## Clinical Perspectives in Reproductive Medicine and Assisted Reproductive Technologies



Textbook of Assisted Reproductive Techniques: Volume 2: Clinical Perspectives (Reproductive Medicine and Assisted Reproductive Techniques Series)

by Deanna Pecaski McLennan



Reproductive medicine is a branch of medicine that deals with the diagnosis and treatment of infertility, as well as the care of women during pregnancy and childbirth. Assisted reproductive technologies (ART) are medical procedures that help people conceive a child when they are unable to do so naturally.

ART procedures have been used for over 40 years and have helped millions of couples to have children. The most common ART procedures are in vitro fertilization (IVF),intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI),and surrogacy.

#### In Vitro Fertilization (IVF)

IVF is a procedure in which eggs are fertilized outside of the body in a laboratory dish. The fertilized eggs are then transferred to the woman's uterus, where they can implant and grow into a pregnancy.

IVF is used to treat a variety of infertility problems, including:

- Blocked or damaged fallopian tubes
- Ovulation disorders
- Endometriosis
- Male factor infertility

IVF is a complex and expensive procedure, but it can be a very effective way to achieve pregnancy.

#### Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI)

ICSI is a procedure in which a single sperm is injected directly into an egg in the laboratory. The fertilized egg is then transferred to the woman's uterus, where it can implant and grow into a pregnancy.

ICSI is used to treat severe male factor infertility, such as when the man has a very low sperm count or the sperm are not able to fertilize the egg on their own.

ICSI is a very effective procedure, but it can be more expensive than IVF.

#### Surrogacy

Surrogacy is a procedure in which a woman carries and gives birth to a child for another couple. The couple that wants to have a child provides the

egg and sperm, and the surrogate mother carries the pregnancy and gives birth to the child.

Surrogacy is used to treat a variety of infertility problems, including:

- Women who are unable to carry a pregnancy to term due to medical reasons
- Gay male couples
- Single women who want to have a child

Surrogacy is a complex and expensive procedure, but it can be a very effective way to achieve pregnancy.

#### **Clinical Perspectives on ART**

There are a number of clinical perspectives on ART. Some people view ART as a miracle that has helped millions of couples to have children. Others view ART as a risky and expensive procedure that should only be used as a last resort.

The clinical perspectives on ART are often based on personal experiences and beliefs. It is important to remember that there is no right or wrong answer when it comes to ART. The best decision for one couple may not be the best decision for another couple.

If you are considering ART, it is important to talk to your doctor about the risks and benefits of the procedure. You should also talk to your partner, family, and friends about your decision.

ART can be a life-changing experience. It is important to make sure that you are fully informed about the procedure and that you are prepared for the emotional and financial challenges that may come with it.



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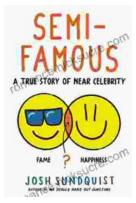
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