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## **MALE INFERTILITY**

Male infertility refers to a male's inability to cause pregnancy in a fertile female. In humans it accounts for 40–50% of infertility. It affects approximately 7% of all men. Male infertility is commonly due to deficiencies in the semen, and semen quality is used as a surrogate measure of male fecundity.

- Combined androgen and sperm cell production defects resulting from developmental defects, such as Klinefelter's syndrome or abnormal testicular descent, acquired testicular defects, such as infections, autoimmune reactions, or systemic diseases such as chronic liver and kidney diseases. Some important causes of male infertility include the following
- Isolated dysfunction of sperm cell production with normal androgen levels, resulting from infection or trauma, congenital deformation of passages, or formation of nonmotile or otherwise abnormal sperm.

## **SPERMATOGENESIS**

Spermatogenesis Is the Process of Formation of Spermatocytes from Spermatogonia. Spermatogenesis is initiated at puberty, continues throughout the remainder of a man's life, and takes place in the walls of the seminiferous tubules.

The initial step in the process is transformation of type A spermatogonia, which are epithelioid-like cells, to type B spermatogonia, a process involving four divisions. The type B cells embed in the Sertoli cells. In association with the Sertoli cells, the type B cells are transformed to primary spermatocytes and then, in a step involving the first meiotic division, to secondary spermatocytes. The secondary spermatocytes undergo a second meiotic division, yielding spermatids, each of which has 23 unpaired chromosomes.