

KAP study of infertility among Saudi couples

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Background

- Infertility is defined as the failure of a couple to conceive a pregnancy after trying to do so for at least one full year.
- It has a huge psychological burden on the infertile couple especially the women.
- It may lead to depression or even suicidal tendencies, and much other psychological pathology.

Background (Cont.)

- Increasing the level of knowledge may help in decreasing the incidence of infertility by avoiding the risk factors that might lead to it.
- It may also help the society understand and empathize with the infertile couple which eventually might lead to decreasing the psychological burden of the subject at hand.

Objectives

- To assess knowledge of infertile & fertile Saudi subjects on infertility.
- To assess attitude of infertile & fertile Saudi subjects towards infertility and its social consequences
- To identify infertile subjects' expectations of success rate of IVF.
- To determine the practices of infertile Saudi subjects to promote their fertility before attending IVF clinic.

Methodology

Study Design:

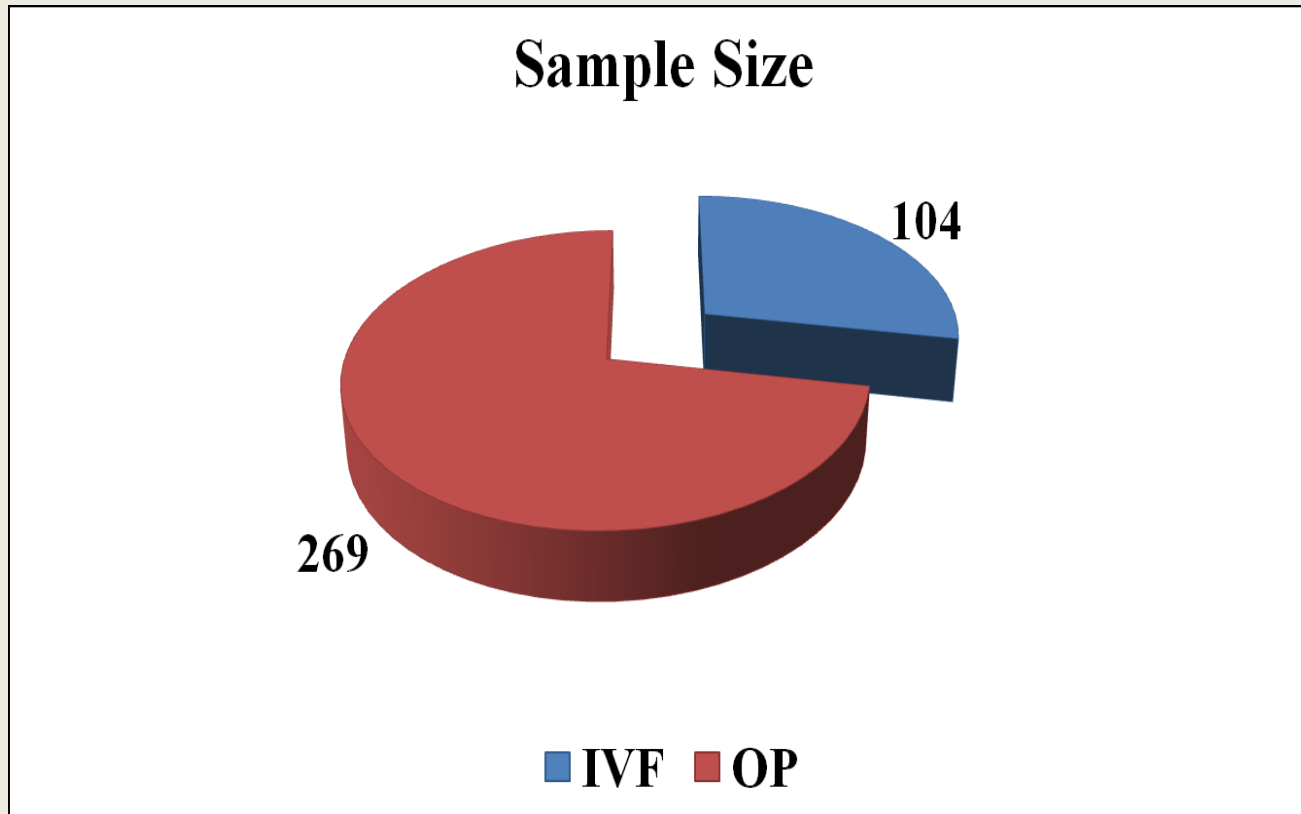
Comparative cross-sectional study.

Study Setting:

King Abdul Aziz medical city, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

1. IVF (In Vitro Fertilization) unit.
2. Outpatient clinic.

Study sample



Study subjects & Sampling Technique

- Based on 25% of good knowledge in a previous study ,with confidence limit of 95%, and level 5% precision, an estimated sample size was 277 subjects.
- Subjects were allocated from outpatients at KAMC during period between 24th June-4thJuly, 2012, and their accompanying who were willing to participate in the study.
- All infertile patients who attended IVF clinic (n=104) during the same period of study.

Data collection method

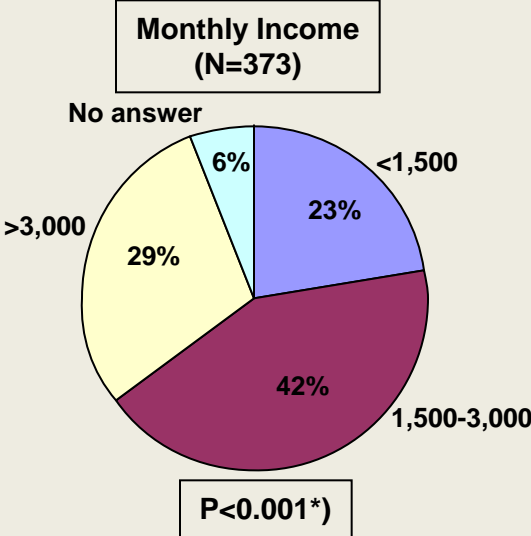
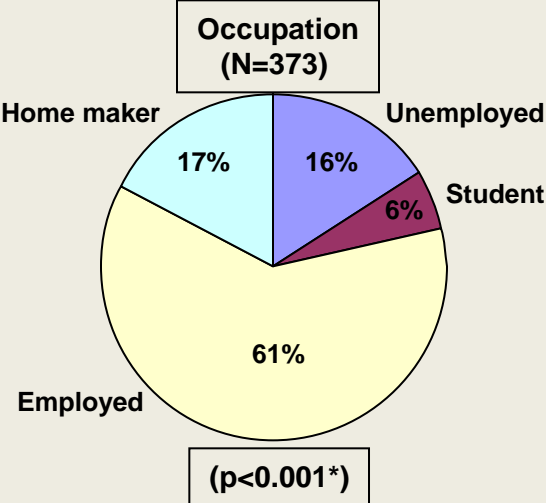
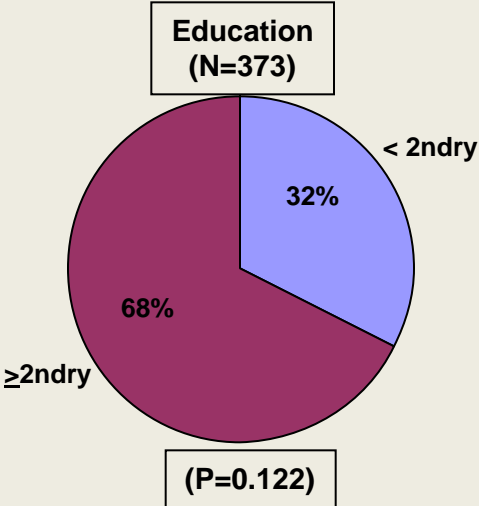
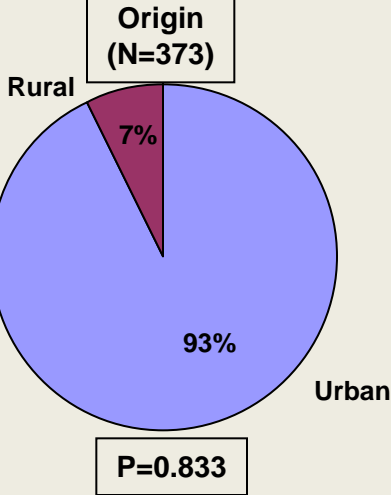
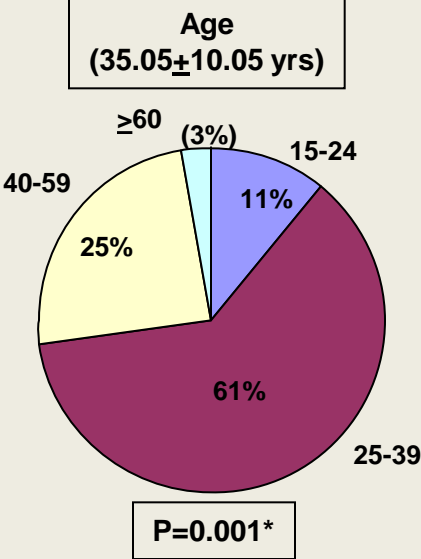
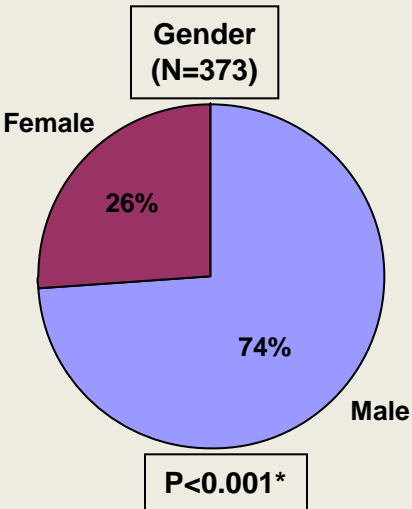
- A previously validated interview questionnaire,
 1. Demographical data (age, gender, occupation, marital state, etc).
 2. knowledge about infertility. (15 factual statements)
 3. Attitudes towards infertility. (7 attitudinal statements)
 4. Attitude towards social consequences of infertility. (6 attitudinal statements)
 5. IVF Patients' characteristics (type of infertility, previous IVF trials, and patient's expectations of success rate of IVF, and previous practices done to improve fertility).

