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**FIRST TIME IN CANADA:
HUMAN ASSISTED REPRODUCTION LIVE BIRTH RATES FOR CANADA**

MONTREAL, QC (October 11, 2001) — The Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society (CFAS) today released the first nation-wide results on assisted reproduction live birth rates in Canada. The CFAS reports that the data are very reassuring for Canadians. The rates of pregnancy and live birth in the country's fertility clinics are on a par with other national registries, including the United States. The complication rate remains low.

Under the leadership of the Accreditation Committee of the CFAS, 19 of the 24 in vitro fertilization (IVF) centres in Canada voluntarily participated in the collection of nationwide data on the results of assisted reproduction. The data were presented at the 4th annual meeting of the Directors of Canadian IVF Centres, held at Whistler, B.C. under the auspices of the CFAS.

Live birth rates were reported for 4,292 IVF treatment cycles (including intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI)) undertaken in 18 IVF centres in 1999:

- the overall live birth rate was 21% per cycle started
- 67% of live births were singletons
- most of the multiple births were twins
- the live birth rates by age of the mother were:
 - for women under 35 years old, the live birth rate was 27%
 - for women aged 35-39 years, the live birth rate was 19%
 - for women 40 years old and over, the live birth rate was 7%

Preliminary results were reported for 4,685 IVF treatment cycles (including ICSI) undertaken in 19 IVF centres in 2000:

- the overall pregnancy rate was 26% per cycle started
- complications occurred in fewer than 3% of treatment cycles
- on average, 2-3 embryos were replaced in the uterus
- two-thirds of pregnancies were singletons
- most of the multiple pregnancies were twins
- as expected, the woman's age has a strong influence on pregnancy rate:
 - for women under 35 years old, the pregnancy rate was 31%

- for women aged 35-39 years, the pregnancy rate was 27%
 - for women 40 years old and over, the pregnancy rate was 13%
- Live birth rates for cycles started in 2000 will be released when they become available.

The CFAS makes these data available for reference and education. The information should be reviewed together with an appropriate healthcare professional. Results vary by centre and specific information can be obtained from each centre. A list of the participating IVF centres is available on request through the CFAS.

The CFAS founded in 1954, is a voluntary organization of more than 400 physicians, scientists and health care professionals concerned with reproductive medicine and fertility research. The mission of the Society, which is based in Montreal, Quebec, is to promote education and research of female and male reproductive health, to provide accreditation expertise and processes for measuring outcomes of therapy, and to respond to social needs with regards to human reproduction.

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