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[Radar radiation damages sperm quality]

[Article in Chinese]

Ye LL, Suo YS, Cao WL, Chen M.

Reproduction Center, Zhoushan Maternal and Child Health Hospital, Zhoushan, Zhejiang 316000, China.

OBJECTIVE: To study the effects of radar radiation on sperm quality.

METHODS: A total of 348 infertile seamen were divided into 4 experimental groups according to their different lengths of exposure to radar radiation: Group 1 (n = 128) exposed for 12-36 months, Group 2 (n = 58) 37-72 m, Group 3 (n = 47) 73-108 m, Group 4 (n = 19) 109 m or more and Group 5 (n = 96) 48 m or more but free from the exposure for 6 months by then. Another 35 non-marine normal males were recruited as Control Group 1, and the first four experimental groups (n = 252) were taken as Control Group 2. Semen samples were collected from the subjects and analyzed statistically.

RESULTS: Compared with the normal control, sperm concentration, sperm motility and the percentage of grade a sperm were significantly lower ($P < 0.01$), and the percentages of grade d and abnormal sperm significantly higher ($P < 0.01$) in the experimental groups. In Group 5, obvious recovery was noted in sperm morphology ($P < 0.01$) and motility ($P < 0.05$), but significant differences were seen with the normal control group in sperm concentration ($P < 0.05$), sperm motility and the percentage of grade a and b sperm and that of abnormal sperm ($P < 0. 01$).

CONCLUSION: Radar radiation damages sperm quality, as shown in the reduction of sperm motility and elevation of sperm abnormality. Cease from the exposure may effect an easy recovery in sperm morphology.