Results



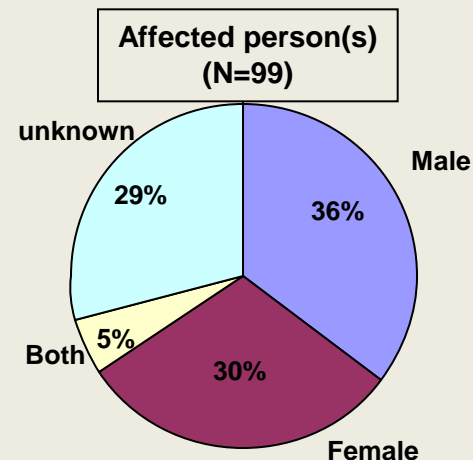
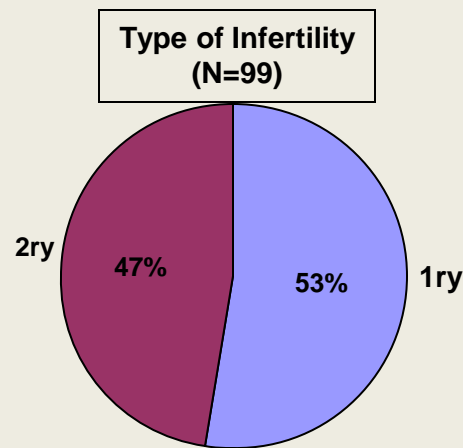
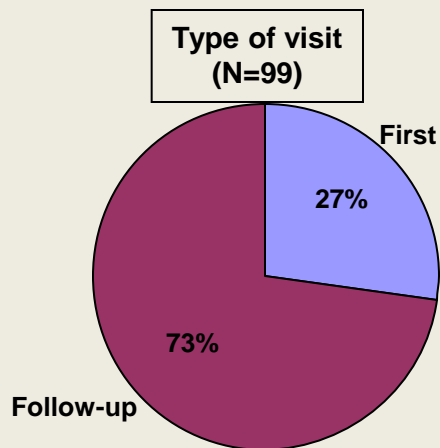
Sociodemographic Characteristics

Sociodemographic characteristics of the IVF patients and fertile outpatients

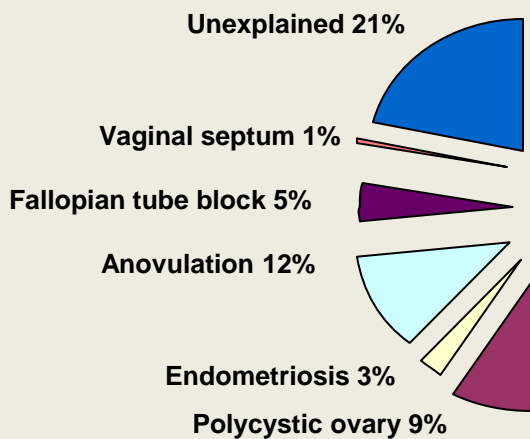


* : denotes statistical significance p<0.05

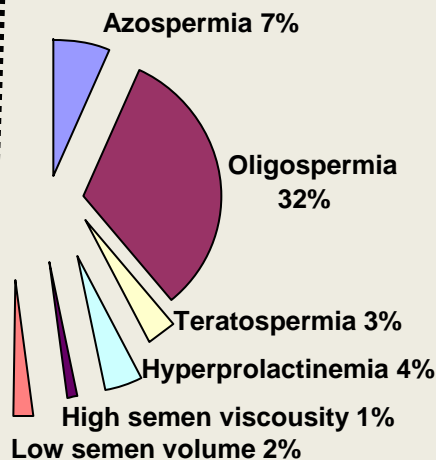
Infertility-related characteristics of IVF patients



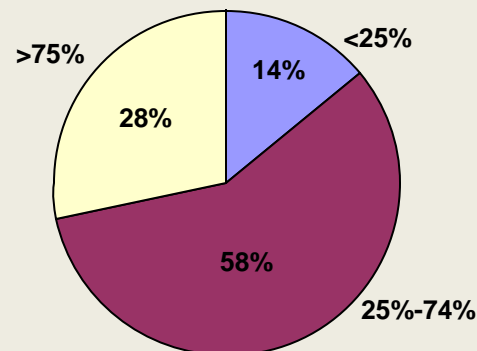
Diagnosis in Women (N=54)



Diagnosis in Men (N=45)



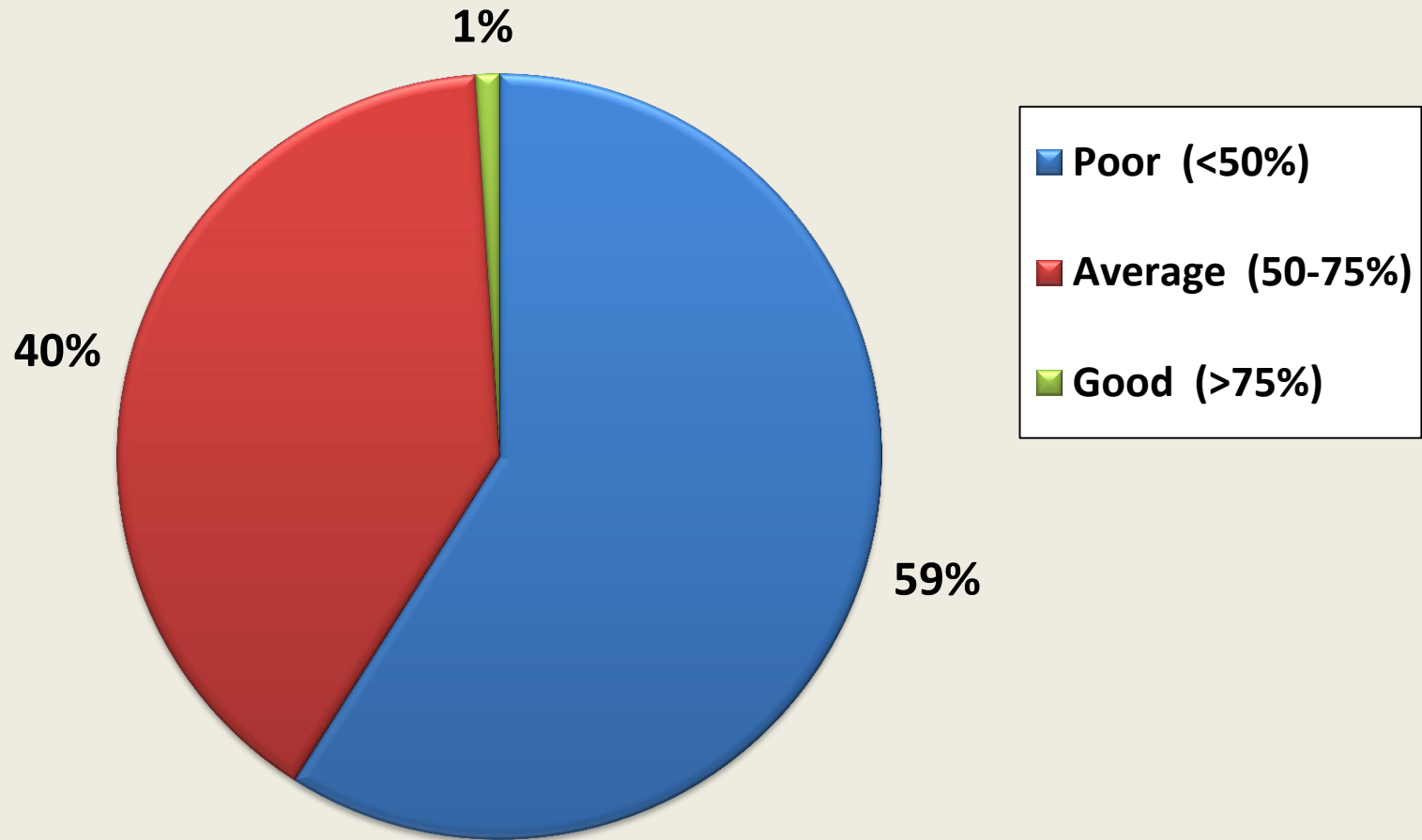
Expected success rate for conception by IVF? (N=92)



