

# Assisted Reproduction Technology

## Accreditation & the University of Warwick Postgraduate Award in Assisted Reproduction Technology:

Participants attending the course can choose to register for the prestigious University of Warwick Postgraduate award (PGA) in Assisted Reproduction Technology. Those registered for the award will undertake assessments during the teaching week of the course and will additionally be required to successfully complete the following within 6 months of attending the event:

- home learning based on provided reading material
- submission of an essay (4,000 words) as coursework based on home learning.

The Warwick Postgraduate Award in Assisted Reproduction Technology is approved at Masters level under the Credit Accumulation and Transfer Scheme (CATS) and carries 20 CATS points at M-level. Please note that those wishing to register for this award must be graduates in an appropriate science discipline or show evidence of longstanding vocational experience.

The course is also a recognised option of two University of Warwick Masters courses:- MSc in Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare and Masters in Health Sciences.

**Content:** Participants will gain an understanding of the complex issues that surround the provision of modern infertility treatments as well as a grasp of current management strategies for infertile couples. The interdisciplinary teamwork essential to provide a comprehensive service is stressed. Teaching will be through a combination of lectures, seminars, case studies and small group work. The course will describe principles and practice of a range of techniques including diagnostic andrology assessment, cryopreservation, sperm preparation, ovarian stimulation and monitoring, oocyte recovery, embryo culture and transfer, and other assisted reproduction techniques. Clinical aspects will include epidemiology and investigation of infertility. Issues of ethics, patient support and regulation will also be explored in depth.

**Venue:** The course will be held in Coventry at the Centre for Reproductive Medicine, University Hospitals of Coventry & Warwickshire NHS Trust. The course fee excludes accommodation, but a list of local hotels can be provided on request.

### Enquiries to:

Dr. Stephen Hicks (Short Courses)

Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL. UK

Tel (024) 7652 3540 Fax (024) 76523701 E-mail: s.j.hicks@warwick.ac.uk

To be held for the 6th time

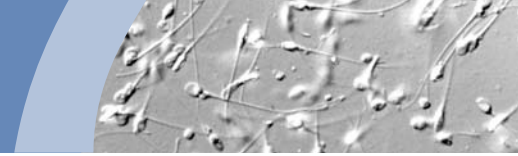
course dates 10th - 13th May 2010

# Assisted Reproduction Technology

*A University of Warwick accredited course optionally leading to a Masters level University of Warwick Postgraduate Award in Assisted Reproduction Technology.*

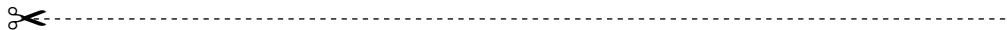
For specialist nurse practitioners, hospital doctor clinicians, GPs and related scientists/health professionals with an interest in fertility who wish to improve their understanding of the principles and practices of Assisted Reproduction Technology.

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**WARWICK**



**Overview:** Approximately one in six couples experience infertility-related problems and increasingly a number of these consider assisted reproduction technology (ART), such as in vitro fertilisation (IVF). Techniques in assisted reproduction have developed rapidly and achieved widespread acceptance, culminating recently with guidance from the National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) on NHS provision of infertility treatment.

This course provides a route to a qualification for health professionals who do not wish to embark upon a full Masters, whilst also acting as a specialist option for those committed to Masters study. It will be relevant for nurses, clinicians and scientists with an interest in infertility and particularly those starting in the field of assisted conception or studying related topics.



**Application Form:** Closing date for applications: **15th April 2010**

**ASSISTED REPRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY: MONDAY, 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY – THURSDAY, 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2010.**

I WISH TO (please tick as appropriate).

- ATTEND THE COURSE WITHOUT ACCREDITATION: £595
- ATTEND THE COURSE AND ALSO REGISTER FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK POSTGRADUATE AWARD IN ASSISTED REPRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY \*: £860

\* Note: Those wishing to register for the Postgraduate Award must also formally register with the University via the Postgraduate Admissions Office or using the on-line registration form at <http://www.warwick.ac.uk/go/pgapply> A hard copy registration package is available on request.

Name.....

Address .....

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..... Post Code .....

Email..... Tel.....

Institution.....

**To Register:** Return completed form with either (i) the full fee or a deposit of £150 (cheques payable to "University of Warwick") or (ii) an order number with invoicing details. The balance of the course fee is required by **30 April 2010**. A list of local hotels can be provided on request.

**Cancellation charges:** The £150 deposit for the course is non-returnable after **15th April 2010**. The balance of the course fee is required by **30 April 2010** and no refund is possible for bookings withdrawn after this date.

**Please return completed application form to:** Dr. Stephen Hicks (Short Courses)  
Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL, UK  
Tel (024) 7652 3540 Fax (024) 76523701 Email: [s.j.hicks@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:s.j.hicks@warwick.ac.uk)

## The course content will include:

**Definition and diagnosis of infertility:** Epidemiology and aetiology of infertility; diagnosis for both partners; identifying, selecting and preparing for different treatment options.

**Hormonal control of the menstrual cycle:** Optimising egg production for ART; ultrasound monitoring of the ovaries; choices of drugs and regimens; treatment scheduling; polycystic ovaries and ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome.

**Andrology:** Factors affecting male fertility and sperm production; analysis of semen and sperm function testing; storage of sperm; preparation of sperm for intrauterine insemination.

**Embryology:** Egg formation, production, collection and insemination; early embryonic development; selection of embryos for transfer; blastocyst culture; implantation; embryo freezing.

**Initiating pregnancy:** Embryo transfer methods; pregnancy testing; luteal phase support.

**Micromanipulation:** Intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI); embryo biopsy and preimplantation genetic diagnosis; genetic aspects of fertility.

**Fertility preservation:** Storage of sperm, eggs, embryos, ovarian or testicular tissue for cancer patients.

**Patient support:** Patient information; counselling; patient support groups; self help; alternative therapies; religious perspectives.

**Donated sperm and eggs:** Recruiting donors; screening donors; matching donors; using donors; removal of anonymity.

**Follow up of pregnancies and children born:** Pregnancy outcomes following ART; multiple pregnancies.

**Regulation and the law:** Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act; HFEA licence requirements; person responsible; licensable activities; consent; Human Rights legislation; legal case histories.

**Ethics:** Same sex couples; equitable access to treatment; post-menopausal motherhood; embryo disposal; partners disagreeing; pre-screening for diseases; posthumous parents; sex selection.

**Quality and safety:** Risk management; laboratory errors; patient identification; disease transmission; data handling; computer systems; confidentiality.

**Research and the future:** Designer babies; embryo research; cloning; embryonic stem cells; clinical trials.