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## The SART Scoop

March 2024

### A Message from the SART President



Steven Spandorfer, MD  
SART President 2023-2024

**Register Now! SART University: A Potpourri of Complex Cycles and Dual Intent**

## Highlights

### Committee Nominations Open

There is an open call for nominations for the Registry and Membership Committees (4 and 5-year commitments) as well as for Vice President of SART (6-year commitment). Please email [sart@asrm.org](mailto:sart@asrm.org) with nominations for these positions.

### Update on Alabama Supreme Court Decision

*This comment is from Sean Tipton (ASRM Chief Advocacy and Policy Officer).*

“On February 16, 2024, the Alabama Supreme Court issued a ruling in *LePage v. Mobile Infirmary Clinic, Inc.* that served as a devastating blow to fertility care providers and hopeful families in the state. The language of the decision included inflammatory and unscientific language equating embryos in a freezer to children in an “extrauterine nursery,” thereby conferring legal personhood status on fertilized eggs and embryos.

As a result of this ruling, most, if not all, of the IVF clinics in Alabama stopped providing IVF care to protect families and employees from potential criminal charges relating to accidental destruction of embryos. ASRM has been advocating for the introduction of comprehensive protective measures by holding town halls with members and affected providers, attending a discussion on reproductive freedom with HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra, attending Protect IVF in Alabama Advocacy Day, representing the fertility community at the State of the Union, and more.

Primarily in response to immediate pressure from Alabamians and the national spotlight, state legislators introduced bills meant to protect IVF and allow the clinics to reopen. ASRM ultimately decided not to support the Alabama General Assembly’s resulting legislation, determining that it failed to fully protect providers and their patients without addressing the issue of embryos noted by the Court. Alabama Governor Kay Ivey signed the bill into law on March 7, 2024.

While we are pleased that clinics have reopened and providers can now begin to offer critical, timely care for their patients, we worry that the language of the law does not protect the full range of care, including disposal of embryos.”

For those that watched the State of the Union Address, it was very encouraging to hear the President strongly support IVF for all. Indeed, these are very interesting times to treat infertility. We can’t emphasize the importance of getting involved and advocating for our field. If you are interested in supporting ASRM’s advocacy efforts, [click here to learn more.](#)

## What to Watch For

Education webinars continue with a live demonstration showcasing entering data on complex IVF cycles. Please join us March 20 at 5:30 PM ET / 2:30 PM PT. We arranged a later start time to better enable our West Coast members to join. These webinars are available on SART.org as well. Click here to register: [SART University: A Potpourri of Complex Cycles and Dual Intent](#)

We are working on changes to the presentation of the CSR. This will be the major theme of the interim meeting in April. We welcome any feedback for potential changes or suggestions.

## Get Involved!

If you’re interested in volunteering on one of our many committees, please contact Jacquelyn Marshall at [sart@asrm.org](mailto:sart@asrm.org). All professionals working in SART member clinics are welcome. We value your thoughts and ideas. It’s stimulating and fulfilling, so why not join us?

### Dates for Education Webinars

- March 20
- May 15

- July 24
- September 25

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**Society for Assisted Reproductive Technology**

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