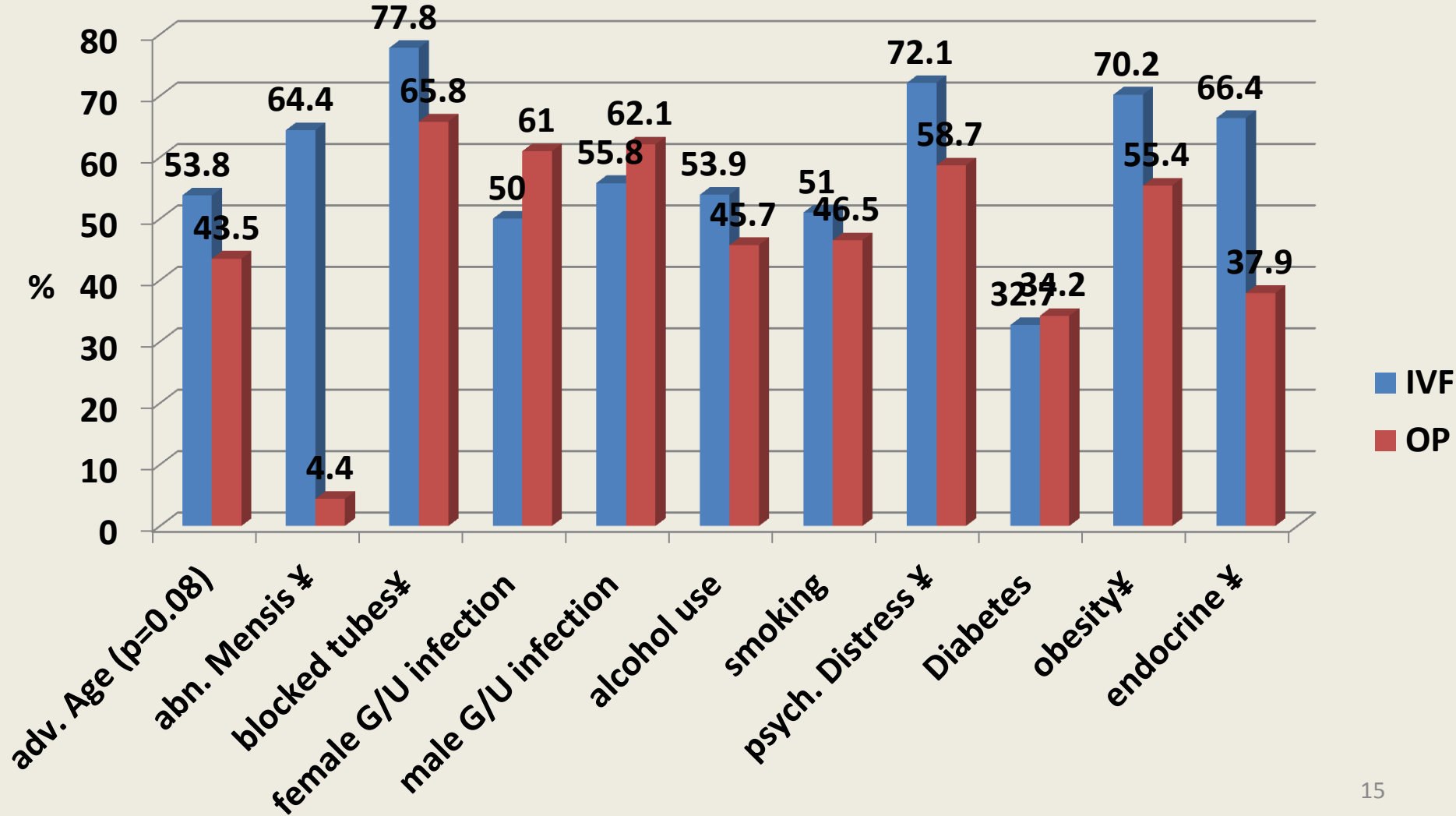
1. Level of Knowledge



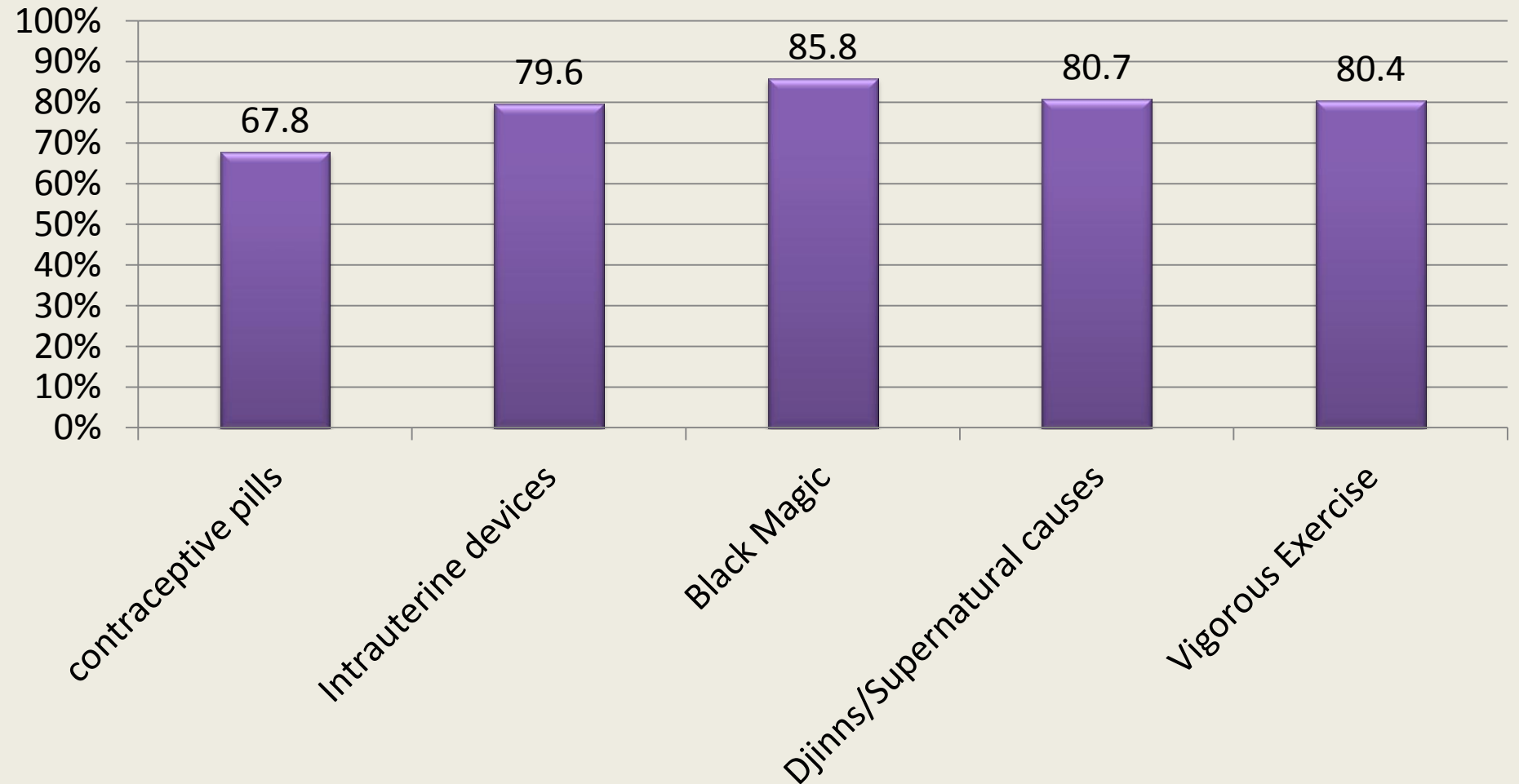
Level of Knowledge about factors effecting infertility



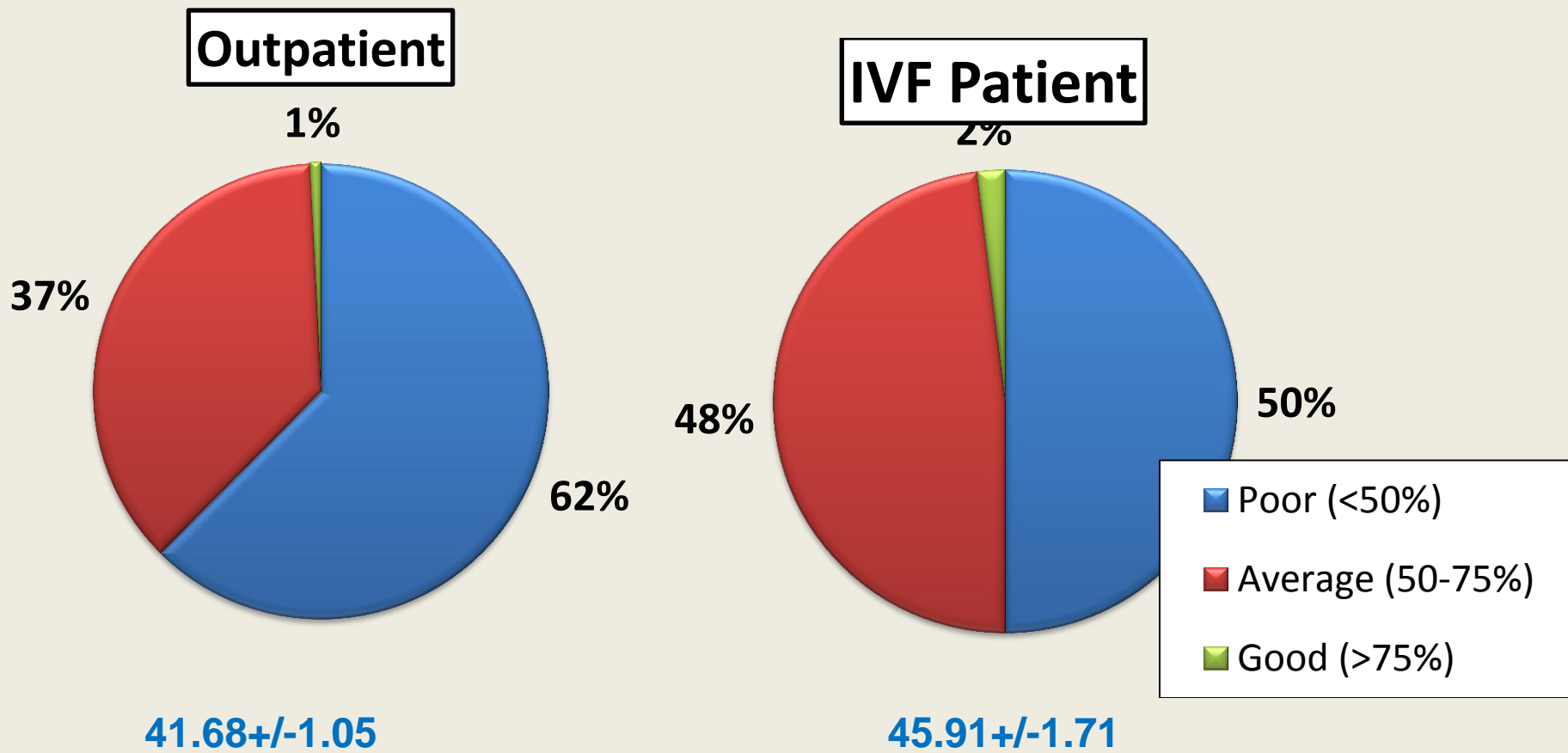
Knowledge of factors that may affect sterility



