



Kiran Infertility Center Newsletter

November– December 2012 Volume 1, Issue 6

Diwali & X-mas in India!

Diwali- the biggest festival in India is celebrated by lighting oil lamps, bursting fire-crackers, decorating homes, distributing sweet delicacies and gathering with friends and family. Diwali, the festival of lights, is celebrated by Hindus, Jains and Sikhs around the world. The word Diwali comes from the Sanskrit '*Deepavali*', which means a *row of lights*. The festival of Diwali symbolizes the victory of light over dark, good over evil and knowledge over darkness. At home, people gather to offer prayers to Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth & Ganesh, the god of auspiciousness. A popular greeting around this time is '*Shubh Diwali!*'.

You might have seen the fireworks on the 4th of July, wait till you see Diwali being celebrated here– the fireworks go on for 3 nights! Friends and relatives get together, exchange sweets and gifts, very similar to like its done for Christmas. *Christmas is also celebrated in style!* All major hotels and clubs have Christmas and New year events, which draws out youth in huge numbers.

Inside this issue

<u>Welcome page.....</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>A Challenging Case</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Parent Focus</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Employee Focus.....</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Hot Spot.....</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Donor Focus.....</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Visitors this month.....</u>	<u>5</u>

At our Center, the staff are given Diwali bonuses, and on Christmas, a small tree is decorated and gifts & thank you letters given out! Seen here is Dr Kiran (Hindu) giving away Christmas gifts to Nurse Elcy (Christian), and other Intended Parents (Muslim) enjoy the festivities! Indians celebrate all festivals, irrespective of their religious beliefs!

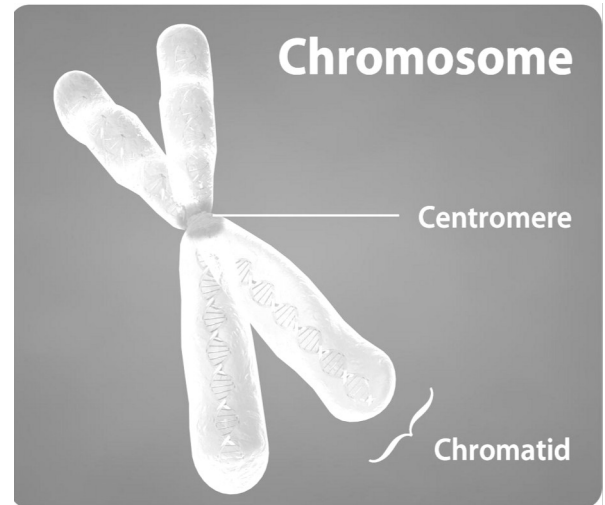


Medical Insight

A 42 year old female came to us from Dubai wanting to be included in the gestational surrogacy program. She was diagnosed with multiple uterine fibroids and had undergone a total of 10 embryo transfers without a pregnancy. Her AMH levels were low and FSH was high. Ultrasound showed a single follicle in each ovary. Initially we counseled her for donor eggs keeping in mind that chances of a pregnancy using self eggs would be very low, but she insisted on trying with her own eggs. An antagonist cycle was done for her using higher dosages of recombinant fsh in a range of 450 to 600 units/ day. 2 eggs were retrieved out of which one single embryo reached 8 cells and was transferred on day 3. 12 days later the beta HCG in the surrogate was 58.34 mIU with increasing values on day 15. There was a sac seen at week 5 and HB at week 6. The pregnancy continued uneventful till week 12 when a double test was done.

It showed a higher chance of trisomies and neural tube defects even though nuchal thickness was within normal limits. We decided to wait and observe on a weekly basis and decided for a triple test at week 18 along with an amniocentesis if necessary. However at week 16 the surrogate started cramping and spotting. Scan revealed an absent HB. It was a spontaneous miscarriage. Needless to say all of us were disappointed but the couple proceeded with donor eggs and now have twins born last month.

