Assisted human reproduction techniques: necessities, achievements and the need for legislation

Jafarzadeh M. (Ph.D.)
Head of Biotechnological Law and Ethics Department of Ave-Sina Research Center and Assistant Professor at the Department of Law, Faculty of Law, Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran.

Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to show that the current Iranian law is poor and unclear in the area of legal and ethical aspects of using ART in human reproduction. Legal literature of this area is also poor and possibly misleading. It is also shown that the proposed draft to the Parliament is also non-embracing and inefficient. To tackle this problem a new legislation is needed. To achieve this aim making a widespread and multidisciplinary study is suggested. For this purpose, it is attempted to identify the matters in question and legal gaps in light of a comparative study. It is also suggested that the legislation is to be all embracing and comprehensive covering all aspects of the required issues. For having a guideline to make legislation, the following principles are suggested:

1. The welfare and interests of any person born or to be born as a result of a treatment procedure are paramount;
2. Human life should be preserved and protected;
3. The interests of the family should be considered;
4. Infertile couples should be assisted in fulfilling their desire to have children.

Keywords: Ambiguity of the current law, Necessity of making multidisciplinary research, Necessity of making new legislation, having widespread consideration in making the new law and proposing guiding principles for making the law.

Corresponding address: Avesina Research Centre, P.O.Box-19835-177, Tehran, Iran.
E-mail: M_jafarzadeh@yahoo.com