Table 4

Fertile, intermediate and sub-fertile ranges for sperm measurements and corresponding odds ratios for infertility[9]

	Concentration (x10^6/ml)	Motility (per cent)	Morphology (per cent normal)
Fertile	>48	>63	>12
Indeterminate range	13-45	32-63	9-12
Odds ratio for infertility	1.5	1.7	1.8
(95 per cent CL)	(1.2-1.8)	(1.5-2.2)	(1.4-2.4)
Sub-fertile range	<13	<32	<9
Odds ratio for infertility	5.3	5.6	3.8
(95 per cent CL)	(3.3-8.3)	(3.5-8.3)	(3.0-5.0)

CL: Confidence limits

The odds ratio is the probability of patients in this category being infertile - for example, patients with less than 32 per cent motile sperm are 5.6 times more likely to be infertile than a patient with a normal semen analysis. It can be seen that there is a wide variation among the categories, and that the classifications are not absolute. However, it is recommended that, in the sub-fertile range, ICSI is the treatment of choice.