Common misconceptions



Level of Knowledge



P=0.035

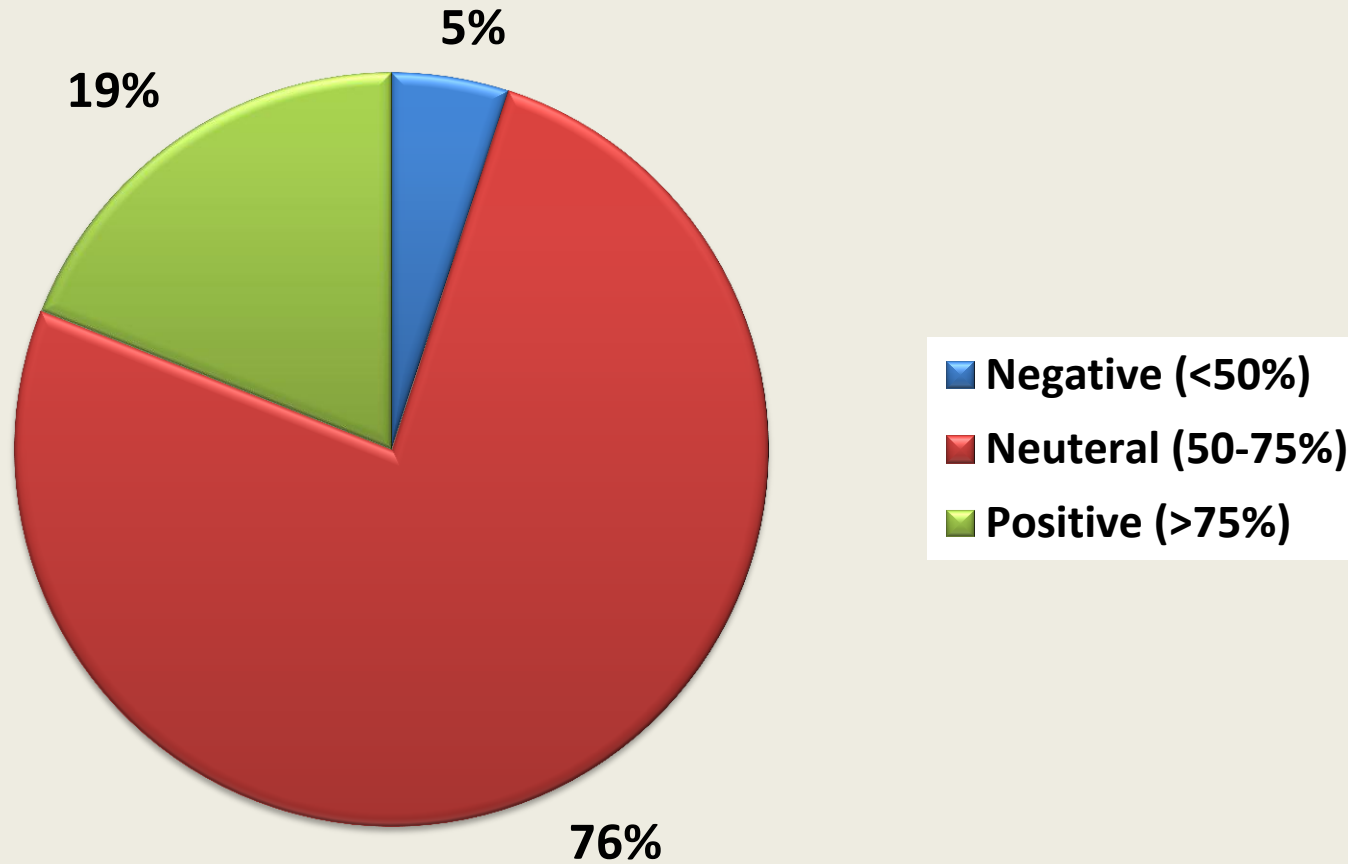
2. Level of Attitude



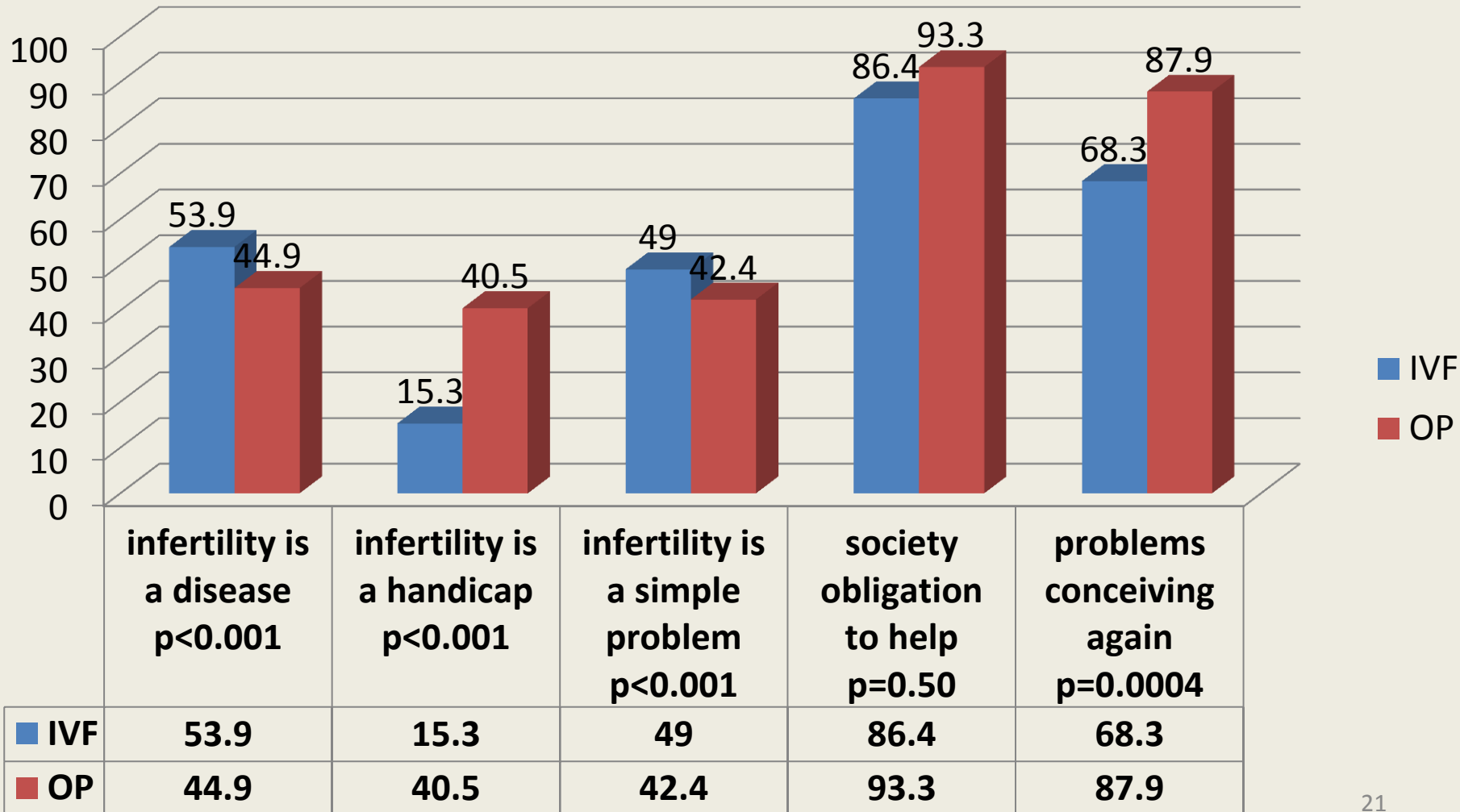
A. Attitude towards infertility



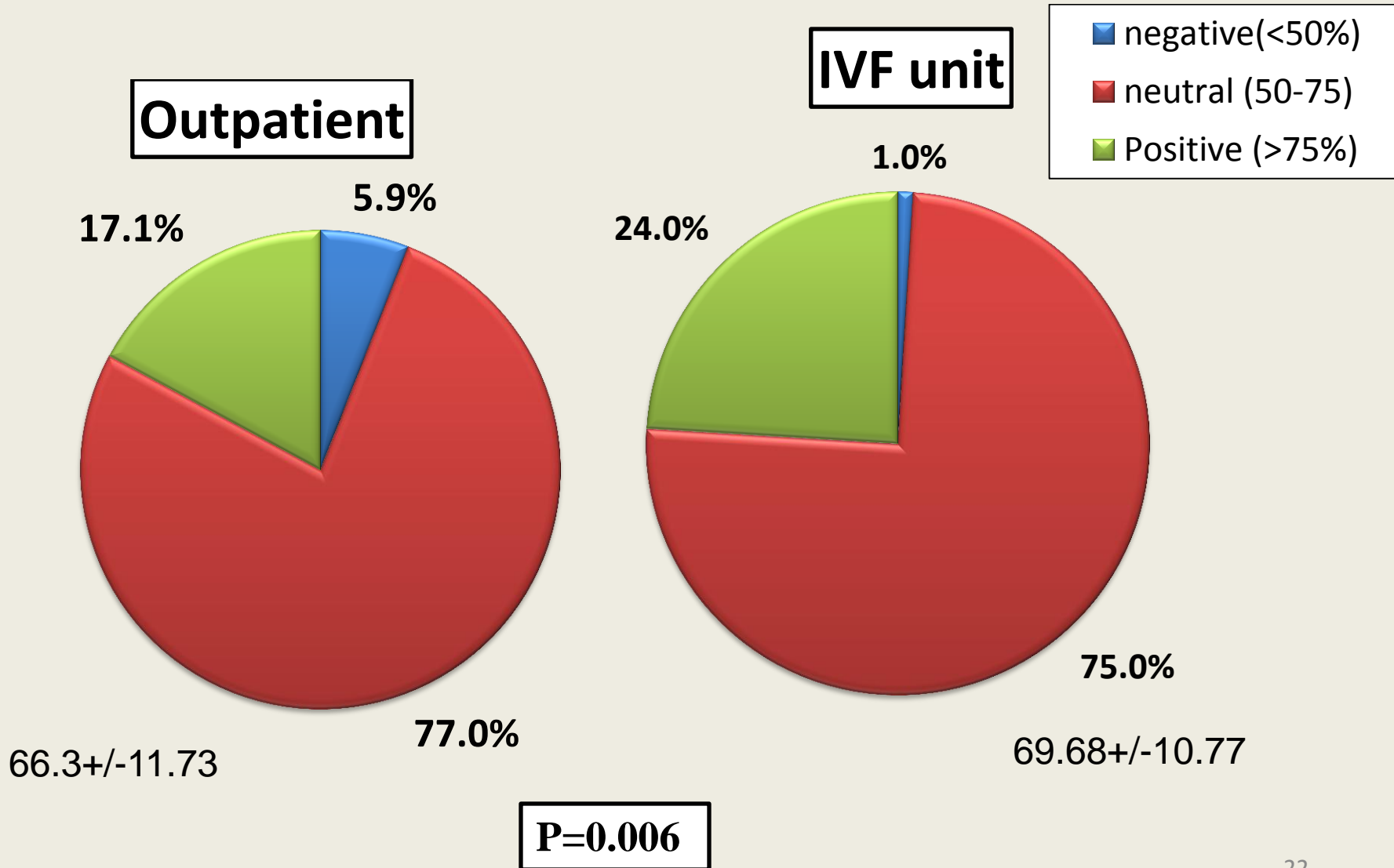
