

6th IVF Summit sparks significant dialogue on growing burden of male infertility in India

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Marking World IVF Day, observed globally on July 25, the 6th National IVF Summit & Awards 2025, held in New Delhi, hosted by the Integrated Health & Wellbeing (IHW) Council in collaboration with the Indian Society for Assisted Reproduction (ISAR) and supported by the Indian Fertility Society (IFS), brought together over 150 leading voices from India's fertility landscape.

While the summit explored broader access and ethical care, a central theme that sparked significant dialogue was the growing burden of male infertility in India.

With the theme "Building the World's Most Inclusive IVF Ecosystem," the summit convened clinicians, researchers, embryologists, hospital leaders, legal experts, and patient advocates for a day of meaningful discussions on the future of reproductive care.

Among the key discussions, male infertility emerged as a pressing public health concern. According to the Indian Society of Assisted Reproduction, India has approximately 27.5 million individuals facing infertility challenges—with male factor infertility accounting for 40–50% of these cases. This growing prevalence, driven by lifestyle changes, environmental exposures, and undiagnosed medical conditions, underscores the urgent need for awareness, destigmatization, and inclusive treatment approaches.

Adding a significant layer to the day's discussions was the book launch of "How to Freeze Your Biological Clock" by Dr Gunjan Gupta, Medical Director Gunjan IVF World. The book serves as a comprehensive guide for women navigating fertility planning, but also contributes to the broader dialogue on empowering individuals—both men and women—with timely, evidence-based fertility choices.

The summit also introduced the Sustainability Hour, a unique platform focused on environmentally conscious fertility

practices. Innovations showcased included low-hormonal stimulation protocols, AI-powered diagnostics, and holistic, patient-first approaches that account for emotional as well as medical wellbeing.

The evening concluded with the IVF Awards 2025, honouring over 30 leaders and institutions advancing fertility care through innovation, compassion, and excellence.

As India's IVF market is projected to grow fivefold by 2030—from \$750 million in 2020 to \$3.7 billion—the summit reinforced a deeper commitment: to not only expand fertility treatment options, but also to dismantle the stigma surrounding male infertility and restore dignity to every individual's journey to parenthood.