

June 4, 2004

Mary Robert, M.D, D.G.O
Senior Consultant, Department of
Gynecology and Obstetrics
Al Salama Hospital, P.O. Box 46266
Abu Dhabi, UAE

Ashok Agarwal, Ph.D., HCLD
Director, Center for Advanced Research in Human Reproduction,
Infertility, and Sexual Function
Cleveland Clinic Foundation
9500 Euclid Avenue, Desk A19.1
Cleveland, Ohio 44195, USA

Dear Dr Agarwal,

I came over to the Center For Advanced Research in Human Reproduction, Infertility, and Sexual Function with mixed feelings. I was doubtful if I could accomplish my task of learning sperm preparation techniques, cryopreservation and micromanipulation within the specified time of 3 weeks.

My training started on 05/17/2004 with the sperm preparation techniques module, then the cryopreservation module, followed by all the different aspects of micromanipulation pertaining to intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) starting from setting up an IVF lab to assisted hatching. During my training, I was given the opportunity to acquire the technical skills needed to perform all these techniques in an independent, efficient, and most important in a confident manner. This was achieved by allocating the necessary time for real hands-on training. In addition, I attended multiple presentations and video lectures on various topics such as routine semen parameters, ICSI overview in addition to sperm, oocyte and embryo morphology.

Being the first international trainee, to acquire this technique from the real experts in the field of Andrology and assisted reproduction in a vary prestigious institution as the Cleveland Clinic Foundation really adds a lot to my career. I am really grateful to you sir, Dr Ashok Agarwal and to each and every staff member and fellow of this unit for the tolerance and patience you had in making my stay a wonderful experience never to forget.

To sum up I could only say, "Mission accomplished" stringed with golden memories. Not once during my stay my stay did I feel I was left away. Every point of my departure from UAE up to today was carefully kneaded and well balanced by the most respected Dr Ashok Agarwal. So thank you very much sir for the kindness you bestowed on me in every aspect both professionally and personally.

And to my colleagues, each one of you inspite of the heavy responsibilities you shouldered, never did you discard anything I came asking for. So thanking each one of you

straight from my heart. Within this short period, I felt like home away from home. I sincerely pray to god to shower blessings on each and every one of you, both in your career and back home and that your lives' expectations may reach the zenith of glory in the days to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Phyllis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Mary Roberts, M.D