An update for FIIX study participants on the Coronavirus COVID-19 Pandemic.

On Monday the government announced that New Zealand is moving to Alert Level 4 as of midnight Wednesday 25th March 2020. This means that fertility clinics in New Zealand are now working to suspend all treatments including in-vitro fertilization, frozen embryo transfer, intrauterine insemination and ovulation induction until such time the government advises it is safe to commence treatment.

Consequently, all new recruitment for the FIIX study has been postponed until further notice. After the four weeks lock down, we will review whether the study can recommence recruitment, but this will be in line with government advice. In the meantime, you can still contact us to check if you are eligible for inclusion in the study.

We understand this is a stressful and difficult time for everyone, especially for couples trying to conceive and planning fertility treatment. Over the course of the lock down period we will be in touch to update you on the state of fertility services in New Zealand.

Our current knowledge about pregnancy and the coronavirus is limited. There is no evidence that pregnant women are more likely to be severely unwell than other healthy adults if they develop the new coronavirus. It is expected the large majority of pregnant women will experience only mild or moderate cold/flu like symptoms.

As this is a very new virus, we are just beginning to learn about it. There is no evidence to suggest an increased risk of miscarriage. There is also no evidence that the virus can pass to your baby while you are pregnant or during birth.

At this point in time there is no evidence to recommend contraception or cessation of attempts to conceive, either naturally or assisted. If you become pregnant during this time, please do let us know.

If you have any queries or concerns please contact us at theFIIXstudy@auckland.ac.nz.

Kind regards,
Professor Cindy Farquhar and The FIIX Study Team
Lead Investigator for The FIIX Study

References
