regarding pregnancy and parenting (50%) and the ability to select unaffected embryos (38%). Concerns included financial burden (64%), possible embryo damage during testing (49%), residual cancer risk (39%), doubts about test accuracy (38%) , and ethical discomfort with embryo selection (26%).

Conclusion:

These findings underscore the need to enhance genetic counseling and reproductive medical systems in Japan.