Level of Attitude towards infertility



Attitude towards infertility



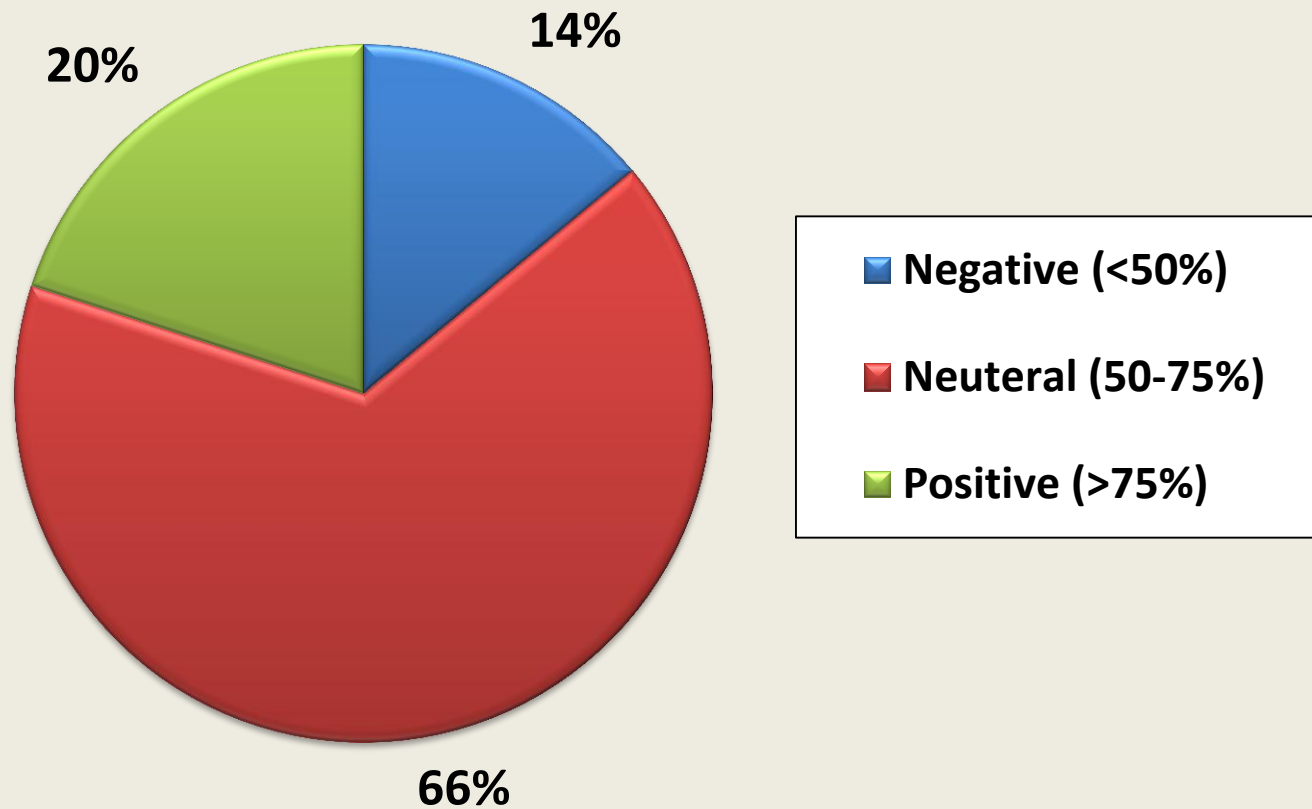
Level of Attitude towards infertility



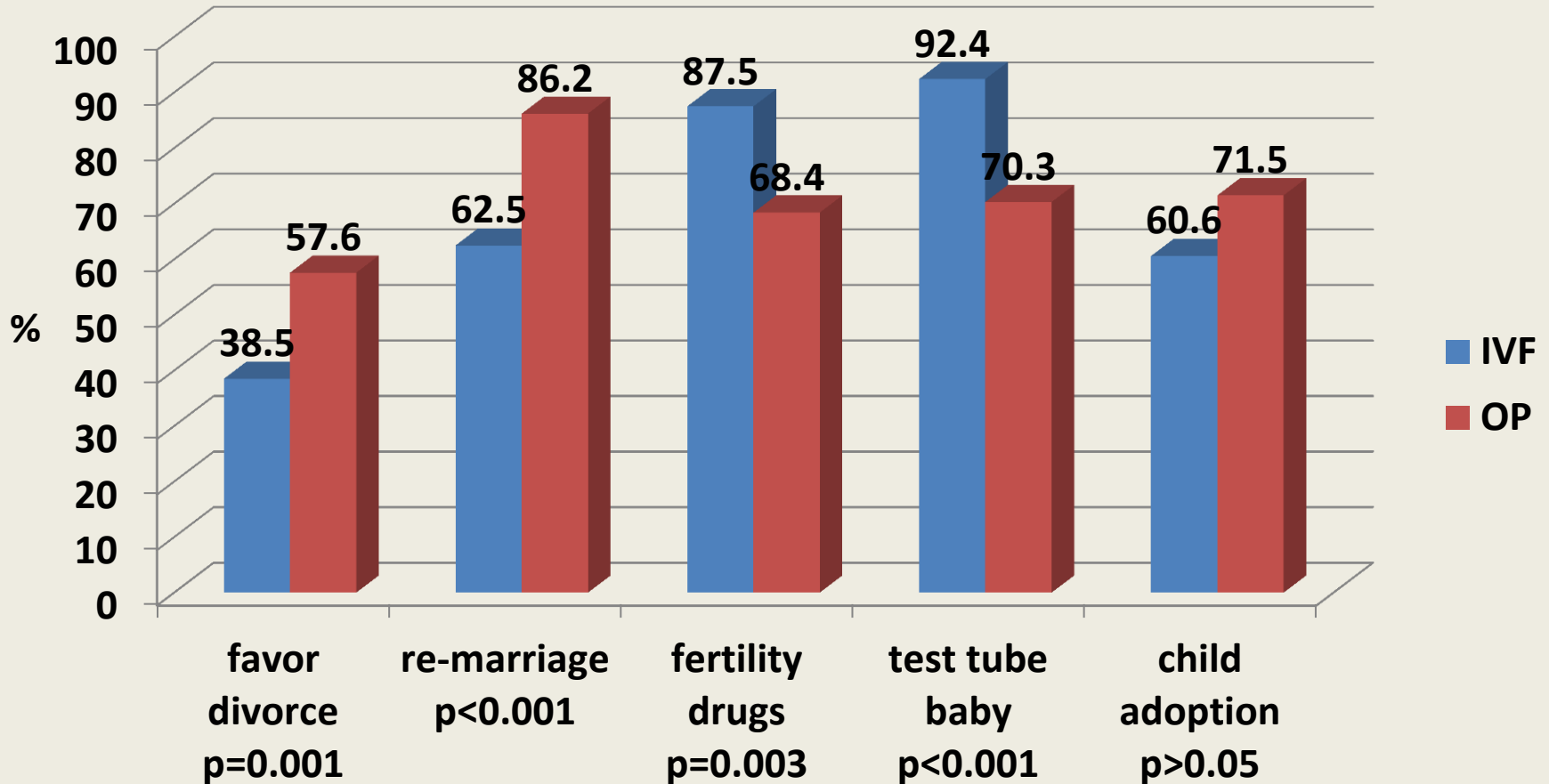
B. Attitude to social consequences of infertility



