



Appendix 4 Risk of bias assessments for included studies

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Table 1 Risk of bias assessments for studies of efficacy.

Study	Overall risk of bias assessment	Reasons for the assessment
Munne 2019 [1]	Low/ Moderate	Low risk of bias for all outcomes for the entire population. Subgroup 35-40 years: Moderate risk of bias because baseline data is not reported separately for this group.
Ozgun 2019 [2]	Serious	Only per protocol analyses. The difference in dropouts between the groups was not considered in analysis. We have calculated a modified ITT analysis that includes all participants and made assumptions for those who were missing. Those who received embryos with unknown ploidy are included in the PGT-A group in our analyses, which affects the results for this group. It is not clear in the protocol how they intended to handle and analyse those who did not have any euploid embryos.
Rubio 2017 [3]	Moderate/ Serious/ Critical	Critical risk of bias for time to pregnancy/childbirth due to how the results are calculated. Serious risk of bias for cumulative outcomes due to possible difference in the number of embryos left in the groups since the study is completed 6 months after the last recruitment. Moderate risk of bias for other outcomes because randomization was done early and it was unclear whether the therapists and participants were blinded, age is only reported as mean and baseline data is only reported for per protocol patients.
Scott Jr 2013 [4]	Serious	Different days of embryo transfer in the groups (days 5 vs. 6). The outcome measures were not specified in the protocol.
Verpoest 2018 [5]	Moderate	Those who received embryos with unknown ploidy are included in the PGT-A group, which affects the results for this group.
Wang 2022 [6]	Serious	Poor description of randomization, baseline values and how the study was conducted. Missing protocol.
Yan 2021 [7] [8]	Low/ Moderate/ Serious	Moderate risk of bias for cumulative efficacy outcomes and time to delivery as the biopsy of maximum three embryos may affect the possibility to fully assess the effect of PGT-A. Low risk of bias for other efficacy outcomes and outcomes related to complications. For the subgroup over 35 years of age; serious risk of bias because baseline data for this group is missing, randomization was not done specifically for this age group and the subgroup analysis was not planned in advance.

Table 2 Risk of bias assessments per domain for the subgroup of women aged 35 years and older.

Study	Randomi- zation	Differences in treatment	Drop- out:	Measure- ment of outcomes	Reporting of results	Conflict of interests	Overall
Munne et al. 2019 [1]	Moderate	Low	Low	Low	Low	Yes	Moderate
Rubio et al. 2017 [3]	Moderate	Moderate ^a Serious ^b	Low	Low	Low	Yes	Moderate ^a Serious ^b
Verpoest et al. 2018 [5]	Low	Moderate	Low	Low	Low	No	Moderate
Yan et al. 2021 [8]	Serious	Moderate	Low	Low	Moderate	No	Serious

^a for the outcomes per planned embryo transfer and per performed embryo transfer and miscarriage

^b for the outcome cumulative birth rate per egg retrieval

Table 3 Risk of bias assessments for studies of complications.

Study	Risk of bias assessment for included outcomes	Reasons for the assessment
Awadalla 2021 [9]	Moderate	Subgroup analyses instead of adjustment to confounders. No information on potentially missing data. No protocol.
Belva 2018 [10]	Moderate	Matching on pediatric variables, possible confounders slightly different Missing data without explanation. No protocol
Belva 2023 [11]	Moderate	Baseline differences particularly in rate of nulliparous but adjusted for in analysis. Significant drop out. No protocol
Cozzolino 2023 [12]	Moderate	Information on parity missing but adjusted for in addition to age in analyses. No information on potentially missing data. Unclear selection of control group. No protocol.
Desmyttere 2009 [13]	Serious	No information about groups before matching. No information on fresh or frozen embryo transfers. Missing data without explanation. No protocol. Some outcomes reported partly by parents. Critical risk of bias for gestational age, birthweight, gestational hypertension, Apgar score, and reason and duration of admission to a neonatal care unit because proportion of fresh or frozen transfers is not reported. Length and head circumference at birth not relevant
Desmyttere 2012 [14]	Serious	Differences in age and parity and no adjustment. No information on fresh or frozen transfers. No information on potentially missing data. No protocol. Critical risk of bias for birth weight, gestational age, and length of stay at intensive care unit because of no information on the proportion of fresh or frozen embryos. Birth defects not reported separately for singletons.
DeVos 2009 [15]	Serious	Unclear how monozygotic twins were accounted for. No information on parity. No information on potentially missing data. No protocol. Critical risk of bias for still born because no information on parity.
Eldar-Geva 2014 [16]	Moderate for caesarean section	Sparse data on matching and baseline data No protocol. Differential ratio of fresh or frozen transfers (not relevant for caesarean section).

