

THE ROLE OF BARIATRIC SURGERY IN THE TREATMENT OF MALE INFERTILITY AND MORBID OBESITY

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ABSTRACT

Introduction. Obesity is a major public health problem causing temporary or permanent disability and reduced life expectancy. Recent studies incriminate obesity in the development of male infertility. Infertility is identified in about 70% of morbidly obese men over the age of 35. There are pertinent statements recommending treatment of male infertility through weight loss and normalization of BMI. One of the most effective methods of treating morbid obesity is bariatric surgery. **The aim** of the paper is to evaluate the role of bariatric surgery in the treatment of male infertility through the presentation of a clinical case and review of the literature. **Material and methods.** A case of a 43-year-old patient with BMI 42 with

secondary infertility, functional hypogonadism and erectile dysfunction is studied. Sperm volume 1.4 ml, 1.2mln spermatozoa per/ml, progressive motility 15% and normal morphological forms 1%. Total testosterone 170ng/dl and SHIM index 14. The patient underwent bariatric surgery, followed for 3 months antioxidants and was evaluated 9 months after surgery. **Results.** BMI - 26, SHIM index -22, sperm volume 3.2 ml, 18 mln sperm per/ml, progressive motility 31%, normal morphology 5%, total testosterone 456 ng/ml. **Discussion and conclusions.** As a result of bariatric surgery weight loss, significant improvement of erectile function, spermogram parameters and considerable increase of testosterone level were obtained. Bariatric surgery can be considered a viable treatment option for male infertility in morbidly obese men.