



EcoVue Ultrasound Gel Undergoes MEA Testing

Ultrasound scans are often used throughout fertility treatment and monitoring and are always used during IVF treatment cycles. Transvaginal ultrasound is now routinely used to monitor follicle growth and to assist in oocyte retrieval. Many fertility specialists now use transvaginal ultrasound-guided embryo transfer, which can significantly increase the percentage of pregnancies per transfer.

With so much riding on these ultrasound-guided procedures, it's important that the use of any ultrasound gel not interfere with the IVF process.

While the FDA recommends that MEA testing be used to assess the embryotoxicity of assisted reproductive technology (ART) devices that have direct and/or indirect contact with gametes and/or embryos, ultrasound gel is not included in that guidance.

EcoVue Ultrasound Gel has voluntarily undergone MEA testing to demonstrate that EcoVue can be safely used throughout IVF procedures. In the MEA performed, 21 one-cell mouse embryos were exposed to a 10% solution of EcoVue Ultrasound Gel for 30 minutes. Post exposure the one-cell mouse embryos were rinsed and transferred to culture medium and cultured for 96 hours. A passing test results when 80% of the one-cell embryos divides to two-cells within 24 hours, and when 80% expand to blastocysts within 96 hours. 100% of the test embryos exposed to EcoVue Ultrasound Gel developed to the expanded blastocyst stage within 96 hours.

This MEA testing performed in November 2021 confirms that EcoVue Ultrasound Gel presents no embryotoxicity and is safe to use in all aspects of IVF.