	Serious for all other outcomes	Critical risk of bias for gestational hypertension as not separately reported for singletons.
El-Toukhy 2009 [17]	Serious	Do not take confounders into account. Monozygotic twins unclearly described. No information on potentially missing data. No protocol.
Feldman 2020 [18]	Moderate	No information on proportion of fresh or frozen transfers, no information on day of transfer. No information on potentially missing data. No protocol. Critical risk of bias for gestational length, birth weight, length of stay in intensive care unit and gestational hypertension because proportion of fresh or frozen transfers is not reported.
Forman 2012 [19]	Moderate for monozygotic twins Serious for birth defects	Age difference (mainly affects birth defects) Do not take confounders into account. Ratio of fresh or frozen transfers unclear. No protocol. Critical risk of bias for all outcomes except for monozygotic twins and birth defects which are reported separately for singletons.
Ginstrom Erntstad 2023 [20]	Moderate Serious for placenta previa	Differential day of transfer (mainly affects placenta previa) Potentially missing data. No protocol. Some outcomes may be underdiagnosed.
Gulersen 2021 [21]	Moderate	Day of transfer not reported in control group. No information on potentially missing data. Differential fresh or frozen transfers in the groups which is accounted for in the analysis. Critical risk of bias for placenta previa because of no information on day of transfer.
Gulersen 2022 [22]	Moderate	No information on potentially missing data per group. No protocol.
Hao 2022 [23]	Moderate	Significant proportion of excluded patients. Some outcome data have been collected via phone interviews. No protocol.
Hasson 2017 [24]	Serious	Matching on age and BMI, but parity differs in the groups. No information about groups before matching. No information on potentially missing data. Outcomes may have been collected by phone calls. No protocol.
He 2019 [25]	Moderate for birth defects Serious for all other outcomes	Confounders accounted for but no information on parity (does not affect birth defects). No information on potentially missing data. Outcomes for children reported by parents. No protocol.
Ji 2023 [26]	Moderate	Propensity score matching may lead to differential missing data. No protocol,

Kamath 2020 [27]	Moderate	No protocol
Kato 2023 [28]	Moderate	Large loss at propensity score matching, which leads to potentially missing data. No information on parity but given the population probably no previous children. No protocol.
Kato 2023 [29]	Moderate	Single embryo transfer but no information on eventual monozygotic twins, which might be expected in such a large study. No protocol,
Lewis 2021 [30]	Serious	Lack information on parity. Matched cohort. Exclusion of those born before v 30. Differential loss, potentially missing data. No protocol. Critical risk of bias for all outcomes except for caesarean section due to lack of information on parity.
Li 2021 [31]	Moderate	No information on potentially missing data per group.
Li 2022 [32]	Moderate	Missing data due to matching. Maternal outcomes may be affected by only selecting those with live born children. No protocol.
Li 2022 [33]	Serious	No information on parity, regression analyses for other confounders. Unclear selection on study participants. Unclear information on potentially missing data. No protocol.
Liu 2024 [34]	Moderate	Scanty description of treatment. No information on potentially missing data. No protocol.
Liu 2024 [35]	Moderate	Do not take confounders into account. Some difference in parity. No information on potentially missing data. No protocol Critical risk of bias for all outcomes except birth weight in the group <38 years because singletons not reported separately
Lu 2020 [36]	Moderate	Do not take confounders into account but baseline data similar. More hormone treatment in one group may affect hypertension. No information on potentially missing data. No protocol.
Makhijani 2021 [37]	Moderate	Take confounders into account, but big difference in unadjusted data. No information on potentially missing data. Outcomes collected from parents which may lead to uncertainty for certain outcomes. No protocol.

