DEVELOPING A PSYCHOLOGICAL SCREENING PROTOCOL FOR THE UK UTERINE TRANSPLANT TRIAL: WHAT HAVE WE LEARNT SO FAR?

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DECLARATION OF INTEREST

- None
We have an ethical and moral responsibility to assess capacity to consent to procedure along with ability to adhere to the treatment regime and reasonable likelihood of couple maintaining their relationship at the minimum.
Arguably major mental illness, addiction, developmental difficulties, relationship instability and inability to adhere to medication regimes can impede the participants’ capacity to consent or ability to complete the trial.

Preliminary exclusion criteria were defined as:
- having severe psychiatric illness,
- addiction or
- moderate/severe developmental disorders.
- Relationship instability
- Ability to adhere to medication regime
- Coping strategies and availability of social support
This was a case-study mixed design

Participants:

- 11 couples (n=22) who had been pre-selected based on their medical suitability for the procedure.
- 1 was excluded on medical reasons after the screening process had been completed.
MEASURES

Self-report measures:
- WHOQoL BREF
- SF-36
- FertiQoL core
- HADS
- Dyadic Adjustment Scales

Interview:
- Marital Taxon Questionnaire
- mMOS – social support
- Beliefs about Medicines Questionnaire
- SCID-V RV
- Clinical Interview
CLINICAL INTERVIEW THEMES

- Revisit any issues highlighted by the SCID-V and the questionnaires
- Motivations to partake in the trial (beyond having a baby)
- Understanding of potential challenges and identification of coping styles, exploration of past difficulties
- Couple stability and coping with difficulties
- Establish the level of psychological support that they may want / need
### RESULTS: WOMEN

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CONCLUSION AND CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS:

- Different assessment methods/instruments elicits different information.
  - The SCID-V-RV provides detailed information of past and present psychiatric illness and was very helpful in identifying those with a past history of psychiatric and developmental issues.
  - Questionnaires provides a baseline and work as screening tools for further assessment
  - The clinical interview was used to build relationship, assess coping strategies, couple relationship stability, and identify whether additional psychological support may be indicated.
  - Additionally, any concerns that the couple have regarding the transplant can be discussed during the interview.
- We recommend using 2-step approach with a combination of questionnaires and semi-structured interviews to assess the psychological suitability for uterus transplants.