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Reply: ‘One-stop shop’ ultrasound evaluation of an infertile patient: doing less is no longer an option

Sir,

We thank Dr Melcer and Dr Maymon for their interest in our article. Dr Melcer and Dr Maymon comment that our study results need to be seen as just one part of the comprehensive ‘one-stop shop’ fertility work-up in infertile couples (Melcer and Maymon, 2022). We agree that hysterosalpingo-foam sonography (HyFoSy) is not the only part of the work-up. Indeed, other features, such as uterine polyps, submucous myomas, uterine anomalies and intrauterine adhesions can also be visualized, although their prognostic and therapeutic impact is largely unclear.

We want to stress that our study does not take into account the direct therapeutic effect of tubal flushing. Recent studies showed a fertility-enhancing effect of tubal flushing during hysterosalpingography with oil-based contrast, resulting in higher pregnancy and live birth rates (Dreyer et al., 2017; Fang et al., 2018; Wang et al., 2019; Wang et al., 2020). Direct therapeutic effects of tubal flushing using HyFoSy versus other types of contrast are still to be assessed.

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Conflict of interest

K.D. reports travel and speaker fees from Guerbet. B.W.J.M. reports grants from National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). B.W.M. reports consultancy for Guerbet and research funding from Merck and Guerbet. V.M. reports non-financial support from IQ medicals ventures, during the conduct of the study; grants and personal fees from Guerbet, outside the submitted work; and his department receives research grants from Ferring and Merck, outside the submitted work. The other authors do not report conflicts of interest.

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