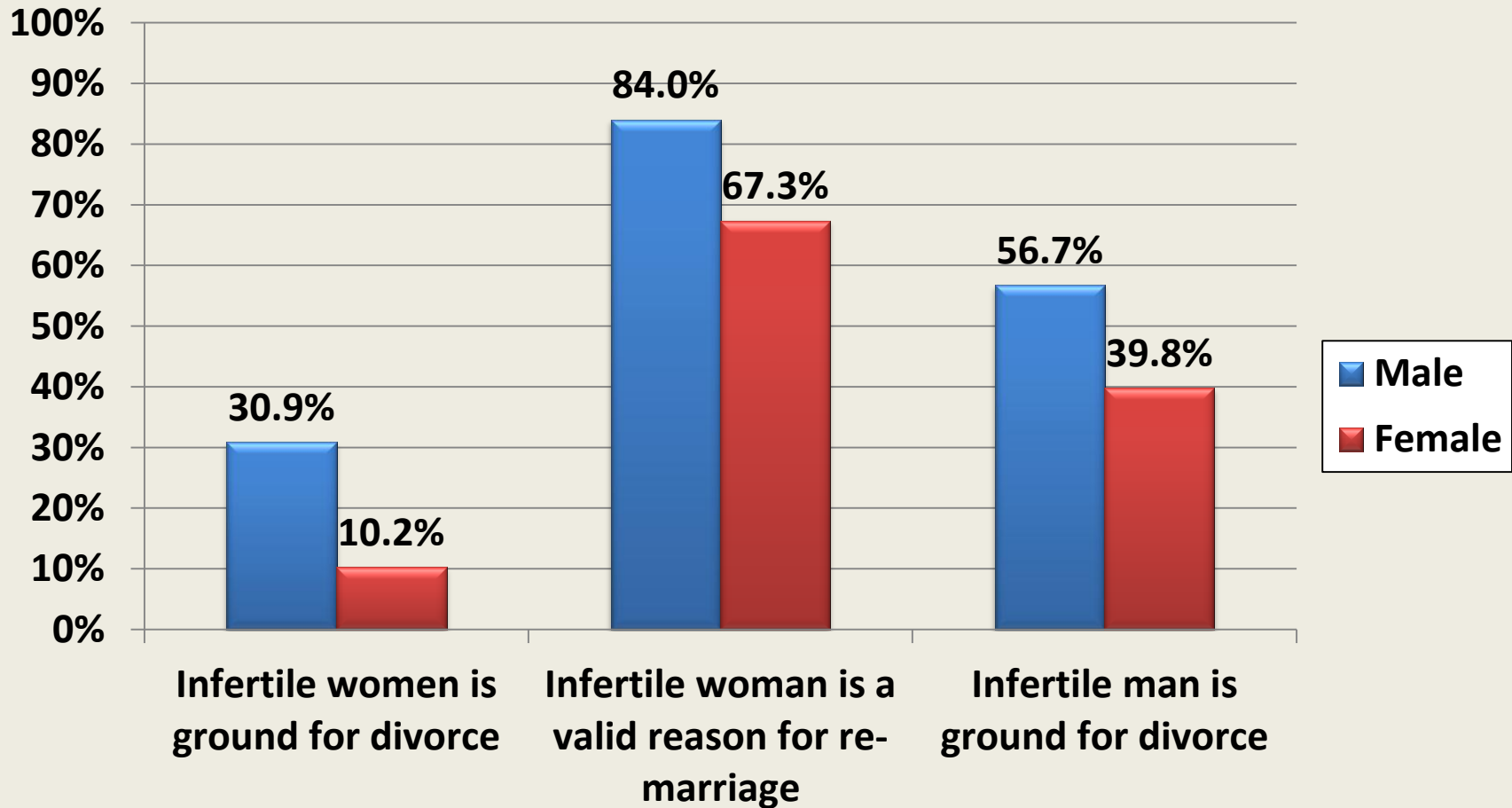
Attitude towards social consequences of infertility



