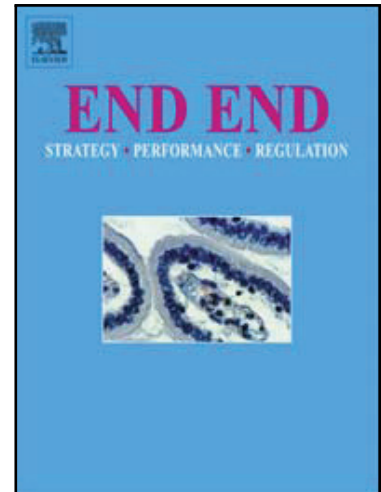


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Short title: Sex ratio and monozygotic twinning following blastocyst transfer

# The effect of blastocyst transfer on newborn sex ratio and monozygotic twinning rate: an updated systematic review and meta-analysis

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A meta-analysis on the effect of blastocyst transfer on newborn sex ratio and monozygotic twinning rate was performed, based on 26 studies. Compared to an earlier meta-analysis, results provided stronger evidence that blastocyst transfer is associated with skewed sex ratio in favour of males and increased risk of monozygotic twinning.

## Key message

A meta-analysis on the effect of blastocyst transfer on newborn sex ratio and monozygotic twinning rate was performed, based on 26 studies. Compared to an earlier meta-analysis, results provided stronger evidence that blastocyst transfer is associated with skewed sex ratio in favour of males and increased risk of monozygotic twinning.

## Highlights

- Our meta-analysis provided an update and stronger evidence that BT is associated with a higher frequency of males and an increased risk of MZT.
- Subgroup analysis based on studies after 2009 showed the same results.
- Larger number of included studies strengthened the findings.
- Clearer source of heterogeneity made the results more persuasive.

## Abstract

Research question: Is blastocyst transfer (BT) associated with a higher offspring secondary sex ratio and monozygotic twinning (MZT)?

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