

ॐ YOGA FLOW FOR FERTILITY & EMOTIONAL BALANCE

INTRO:

According to the center for disease control, over seven million American women face infertility. The stress infertility and treatments place on a woman's body, a couple's relationship and the couple or individual's emotional health is profound. Yoga helps release tension, balance emotions, and improve blood flow. I have compiled a practice of breath, postures and meditation to balance the mind and draw fresh blood and oxygen to the uterus. If you are undergoing IVF or IUI, please note what breath/postures should not be practiced post-implantation. Check with your doctor before beginning a new practice.

BREATHING EXERCISES

- Dirgha: three-part (great for physical discomfort, grounding)
- Ujjayi: ocean-sounding breath (appropriate for physical/mental stress)
- Nadi shodana: alternate nostril (mental balance)
- Kapalabhati (skull polishing, forceful exhale, passive inhale): draws energy, heat to the belly. Appropriate before implantation, **but not after**.
- Breath of joy: Invigorating, great mood lifter.

POSTURE SEQUENCE

* EFFECTIVE FOR BOTH

** NOT ADVISED POST-IMPLANTATION

MENTAL BALANCE

- half sun salute



- forward bends (standing, seated, wide angle)



- tree (or any other balancing posture)



- child*



- supported savasana (pillow under legs)



BLOOD FLOW TO UTERUS

- cat/cow sequence with c-stretch and hip circles*



- squats (keep blanket under heels)



- bound angle (seated or supine)



- sphinx/cobra **



MARTIN SCONDUTO

- bow/locust **



- bridge tilts (move up and down with breath)



- spinal twist (seated or supine)**



- legs up the wall*



MEDITATION

- single point meditation: sit gazing at an object (an icon or candle works well)

- chakra meditation: seated or supine, visualize chakra colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, purple or gold) moving through each part of the body.
- white light: visualize body surrounded by white light

MANTRA

Om namo bhagavate vasudevaya (I surrender my will to divine order.)

September 3, 2011 *** Joan Hawley McClain