This emphasizes two things: One is that the chances of chromosomal and genetic defects increase tremendously after 35 years of age in women using own eggs for IVF/ surrogacy; secondly, if a miscarriage happens IPs should be aware of the option of opting for donor eggs.



Parent Focus

James & Matt



There is an energy in India, at once magnetic and peaceful, that pulled us there to begin our journey to fatherhood, in late 2010. We never hesitated or doubted that this was absolutely the right decision for us. In April 2012, we returned to Hyderabad to be there for the birth of our twin sons, Fox Henry and Foster Wesley. Our boys have been thriving ever since.

Throughout every phase of the process, everyone at Kiran Infertility Center was dedicated, thoughtful, and, in short, amazing. Fox and Foster's many smiles reinforce how lucky we are to have discovered Dr. Samit and the team.

Team Focus

Anjani Kumar

An Engineer and an MBA in Human Resources & Advanced Management - I have a simple, direct, no-frills attitude and don't lose my cool easily. I am a vegetarian & a teetotaler. I like music, gadgets, technology, cars, Nature, plants/animals, art & science! I am religious. I care. I see. I think. I believe.

*I started working with KIC in 2010 for Online Marketing. Things started working out and I was working full time: my responsibilities increased to over-seeing Marketing, Administration, and Client Relations/ Case Management. **When I speak to people about my job and what our Centre does, they find its straight out of science fiction! They say- what!?! Is it possible?? Creating a life in the lab and transferring into a surrogate mother to carry the baby, still seems wondrous to many!***

I can't leave anything I started until its done & like knowing/learning more about everything! I was exposed to Medical aspects, Banking, Import/ export regulations, Immigration/Contract/ Family law, and of course implementing new technology, which I love! My work gives me the freedom to implement new ideas and procedures, which most people don't get to do! There is an sense of creative satisfaction because of this. I like traveling and I have attended many conferences on behalf of KIC, and in different countries- which is an added bonus!

“But the best part of my job is to see the twinkle in the parents' eyes when they go back home with their dream in their arms!”

Humor
Section
*If only it were
this easy! ;)*



Hot Spot *Birla Temple*



Birla Mandir in Hyderabad is a temple dedicated to Lord Venkateshwara/Lord Balaji. Build by the Birla Group in 1976 , it is a temple built completely in white marble. This must see place is Hyderabad stands majestic on a small hill in the midst of the city. The granite stone, out of which the idol of Lord Venkateshwara has been carved, is about 11 feet tall. A Lotus shaped canopy at the top of the idol is again done in marble and looks stunning. Along the winding path that leads to the main worship place, are many marble statues of Gods and Goddesses of Hindu mythology that look almost real.

There are so many street side shops - bangle shops, etc on the way up the hillock before you actually reach the temple. Inside the temple, Mobiles and cameras are strictly restricted and there is a small office room at the entrance to leave our belongings. In case you visit the temple in the early hours of the day, you can hear some very melodious South Indian music in the praise of the Lord. The Birla Mandir of Hyderabad becomes a spectacular sight in the evening when it is illuminated with hundreds of bright lights. It is a wonderful feeling to stand in the open space and look at the Hussain Sagar Lake brightly lit with lights.

Donor Focus *Miss M*



Hello! It was really fun being in India! The Clinic staff, Hotel, and even strangers were very helpful! I am from South Africa, where the culture is a bit different and male- chauvinistic. But I have seen that people really do respect women. Maybe this comes from the way Goddesses are worshipped !The pearls and Bling that you can get here are awesome, and way less than what costs anywhere else!

But the most important part of my happiness came from the fact that by being an egg donor, I am helping bring a new life into this world and making childless people happy! I felt like Santa's little helper, bringing joy to the world! :)

Visitors at KIC



Our Spanish Intended Parents had a get together, where they shared experience, had dinner and had a really good time! :)

Statistics these 2 months:

28 New Intended Parents joined our program

31 International Intended Parents visited KIC

10 Caucasian donors inducted. 12 Indian donors inducted

25 embryo transfers carried out. 14 pregnancies. 8 Births

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