



Roger Simons, Registered Clinical Scientist

Chief Embryologist
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London, England
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ZILOS and Assisted Hatching

The Harley Street Fertility Centre, located in London, provides the latest technological advances in the diagnosis and treatment of infertility. The Centre has had particular success with older patients, those 40 years of age and over, and with patients who have had repeated implantation failure.

Harley Street Fertility was one of the first centers to use the ZILOS for assisted hatching in the United Kingdom. Roger Simons, Chief Embryologist at Centre, attributes the success of the Centre, in part, to the ZILOS.

Simons says, "Since we have been using the zona thinning method, we have achieved a pregnancy rate of 35% with a difficult group of patients. Before, our success rate was in the range of 15-20%."

Before the Centre began using the ZILOS, they were using an acid medium to dissolve a small part of the embryo shell. However, the ZILOS has allowed the Centre to move to a more sophisticated technique; instead of actually piercing the embryo, they thin its shell. This is called the zona thinning method.

Simons emphasizes that "the ZILOS is essential to our success with the zona thinning method; it allows very precise and measured thinning of the shell of the embryo." This "no touch" technique removes the risk of infection to the embryo and is the safest method.



Simons also is impressed with the ZILOS' ease of use. He says, "it is very easy to set up and largely cuts out operator-to-operator variation. The software package is also a big plus allowing easy storage of data and pictures. Targeting and firing are also accurate and easy with extremely repeatable results and the heat penetration rings are also very reassuring."

With over 30 years experience in the fertility field, Simons knows what he is talking about. In fact, he was a key member of the group which established the first pregnancy and live birth following the cryo-preservation of a human embryo.

Of Hamilton Thorne Research, Simon notes that, the "customer service and care has been very good with help and advice always available at the end of the phone."

[Our thanks to Elena Jeffery of Microm (UK) for recommending Roger Simons for the Customer Profile. If you would like us to profile one of your customers, please email Paula Hodgkins at phodgkins@hamiltonthorne.com. Please include information on the type of system installed, the focus of the facility, and how we may contact them.]

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