



Cambridge IVF's Dr Alka Prakash was featured on Cambridge News Health Supplement on Monday 15 June. Dr Prakash, spoke about causes of infertility:

There are many factors that can mean a couple cannot conceive naturally. The most common cause is a problem associated with [ovulation](#). Sometimes an egg will not be released at all, and sometimes an egg will only be released on occasional cycles. If no egg is released then it is not available to be fertilised and therefore it will not be possible to conceive naturally in these circumstances.

Simply knowing there is a problem with [ovulation](#) isn't a sufficient diagnosis. We need to understand exactly what this cause of the problem is to be able to identify how best to treat it. There is a condition called polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) which can mean that the [ovaries](#) only sporadically release eggs. PCOS is very common, and an estimated one in every five women will have symptoms. These include irregular or no periods, weight gain, excessive hair growth and difficulty in conceiving.

Premature ovarian failure can also be a cause of [ovulation](#) problems. This condition leads to premature cessation of ovarian function before the age of forty, it is diagnosed by a combination of history (reduced or no periods) and hormone tests. Treatment is recommended for long term health benefits like bone and heart health. Associated infertility can also be treated by using donor eggs and IVF.

To read the full article, [click here](#).

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