

MOTIVATIONS AND PERCEIVED BARRIER TO CARE IN WOMEN SEEKING INFORMATION REGARDING ELECTIVE OOCYTE CRYOPRESERVATION (EOC)

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INTRODUCTION

- Interest in EOC is growing
- Limited data exists on why women consider EOC and what prevents them from pursuing it

OBJECTIVES

- The primary objective of this study is to evaluate and characterize stated motivations and barriers to care in women seeking information on EOC

METHODS

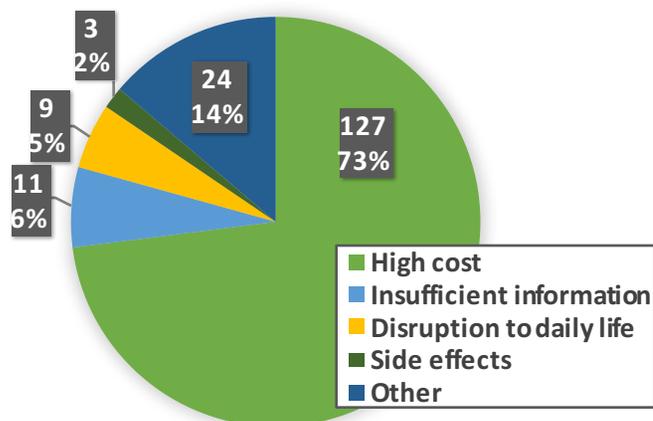
- Retrospective cohort study
- From December 2016 - March 2018, monthly public educational sessions regarding EOC were hosted by Extend Fertility Medical Practice, a large single-center oocyte cryopreservation program offering a cost-conscious EOC model
- Following the session, attendees were given an optional feedback form
- Respondents were asked for session feedback, plans regarding EOC, motivation for considering EOC, and primary concern holding them back from EOC
- Free text responses were collected and characterized
- Associations were compared using X2 and student's t-test

REFERENCES

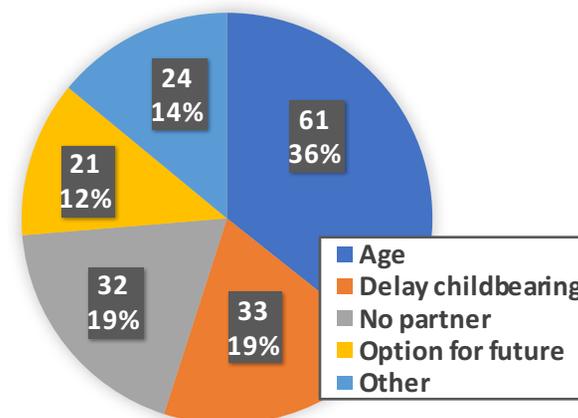
- 1.Devine K, Fertility & Sterility, June 2015
- 2.Inhom MC, JARG, Aug 2018

RESULTS

Barriers to EOC



Motivation for EOC



- 174/253 (68.7%) responded
- Mean age = 34.1 ± 5.1
- Mean age "High Cost" = 34.6 ± 4.7 vs. 32.6 ± 6.0 (p=0.02)
- 66.7% (114/174) planning EOC in the next 12 months
- 80.5% (140/174) interested in complimentary fertility assessment
- 101/253 (39.9%) scheduled fertility assessments
- 83/253 (32.8%) completed EOC

CONCLUSIONS

- The high cost of EOC was reported as the greatest barrier to pursuing treatment, *even in this highly motivated cohort.*
- Age may be a factor in cost considerations.
- Purposeful delay of childbearing is not the primary motivation for the majority of women.
- Additional studies are needed to evaluate the role of cost conscious EOC models to increase access to care.