Mastenbroek 2007 [38] [39] [40]	Moderate Serious for gestational length and birth weight	Differential loss, potentially missing data. Outcomes for complications not specified in the protocol Ratio of fresh or frozen transfers unclear in PGS group (affects gestational length and birth weight.) Critical risk of bias for all outcomes not reported separately for singletons.
Mejia 2022 [41]	Moderate	Do not take confounders into account, but parity and age similar. No information on fresh or frozen transfer. Significant loss in both groups, potentially missing data. No protocol. Critical risk of bias for gestational length and birth weight due to no information on proportion of fresh or frozen transfers.
Meyer 2009 [42]	Moderate	Unclearities in the randomization procedure. No protocol.
Nekkebroeck 2008 [43]	Moderate	No information about groups before matching. No information of fresh or frozen embryos in control group. Potentially missing data due to some loss, but similar between groups. No protocol.
Nekkebroeck 2008 [44]	Serious	No information about groups before matching. For some outcomes no account of age, but fairly similar. No information on ratio of fresh or frozen transfers and day of transfer in control group. Possible selection of patients. Potentially missing data due to some loss. Measures of some outcomes problematic if not blinded. No protocol. Critical risk of bias for gestational length and birth weight due to no information on proportion of fresh or frozen transfers.
Ricciarelli 2013 [45]	Serious	No information on parity and no account of confounders. Unclear if fresh or frozen transfers. Potentially missing data due to loss. Outcome data collected via questionnaires. No protocol Critical risk of bias for prematurity and stillbirth because of no information on parity.
Richardson 2022 [46]	Serious	Do not take confounders into account. Some differences in baseline data. Transfer at different days. No information on potentially missing data. No protocol.
Riestedberg 2021 [47]	Serious	Do not take confounders into account. Difference in age since more donated eggs in one group. Abortions due to fetal anomalies excluded, but no information on how many. No information on treatment. No protocol

		Placenta previa not relevant as it cannot be assessed in second trimester.
Roeca 2020 [48]	Serious	Unclearities regarding baseline data, treatment and reporting of data for singletons. No information on potentially missing data. No protocol. Critical risk of bias for all outcomes not reported separately for singletons.
Sarkar 2023 [49]	Moderate	Take confounders into account, but parity is missing. Unclear selection and loss of participants. Potentially missing data. No protocol.
Shi 2023 [50]	Moderate	Do not take confounders into account, but age and parity similar. No information on potentially missing data. No protocol.
Sites 2021 [51]	Moderate	No information on potentially missing data. No protocol.
Snelgrove 2024 [52]	Moderate	Do not take confounders into account, but age and parity similar. No information on potentially missing data. No protocol.
Srebnik 2023 [53]	Serious	No adjustment for confounders, but similar between groups. Stillborn children excluded, unclear if different in the groups. Unclear if day of transfer differs between groups. No information on potentially missing data. No protocol
Staessen 2004 [54]	Serious	Randomization process not described. Unclear reporting of monozygotic twins. No protocol, study terminated before finished.
Staessen 2008 [55]	Moderate	Sparse information on the randomization procedure.
Sun 2024 [56]	Moderate	No information on parity and do not take this confounder into account. No information on potentially missing data. Outcomes assessed by phone. Critical risk of bias for preterm delivery, perinatal death, caesarean section, fetal distress, birthweight, hypertension and placenta related problems due to unadjusted data and information on parity missing.
Sunkara 2017 [57]	Moderate	Do not take parity into account as a confounder. No protocol.
Verpoest 2009 [58]	Moderate	Not clear if embryos were frozen or fresh. No information on potentially missing data. No protocol.
Winter 2014 [59]	Serious	No information on fresh or frozen transfer and day of transfer. Possible selection of study participants. Potentially missing data as comparatively large loss in both groups. Assessors not blinded. No protocol.

Winter 2015 [60]	Serious	No information on ratio fresh or frozen transfers and day of transfer. Possible selection of study participants. Potentially missing data as comparatively large loss in both groups. Assessors not blinded. No protocol.
Wu 2021 [61]	Moderate for birth defects Serious for all other outcomes	Matched, but not for parity (does not affect birth defects). Possible selection of study participants. No protocol.
Zhang 2019 [62]	Moderate Serious for birth defects	Possible selection as terminations for fetal anomalies and maternal health were excluded. One case with birth defects (terminated) were excluded. No protocol.
Zheng 2022 [63]	Moderate	Large loss, potentially missing data. No protocol.
Zheng 2022 [64]	Moderate	No information on potentially missing data No protocol

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