

# Abstract

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## **Zinc deficiency in men with Crohn's disease may contribute to poor sperm function and male infertility.**

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**BACKGROUND:** In Great Britain, married couples were reported to have between 1.9 and 2.1 children, while men with Crohn's disease had a mean of 1.2 and of 0.4 children before and after diagnosis, respectively.

**DISCUSSION:** The role of zinc for male fertility is essential. Although lack of zinc in Crohn's disease is well established in up to 70% of patients, a possible relation between zinc deficiency and male subfertility in Crohn's disease remains unclear.

**SUMMARY:** This study is aimed at examining a possible link between zinc deficiency in men with Crohn's disease and male subfertility in this group of patients.

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