

18th Annual Clinical Embryologists Summit Conference

***Left out in the COLD:
What are we doing with all of these embryos?***

Friday April 28th and Saturday, April 29th, 2017

Fluno Center for Executive Education
University of Wisconsin- Madison
Madison, WI

Conference Organizer: Andrew Dorfmann

Co-organizers: Amy Sparks, Mark Dow and Jeff Jones

The **18th Annual Clinical Embryologists Summit Conference** will be held on **Friday-Saturday, April 28th and 29th, 2017** at the Fluno Center for Executive Education on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. <http://fluno.com>

The Clinical Embryologists Summit Conference is an annual event designed to give participants an informal setting to share ideas and interact with invited speakers and other embryologists. Interaction is strongly encouraged and is an essential part of this conference. For this reason, attendance is **limited to 70 participants**.

The Clinical Embryologists Summit Conference has developed a reputation for being a small but powerfully interactive conference and this year we bring a topic to Wisconsin that is sure to provoke much passionate discussion: How will we handle the growing number of embryos we have in storage? Over the years we have improved both our embryology and cryobiology methods to the point where we are now routinely cryopreserving vast numbers of embryos, many or even most of which may never be used for their initial intended purpose. Embryos are piling up in our liquid nitrogen storage containers. This begs the question, “What are we going to do with all these embryos?”

We have brought together many outstanding speakers this year. Friday night will kick off with Thomas (Rusty) Pool, PhD, HCLD, Scientific Director, Fertility Center of San Antonio, who will discuss the history and development of embryo cryopreservation to help us understand how we got to these crossroads. Dr. Pool is a true luminary in our field and is sure to provide a thought provoking perspective.

The Saturday morning program will include three excellent speakers who have very distinct perspectives on the issue of excess human embryos and the problems they pose for patients and practitioners:

1. Sangita Jindal, PhD, HCLD, Montefiore Medical Center, will discuss the practical and regulatory aspects from the point of view of an Embryology Lab Director. Dr. Jindal is the chair of the SRBT practice committee and was involved in writing the guidance on this subject.

2. Nidhi Desai JD, Desai & Miller, will look at the problem from a legal perspective. The embryos produced in the lab over the last 35 years have created some interesting legal and ethical dilemmas as well as some fascinating cases.
3. Julianne Zweifel, PhD – a clinical psychologist at the University of Wisconsin, will be leading a discussion about the emotional and psychological questions and problems that these extra embryos bring to our patients and our clinics.

The afternoon agenda will consist of two panel discussions. The first will be an Industry Panel including representatives from Fairfax Cryobank, ReproTech, Cryopoint and Embryo Options. The panel will lead a discussion about their approaches to this problem. We also invite you to bring your clinic's stories and anecdotes to this discussion. We are sure that both you and our panel will have some great tales to share.

The second part of the afternoon will be another panel discussion led by the conference organizers. We will be exploring how embryo cryopreservation procedures have altered the workflow in the IVF lab. What have been the effects and impact on our daily workload and how can we lessen the negative impact of this work? Vitrification has been a boon to the embryology lab but the combination of better embryo culture and increased confidence in our cryopreservation methods have added a significant amount of extra work for the clinical embryologist.

As always, our speakers have been tasked with bringing controversial and provocative ideas and questions in order to spur discussion. We hope you all come ready to engage!

Conference Schedule:

Friday, April 28th

A reception, dinner and keynote presentation by Thomas (Rusty) Pool will precede the Summit Conference on the evening of Friday April 28th in the Mendota room located on the 8th floor of the Fluno Center.

The reception begins at 6:30 PM with dinner and keynote presentation to follow from 7:30 - 9:00PM CDST.

Saturday, April 29th

A buffet breakfast will be served in the Executive Dining Room at the Fluno Center beginning at 7:00AM CDST and the Summit Conference will convene at 8:15AM. Lunch is also included. The conference is scheduled to end at 5:00 PM CDST.

A preliminary agenda for the Summit Conference can be found at:

<http://www.cals.wisc.edu/ccs/CurrentPrograms.html>

Registration:

Registration for the Summit Conference must be completed on-line through the UW Conference Services : <https://uwccs.eventsair.com/77713esc/cesc>

The registration fee for the Summit Conference is \$100 (US) which includes parking at the Fluno Center, the reception dinner on April 28th as well as breakfast and lunch during the conference on Saturday April 29th. Attendees will receive registration confirmation by e-mail. After March 31st, the registration fee is non-refundable. Registration is limited to 70 participants.

CEU:

Continuing education credit for the conference is available through the AAB.

Directions:

Travel information and directions to the Fluno Center for Executive Education are available at:

<https://fluno.com/contact-fluno.php>

Housing:

Participants are responsible for arranging their own accommodations.

Reservations made prior to **March 28th** will receive the group rates indicated below:

Fluno Center for Executive Education (Conference venue): \$149.00/ night

A limited number of rooms are available for \$149.00/ night and can be reserved online at

<http://bookings.ihotelier.com/bookings.jsp?groupID=1761124&hotelID=76764>

or by calling (877) 773-5866.

Group Name: Embryologists Summit Conference

Additional rooms are available at:

Hampton Inn and Suites \$149.00/ night 3 blocks from conference venue

440 West Johnson Street

Madison, WI 53705

<http://hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/hp/groups/personalized/M/MSNBJHX-CES-20170428/index.jhtml>

Or call (608) 255-0360

Group name: Clinical Embryologists Summit Conference

Double Tree Hotel Madison: \$159.00/ night 2 blocks from conference venue

525 West Johnson Street

Madison, WI 53703

http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/M/MSNDTDT-ESC-20170428/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

or call (608) 251-5511 and ask for the “Embryologists Summit Conference” block

Group Name: Clinical Embryologists Summit Conference

Group Code: ESC