

CAROLINE'S DIARY FROM HER 2ND IVF ATTEMPT

Period started on Friday, so was up very early on Saturday to catch the red-eye flight to London (at airport at 5.55am!!) for day 2 scan and bloods, everything was good so started 400iu Puregon on Sat night. I'm feeling ok at the moment, just hoping that things look good when I have my day 6 scan on Wednesday as haven't tried this drug before (used menopur last time). Found the last few weeks building up to this quite stressful and frustrating, I wanted to get as organized as possible which is hard to do when you're not sure exactly when your going to start. Strangely I feel a lot calmer now treatment has started - lets hope it stays that way. DH has had to go away on business for a few days so I'm glad the puregon pen is really easy to use (anyway I'm not sure I like the idea of DH sticking needles in me! All going well we'll be off to London at the weekend so I suppose I'd better start thinking about packing - I have the essentials already (chocolate, books and magazines) just the boring stuff left to sort out. I really hope it works this time

I think I may have switched my brain off this afternoon, I knew I had to go to the supermarket but when I got there it took me a good 10 minutes to remember what I was there for! The injections are really easy but I find I feel a little odd afterwards, so I'm trying to make sure I've got dinner ready so I don't have to do too much afterwards.

Yippee the rest of my puregon has finally arrived at the pharmacy. I'm starting to get a few minor side effects from the drugs, last night I felt really hot, had sore boobs, and was a bit achy but nothing too bad. I didn't sleep very well so I may treat myself to an afternoon nap later

Woke up feeling a bit apprehensive this morning, just hoping that the treatment is working.

So now my day 6 bloods and scan are done and I have 9 follicles size 8.5-12mm (I think it's mm anyway), but he said they were still small so I was a bit disappointed with that. But I suppose it is still early days so

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hopefully they will all grow and produce eggs. I'll have to wait till later this PM to find out if I have to change my dose or anything.

Took my 1st Orgalutron shot this morning and had forgotten how much it stung! Feeling tired and a bit down now but I've just got off the phone with the clinic and they think my progress is fine, I'm to stay at 400iu of Puregon and have another scan on Friday. Isn't it funny, when the Dr at the scan said that my follicles were small it really brought me down, but now I've spoken to the clinic I feel fine. Oh the joys of hormones!!!

Well had my day 8 scan today and I now have 18 follicles size 10-15 mm (had 9 on Wed), so I'm in a bit of a state of shock. I'm waiting to hear from the clinic to see if I have to change my dose and when my next scan will be.

Have just got off the phone with the clinic and they are pleased with my progress. I'm to stay on 400iu Puregon till my scan with them on Monday. So I'd better get my arse in gear and start packing 'cos we're off to London on Sunday. Feeling quite positive today.

Well, we're off to London today for 2 weeks, all going well egg collection should be Thurs or Fri. I am starting to get a little jittery about everything that was to come.

Had a scan on Mon am and they said everything looked good and that egg collection would probably be Thursday. Then got a call later that day to say it had been moved up to Wed as they were a little worried of ovarian hyper stimulation syndrome and wanted to get the eggs out. So I skipped the Puregon Mon pm, took another Orgalutron and then at 10.30pm took the Pregnyl shot - god I'd forgotten how much that one hurt

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I felt pretty rubbish after the shot and soon regretted the lovely Goats cheese salad I'd had for dinner as I spent the next 1/2 hr with my head down the loo (sorry for TMI). Anyway, the egg collection went well and we got 18 Eggs and DH's sample was all ok so we were able to go ahead with IVF. Last cycle we had 10 follicles and got 9 eggs so we were feeling pretty high - but as they are still a little worried of ovarian hyper stimulation syndrome I have to keep drinking mega tons of water and OJ and monitor myself.

I felt rough yesterday pm, quite bloated and period painy so went to bed, DH treated me to a choc cupcake which I was really looking forward too, but when I ate it felt totally sick afterwards (so not fair!!!)

But feel a lot better today, still a bit bloated but hopefully it will all go down soon, and have just been informed that we have 15 Embryo's!!!! (I am in so much shock right now that's 3x what we got with cycle 1) So we are planning to go to Blast with EGG TRANSFER on Monday but have to phone on Sat to see how everything is going so all fingers and toes are now crossed

I'm feeling a bit crappy today and as I'm bloated and my tummy has been feeling really tender they decided it was best to do more bloods and a scan today. The scan seemed ok, my follicles have refilled but there is little water around the ovaries, so she said I'm probably a bit bruised from all the follicles but they think this is likely to be as bad as it gets (god I hope so). So I've been sent to bed and have to drink yucky isotonic drink and monitor my weight and waist for any further bloating. I didn't have any of these symptoms with our 1st IVF cycle so I wasn't really prepared for this but the London fertility clinic have been great and the nurses have been very reassuring.

