

FERTILIZATION AND FERTILIZATION *IN VITRO*
2010 NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE

Summary

Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2010 was awarded to Robert G. Edwards for the development of *in vitro* fertilization. His research in the field of human reproduction culminated in success on 25 July, 1978, when the first child conceived through IVF (*in vitro* fertilization) was born. Several technical advances and discoveries were required before successful human IVF could be achieved, one of them was the ability to capacitate human sperm *in vitro*. Since then almost 4 million babies have been

born due to human IVF. The development of intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI), in which single spermatozoon is injected into the cytoplasm of the oocyte, was a technological breakthrough, which makes possible to treat many types of infertility. Human IVF has radically changed the field of reproductive medicine. Techniques of artificial reproduction were also important in advancement of our knowledge on reproductive physiology and development of the man and other animals.