



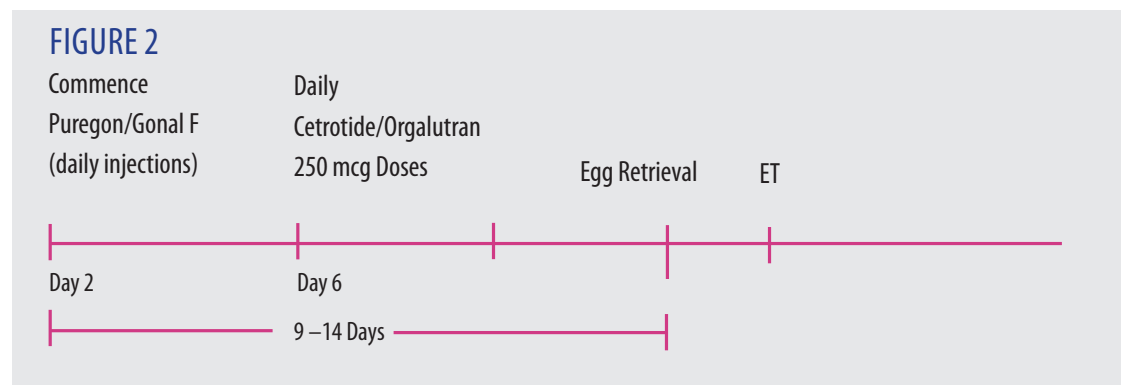
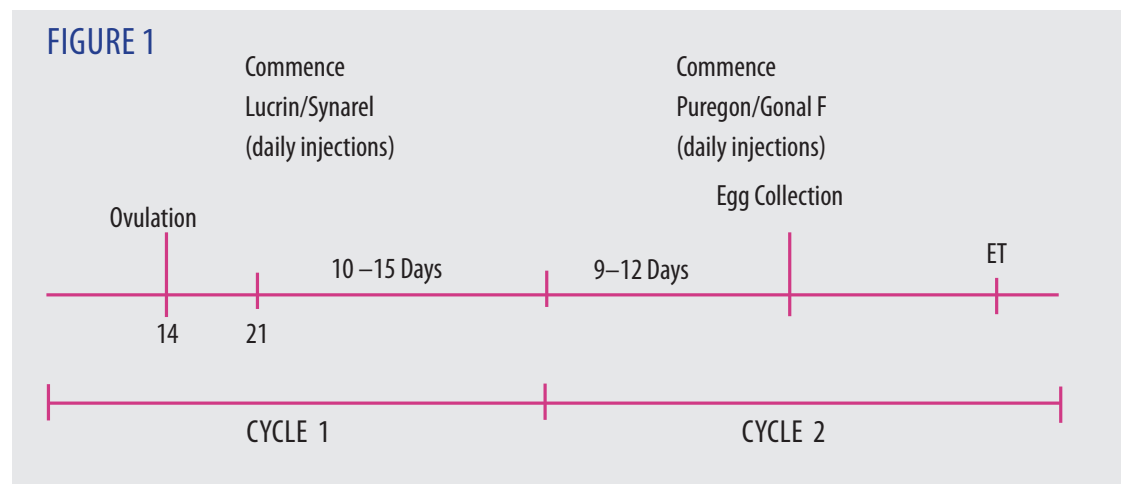
# CETROTIDE AND ORGALUTRAN

In nearly all IVF procedures a drug is used to suppress the pituitary (that part of the brain responsible for secreting the hormones that stimulate egg growth within the ovary), during the stimulation phase of the procedure.

In Australia the two most commonly used medications are Lucrin and Synarel. (These are known as GnRH agonists). There are two protocols in use, the most common (as it is the most effective and is used in 90% of all IVF cycles) being the “long” or “down regulation” protocol. The most common protocol is shown diagrammatically in Figure 1.

It is an involved process taking 6–8 weeks to complete through to embryo transfer.

Cetrotide and Orgalutran are a member of a class of drugs called GnRH antagonists and can be used effectively in a “short” protocol as outlined in Figure 2.



The GnRH Antagonist protocol is much simpler and less time consuming than the Down Regulation (DR) protocol outlined in Figure 1. This then is the main benefit of these new medications. It simplifies and shortens the overall program. It does not shorten the time needed with Puregon or Gonal F although a slightly lower amount may be needed.

GnRH Antagonists are quite expensive. You will need to pay for the drug at the time of collection/administration.

For patients entitled to the Medicare rebate Orgalutran is available at no extra cost.

One of the CFC nurses will instruct you on how to use the Cetrotide or Orgalutran injections. It is quite easy. Most patients have no difficulty injecting themselves with the daily dose that usually commences on day 6 of the FSH injections.



FIGURE 3