It's 4.45am and I can't sleep. I woke up an hour or so ago with tummy ache and was sick about 1/2 hr ago (nothing really just biley stuff - sorry if TMI). The clinic want us to go to blastocyst and I'm starting to feel really apprehensive as we'll find out how our little embryos are doing in a few hours. Except for the clinic

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visit yesterday I've been stuck in this hotel room since Thursday pm and I've been told to stay here until egg transfer pretty much,

I know everything seems much worse in the early hours but right now I feel crappy and I think the cyclogest has kicked in cos I feel teary too. Have just been off and had a good cry in the loo as don't want to wake or worry DH.

RANT TIME : BLOODY HORMONES, BLOODY TREATMENT, BLOODY EVERYTHING!!!!!!

Well I've just heard back from the clinic, we currently have 14 good embryos and we are going onto Blastocyst so egg transfer will be sometime on Monday

Ok so now I'm officially on the dreaded 2 week wait. Egg transfer was yesterday and after a bit of tooting and frowning we finally managed to get 2 on board and 4 in the freezer (1st they said I hadn't drunk enough water, then they had trouble with the catheter, and I have to say through all of this there was a very cold draft coming from the Lab aim straight at my private bits!!!!)

I'm feeling a bit blue today, not down or particularly tearful but spent a couple of hours on Oxford Street shopping (which is usually one of my favorite pass times) and just felt very BLAAHH! Even though I managed to get 2 tops in the Monsoon & Jane Norman sales. Also I'm trying to have a day or so with no crap (no sweets, choc, crisps, etc) and it's really hard going. And I'm feeling really tired today, and I'm missing my dog, only 5 days till I can bust him out of the kennels.

I can't wait until I go home tomorrow, just have to pack up and hope everything fits in the cases (and we don't have to pay excess baggage!!!)

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Who ever said IVF was a rollercoaster ride was so right, but we'll find out the results in a few days so I think I can hold on for a bit longer although my knuckles are beyond white!!

I'm feeling ok and trying not to think about any niggles etc although it's really really hard.

I'm having a blood test on Wednesday and am starting to get a bit nervous now the time is getting near but no sign of period yet so here's hoping. If I'm honest I don't really want to do any test, I know I have to and I will, but sometimes ignorance is bliss!!! But I've decided this time I'm not telling all my friends / Family etc when I'm taking the test just in case it doesn't work. Last time they all knew and I felt I had to deal with it on the day, which was very hard (I'm afraid I did it by text 'cos I couldn't talk).

Unfortunately DH has had to go back to London until tomorrow night so I'm feeling a bit blue tonight, and I've been feeling a bit sick this pm (probably a mix of the cyclogest and nerves!!) I'm trying not to read anything into any niggles and symptoms as I had lots last time (sore boobs, feeling sick, aversion to smells etc) and still got a BFN, so really need to just sit tight and wait.

I didn't have a very good night last night, and seemed to need the loo every few hours.

I've been trying really hard to ignore all the niggles etc but last night everything just seemed too much, I keep getting pains on either side, they aren't like period pains and I think it may be 'cos I had a mild case of ovarian hyper stimulation syndrome (the nurse did say any symptoms could go on for a few weeks and longer if I get a positive pregnancy test), my boobs ache and I feel so tired. I think it's all just down to cyclogest as I had similar symptoms with cycle 1 and as that didn't work I'm starting to get that sinking feeling that this all just side effects of the drugs.

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I've been feeling a bit numb through this cycle, not really positive but at the same time not really negative. I wonder whether this can make a big difference to the results as people keep saying about a positive mental attitude.

A friend of a friend said that cycle 2 was easier if you have decided to do 3 cycles, that because you've done it once and know what your doing, but you know there is still another attempt out there if it doesn't work, but I've found that this cycle has been so different to cycle 1 (and not in a particularly good way!!) which has taken me by surprise. Oh well the 2WW is almost over.

To top it all I've got a cold sore on my lip too!!!! As if life wasn't already feeling sucky on this 2WW - oh well my blood test is at 10.20am tomorrow and I'll find out in less than 24hrs (ohhh that sound scary!!!) I am really trying to resist the lure of chocolate and junk, I had a choc free day yesterday but I'm thinking I may need some to get through the next 24 hrs

Well the bloods been drawn and now I just have to wait till this afternoon to make the dreaded call to see what the result is. I've been feeling sick for the last few days and don't really want to eat but that is probably just stress / nerves.

It's funny when I was in London I couldn't wait to come home to see my mates etc, but since I've been back I just don't seem to be able to face them. I phoned a friend on Monday night (but only 'cos she phoned me) and when she asked how I was I just said fine and quickly changed the subject.

I have to be honest I am absolutely terrified, I cried on the way to the nurses appointment and on the way back and all I can think about is how high I was when I called last time and how far I fell when she confirmed it was negative.

Oh well only 2hrs 42 mins to go!!!

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OMG, OMG, OMG apparently I'm pregnant !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I am in a total state of shock and keep expecting someone to call me back and say it's a mistake!!!!!!!!!!!!!! But apparently my Beta result was 74.0IU/L which is good (??)

I'm totally knackered and have to keep taking the awful cyclogest but I don't care.

I know it is very early days and I that there are a lot more hurdles to get over before we're through, but this is the 1st time I've ever had a positive test so think I will savor this for a while.....

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