

Dr Prathima Tholeti

+91-9003031460 | prathimatholeti@gmail.com

PROFILE

- 14 years' experience as a **Clinical Embryologist**, well versed in Basic and Advanced Embryology procedures, as well as **fertility preservation** procedures such as immature testicular and ovarian tissue cryopreservation.
- 8 years' teaching experience in Clinical Embryology, including service as an **academic co-ordinator** for Masters' program in Clinical Embryology.
- 10 years' experience as **researcher** in Embryology and Oncofertility

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Location	Duration	Role(s)	Primary Responsibilities
Centre of Excellence in Clinical Embryology, Dept. of Reproductive Science, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal, India.	May 2016 to Dec 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Sr. Embryologist▪ Lecturer▪ Researcher	<ul style="list-style-type: none">->Independent handling of IVF laboratory at MARC, KMC, Manipal->Patient navigator & co-ordinator of Centre for Fertility Preservation at KMC, Manipal->Academic co-ordinator for Masters' program in Clinical Embryology->Co-ordinator and trainer for national & international embryology training programs with industry partners like Merck Biopharma->Conducting research on gonadal toxicity & fertility preservation->Research guide for post graduate students
Cloudnine Fertility Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore, India	Dec 2015 to April 2016	Sr. Embryologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none">->Independent handling of IVF laboratory->Supervision of Andrology laboratory->Conducting retrospective research in Clinical Embryology
Dept. of Reproductive Medicine, Chettinad Hospital & Research Institute, Chennai, India	June 2013 to Oct 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Embryologist▪ Tutor▪ Associate Editor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">->Performing day-to-day procedures in IVF laboratory->Tutor and research guide for students of PG Diploma in Clinical Embryology->Conducting research in Embryology->Associate Editor for Chettinad Health City Medical Journal
Sure Fertility, Cloudnine Hospitals Pvt Ltd, Bangalore, India	Nov 2010 to Nov 2012	Embryologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none">->Independently handling of Andrology laboratory->Assisting in IVF laboratory->Performing IVF procedures under supervision
Ravi Santati IVF centre, Bangalore, India	Aug 2009 to July 2010	Jr. Embryologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none">->Day-to-day procedures of Andrology laboratory->Assisting in IVF laboratory

EDUCATION

- **PhD** I KMC, Manipal, Manipal Academy of Higher Education I Fertility preservation I Mar 2024
- **M.Sc** I Bangalore University I Molecular Biology I 2006-2008
- **B.Sc** I Mount Carmel College, Bangalore I Microbiology I 2000-2003

TRAININGS & CERTIFICATION

- **Master of ICSI certification**, awarded by *American College of Embryology, USA*, 2020.
- Trained in **Ovarian tissue cryopreservation** at Dr Laronda's lab, *Northwestern University, Chicago, USA.*, 2019
- Trained in **Embryo biopsy** for Pre-implantation Genetic Diagnosis/Screening & oocyte, embryo vitrification at *University College London, U.K*, 2015
- Certificate course in, '**Principles of Fertility preservation for Reproductive Health providers**' by *American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM)*, 2020 and obtained 6.00 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s).
- **ECHO training** in Prepubertal and adolescent fertility preservation counselling, *Oncofertility consortium, Chicago USA*. 2019
- **WHO workshop** on Semen Analysis, conducted by *Dr Daniel Franken* in Bangalore, India, 2013
- **IVF hands-on training** program, Veterinary college, *TANUVAS, Chennai, India*.2012

