

Natural IVF is on the way

Contributed by Admin
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Good news may be round the corner for the thousands of women who have trouble conceiving and resort to costly IVF treatment involving a four-week course of potentially harmful hormonal drugs.

Some of the world's leading names in fertility gathered in London this week to discuss the potential of natural, virtually drug-free, methods of IVF, and the technology that has made it more feasible.

Dr Geeta Nargund, the organiser of the Congress on Natural Cycle and Minimal Stimulation IVF, and head of reproductive medicine at St George's Hospital, London, believes it is time to stop giving women hormones to make them more fertile. In the week that IVF laws had a government shake-up, she says there is a back-to-basics approach to help women conceive that is safer, cheaper and, according to new studies presented by her peers at the congress, just as effective. Dr Nargund has pioneered techniques of scanning the ovaries for blood flow, which enables specialists to accurately predict which eggs are most likely to be fertilised successfully, doing away with the need to artificially stimulate the production of lots of eggs.

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