Attitude to social consequences of infertility

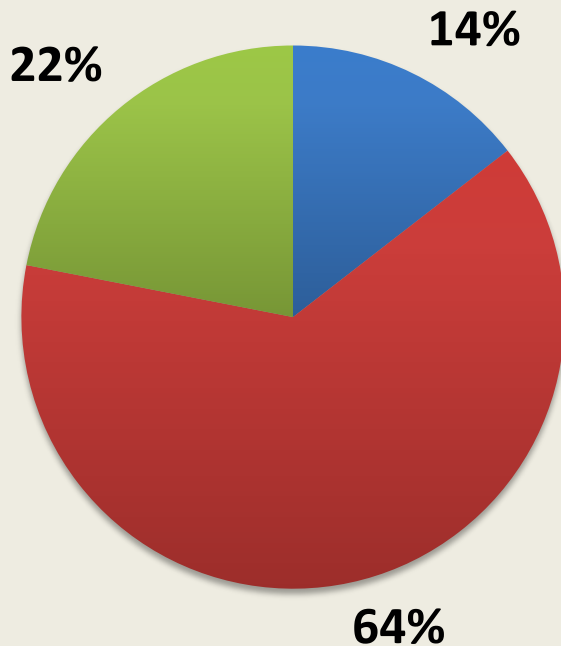


Social consequences of infertility



Level of Attitude towards social consequences

Outpatient

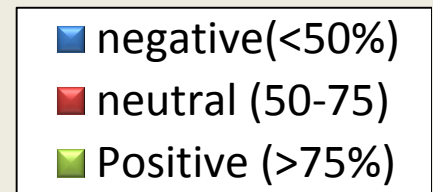


61.22+/-15.81

IVF unit



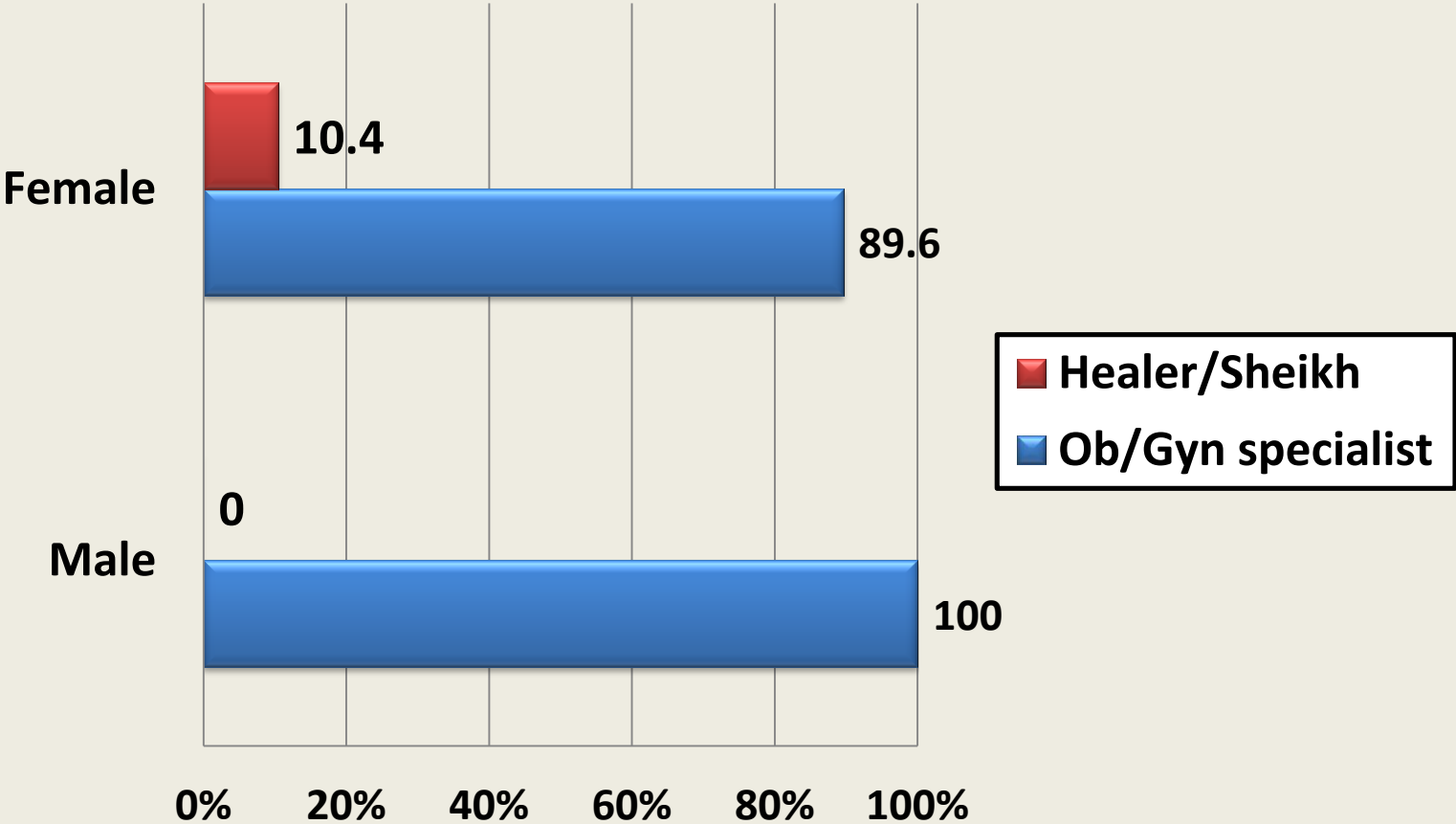
61.22+/-15.81



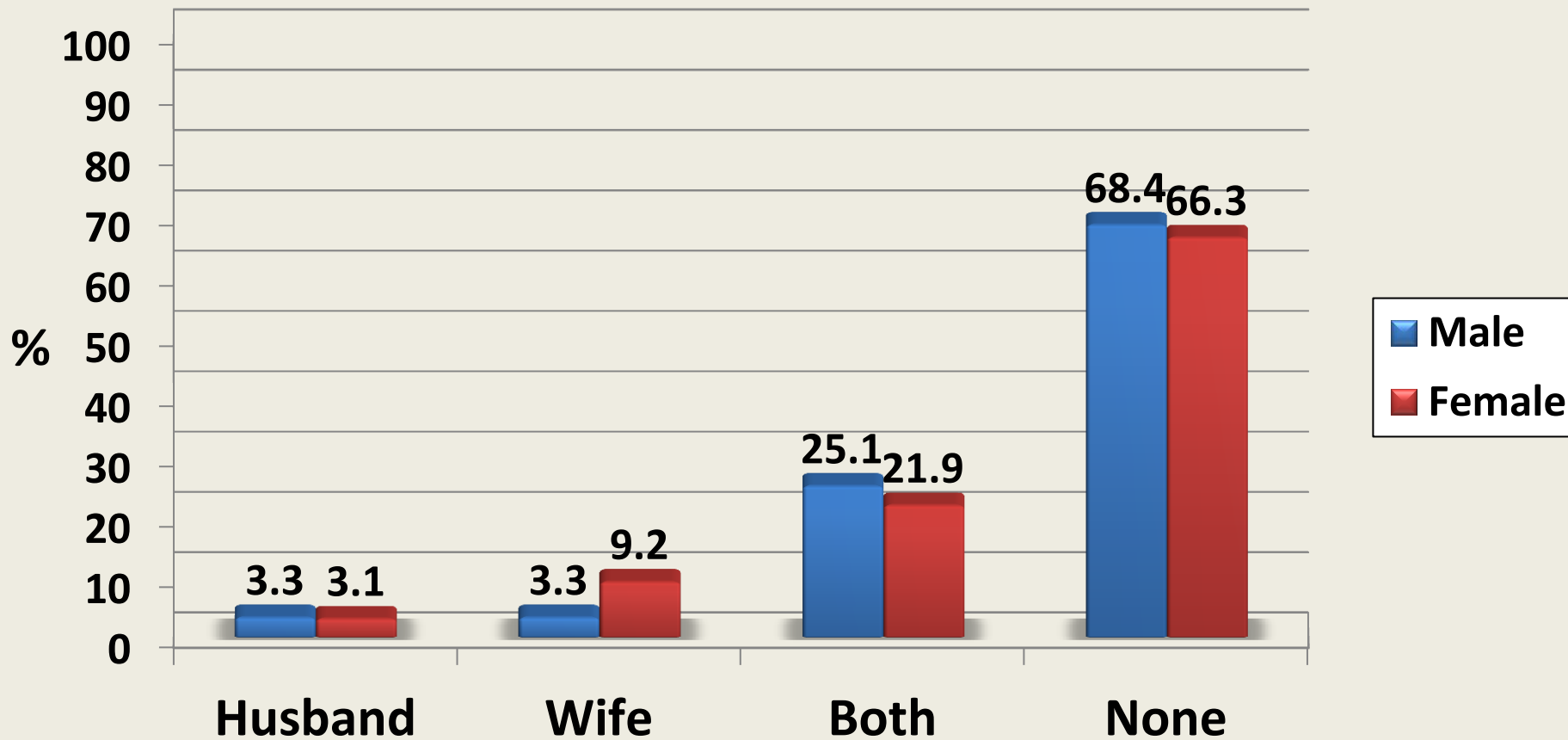
P=.149

Attitude of IVF patients towards infertility related issues

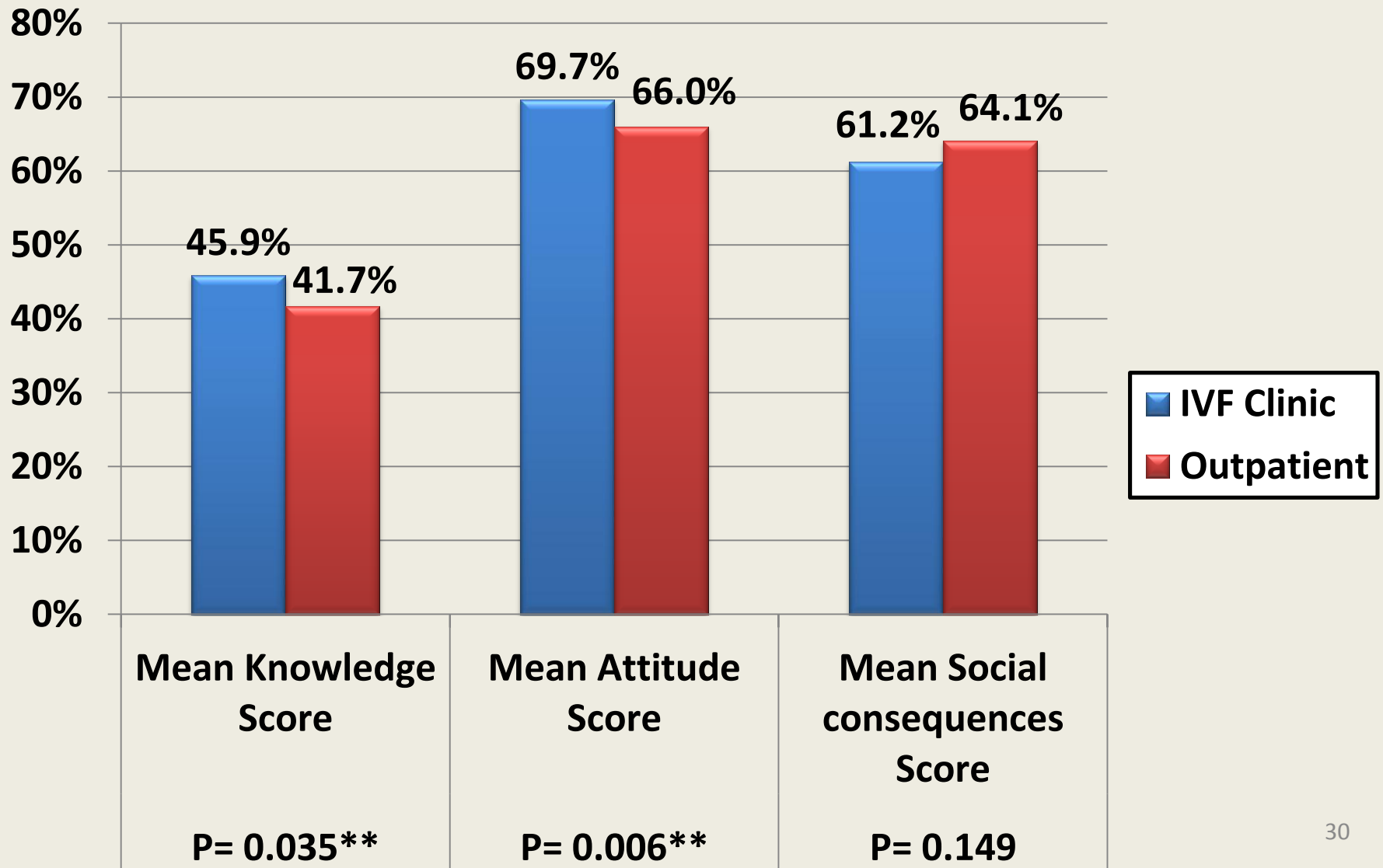
Primary Preference for Treatment



Whom to blame for infertility?



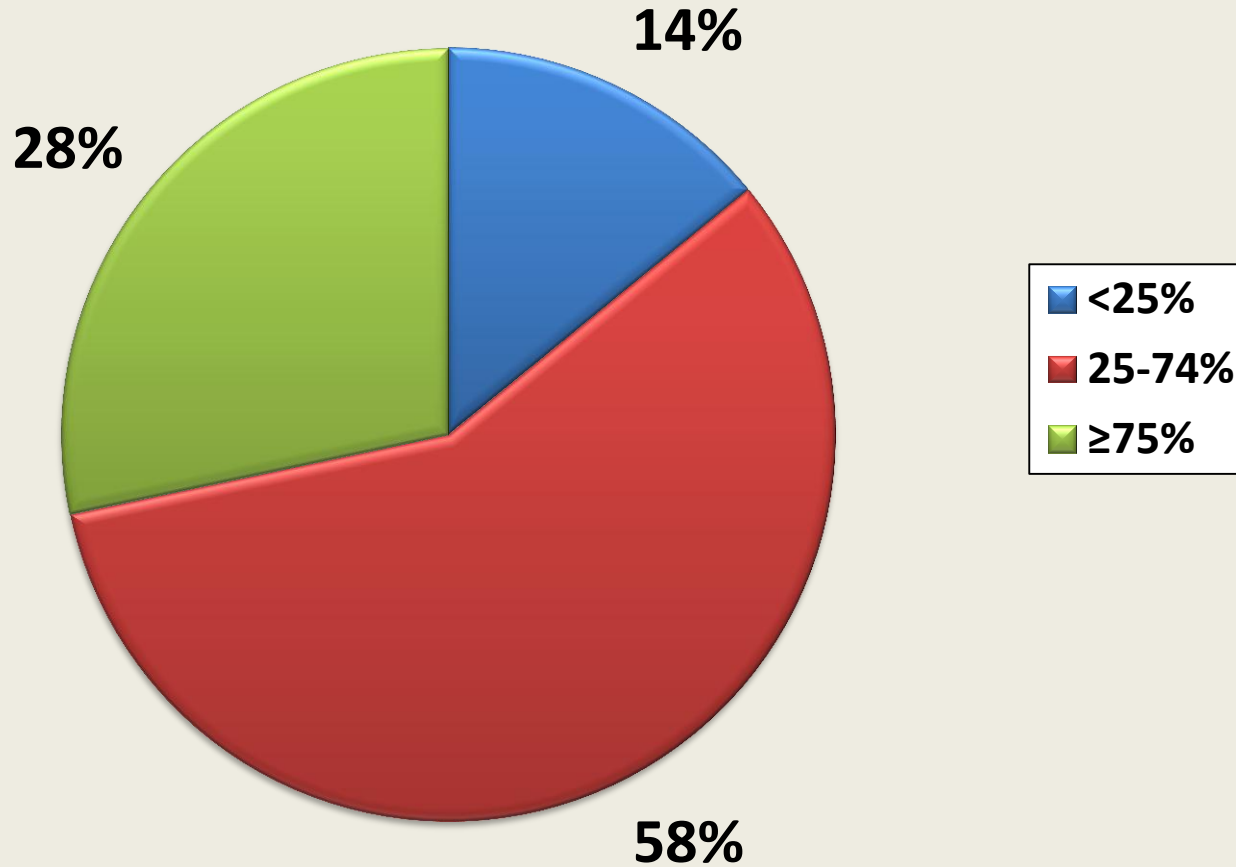
Percentage mean score of patients' knowledge on and attitude towards infertility and it's social consequences