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Curriculum designing, organizing semester schedules, conduction of exams, and evaluation as **course co-ordinator** for M.Sc Clinical Embryology program.
- Conduct **lectures** for M.Sc Clinical Embryology and M.Sc Reproductive Genetics
- Imparted **practical training** in Basic Embryology for M.Sc Clinical Embryology first year students, national and international participants of special Embryology programs.
- Imparted **practical training** in Advanced Embryology - Embryo biopsy, Laser assisted hatching, timelapse imaging, IMSI for M.Sc Clinical Embryology final year students, national and international participants of special Embryology programs.
- **Research guide** for M.Sc Clinical Embryology students
- Conducted **workshops** on embryo biopsy and fertility preservation.
- Invited as **speaker and chairperson** at national conferences.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Residential training at **Karolinska University Hospital, Reproductive Medicine, Stockholm Sweden**, for better understanding of workings in large IVF facility, troubleshooting, micro-TESE, PGT-biopsy, gonadal tissue cryopreservation and related research - February 2023
- Conducted oncofertility research at **Dr Woodruff's laboratory, Northwestern University, Chicago, USA.**, 2019.
- Received grant from MRC Centre for **Reproductive Health, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, U.K**, to carry out research project at Prof. Norah Spears' laboratory, Centre for BioMedical Sciences, University of Edinburgh, U.K.
- Hands-on training in advanced embryology at **University College London, London, U.K**, 2015

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- **Effect of cancer on prepubertal and adult testicular function**, at Centre for Fertility Preservation, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal, India
- **Implementation of Fertility preservation services for prepubertal and adult cancer diagnosed patients**, at Centre for Fertility Preservation, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal, India
- **Elucidating the oncofertility practice trends among healthcare providers in India**, at Dr Woodruff's laboratory, Northwestern University, Chicago, USA & Centre for Fertility Preservation, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal, India
- **Optimization of immature testicular tissue cryopreservation** at Dept. of Reproductive Science, KMC, Manipal.
- **Examining the effects of chemotherapy drugs on male fertility and *in vitro* culture of prepubertal testicular tissue** at Centre for Biomedical Sciences, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, U.K
- **Comparative study of GnRHagonist vs HCG trigger in IVF/ICSI antagonist cycles** at Cloudnine Fertility, Bangalore, India
- **Comparative study of outcomes in ICSI cycles with and without laser assisted hatching**, at Chettinad Hospital & Research Institute, Chennai, India
- **Simplification of embryo *in vitro* culture** at Chettinad Hospital & Research Institute, Chennai, India
- **Sperm parameters and IUI outcomes** at Chettinad Hospital & Research Institute, Chennai, India.

PUBLICATIONS

- **Tholeti P**, Koulmane Laxminarayana SL, Lakshmi VR, et al., Spermatogonial quantity in prepubertal boys undergoing fertility preservation is comparable between haematological and non-haematological cancers. Hum Fertil (Camb). 2024 Dec;27(1):2362980.
- Muthukumar S & **Tholeti P**. Semen Cryopreservation in Oncofertility. Fertil Sci Res 2024; 11:4.
- **Tholeti P**. Oncofertility: technical challenges in immature testicular tissue banking. Fertil Sci Res 2023; 10: 177-82
- **Tholeti P**, Uppangala S, Bhat V, et al., Oncofertility: Knowledge, Attitudes, and Barriers Among Indian Oncologists and Gynecologists. J Adolesc Young Adult Oncol. 2021 Feb;10(1):71-77.
- **Tholeti P**, Uppangala S, Jayaram RK, et al., Oncofertility awareness among primary care physicians in India. F1000Res. 2023 Sep 28; 12:153.
- Lopes F, **Tholeti P**, Adiga SK, et al., Chemotherapy induced damage to spermatogonial stem cells in prepubertal mouse in vitro impairs long-term spermatogenesis. Toxicol Rep. 2020 Dec 26; 8:114-123.
- Adiga SK, **Tholeti P**, Uppangala S, et al., Fertility preservation during the COVID-19 pandemic: mitigating the viral contamination risk to reproductive cells in cryostorage. Reprod Biomed Online. 2020 Dec;41(6):991-997.
- Pandya R, Salian SR, Koulmane Laxminarayana SL, ..., **Tholeti P**, et al., Impact of temperature and time interval prior to immature testicular-tissue organotypic culture on cellular niche. Reprod Sci. 2021 Aug;28(8):2161-2173.
- Salama M, Ataman-Millhouse L, ..., Adiga SK, **Tholeti P**, Udupa KS, Woodruff TK, et al., Installing oncofertility programs for common cancers in limited resource settings (Repro-Can-OPEN-study): An extrapolation during the global crisis of Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic. J Assist Reprod Genet. 2020.

- Sivakumar R, **Tholeti P**, et al., Sperm motility in reverse gear? – An observation of reverse motile human spermatozoa. 2017; Matters Online.
- Chapter: **Prathima Tholeti** & Satish Adiga. Viral Contamination Risk to Gametes and Embryos in Cryostorage during COVID-19. In: Kamini A Rao, Howard Carp, Roert Fischer. Principles and Practice of Assisted Reproductive Technology. Edition 3/e. Jaypee Publications; 2023

POSTERS/ORAL PRESENTATIONS

- Spermatogonial density in immature testicular tissue of cancer-diagnosed pre-pubertal boys undergoing fertility preservation. **Tholeti P**, Koulmane LS, Bhat V et al. Poster presentation at Cryo 2022 conducted by 59th Annual Meeting of Society for Cryobiology between July 18-22 2022 (virtual)
- Association of oocyte abnormalities with embryo developmental outcomes. Suman N, **Tholeti P**, Adiga SK. Poster presentation at the 4th IVF Worldwide Online Congress in Reproductive Medicine – 4-5th October 2021
- Effect of cisplatin and doxorubicin on prepubertal testicular germ cells, in vitro. **Tholeti P**, Lopes F, Spears N et al., Poster presentation at 13th Pediatric Annual Oncofertility Consortium, Chicago, USA. 11-13th November 2019, which won the outstanding abstract award.
- A decade's experience in implementation of male fertility preservation in an academic setting. **Tholeti P**, Das P, Udupa K, Adiga S et al. Poster presented at 23rd Annual Pediatric Hematology Oncology Conference, Varanasi, India. 8th September 2019.
- Effect of cisplatin and doxorubicin on prepubertal testicular germ cells. **Tholeti P**, Lopes F, Spears N et al., Oral presentation at Manipal Research Colloquium 2019. Manipal, India.
- Impact of cancer on sperm quality and post fertility preservation intervention. Das P, **Tholeti P**, Kalthur G, Adiga S. Poster presented at Manipal Research Colloquium 2019. Manipal, India
- GnRHagonist vs HCG trigger in IVF/ICSI antagonist cycles – a comparative study. **Tholeti P**, Gurunath S, Billiangady R, et al. Poster at Indo-German ART conference 2016, KMC, Manipal, India
- Comparative study of outcomes in ICSI cycles with and without laser assisted hatching. **Tholeti P**, Ramesh Raja D, Sivakumar R, Pandiyan N et al. Poster at ISAR 2015, Chennai, India

TALKS AT NATIONAL CONFERENCES/SCIENTIFIC FORUMS

- Sperm management in IVF – IFS Vidarbha Chapter Webinar, December 16th 2022
- The Semen Analysis report - how to interpret and counsel the patient - IFReF webinar on May 6th 2022
- Sperm wash techniques - MARC infertility conference, Manipal on February 19th 2019
- Assisted Hatching - Chettinad International Fertility colloquium, Chennai, on Sep 30th 2018
- Embryo Grading - TAPISAR 2018 at Salem, Tamil Nadu on Nov 23rd 2018

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Member of **Society for Reproduction & Fertility**, U.K
- Ex-Treasurer and current Executive committee member of Manipal Association of Clinical Embryologists, **MACE, Manipal**, India
- Member of **ISAR, India**
- Member of International Fertility Research Foundation (**IFREF**), **Chennai**, India
- National Editor of **Chettinad Health City Medical Journal**