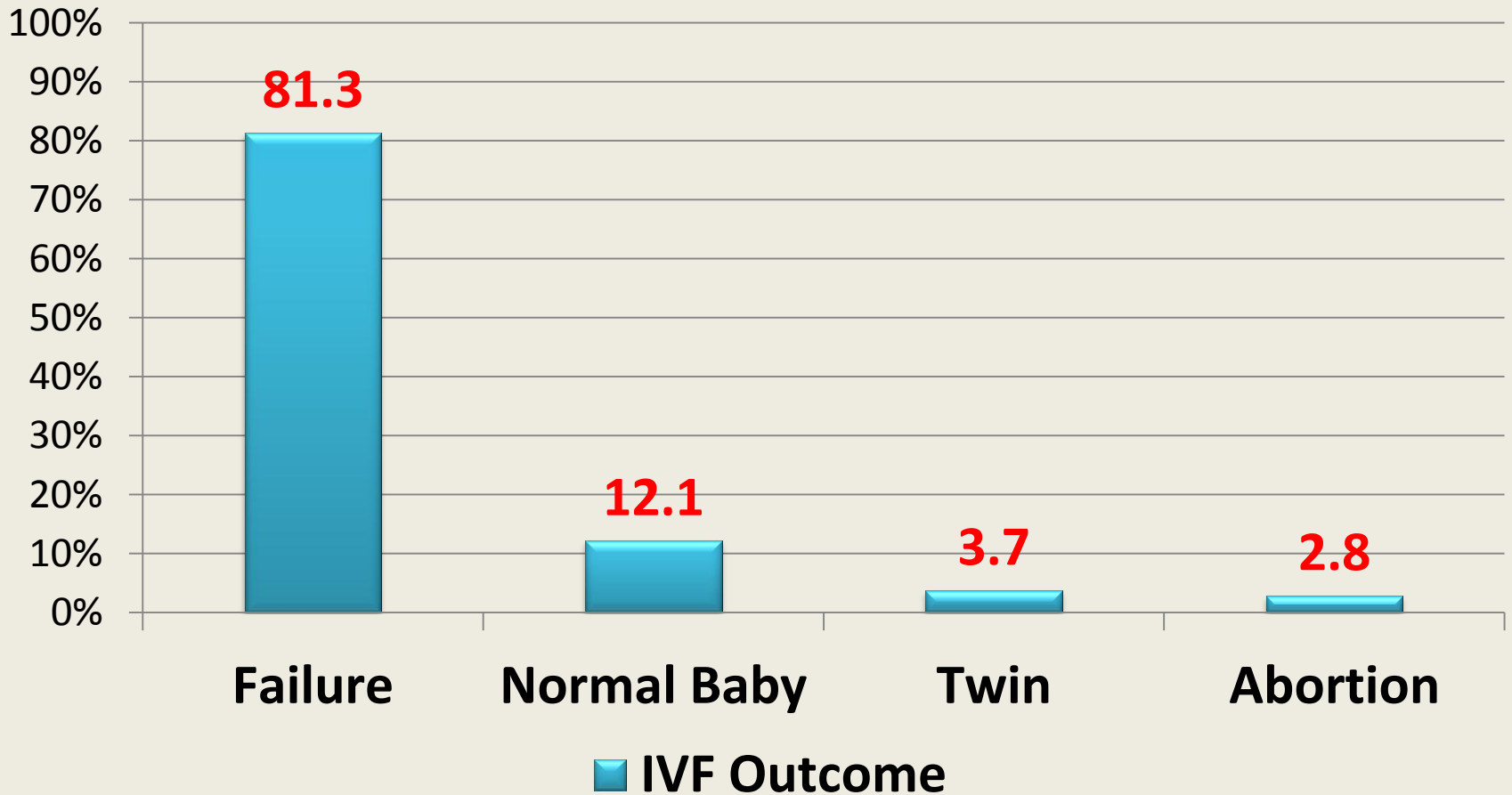
3. Patients' expectations of IVF success rate



Patients' expectations of IVF success rate:



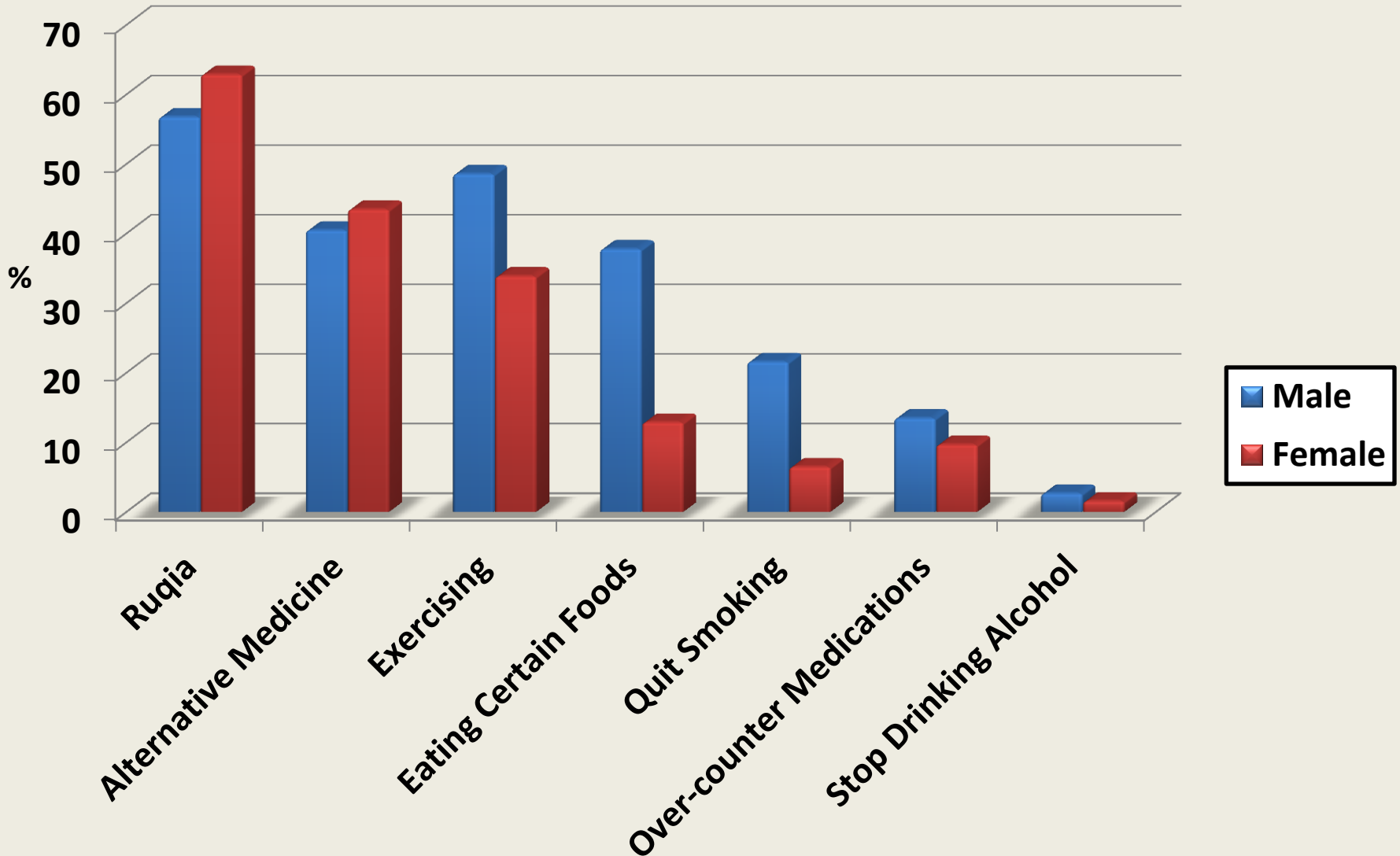
Outcome of IVF trials



4. Practices by IVF patients to improve fertility



Practices by IVF patients to improve fertility



Conclusion

- People with limited knowledge about fertility may engage in ineffective behaviors that could delay seeking effective interventions.
- These findings have implications for health care providers regarding the reluctance that couples experiencing fertility problems may have, at least initially, to accept some interventions required for the couple to conceive.
- Compared with fertile outpatients, patients with infertility showed significantly more favorable attitudes toward infertility and various interventions, such as IVF or fertility drugs.

Recommendations

- Public education campaigns should be directed toward correcting erroneous beliefs about the risk factors associated with infertility.
- Special emphasis should be placed on directing IVF patients to the correct knowledge and healthy practices and helping them seek medical advice as their only preference for treatment.
- Future research is necessary to determine the extent to which the pattern of attitudes found here is representative of that in the population facing infertility as well as in the general population.



Thank you

