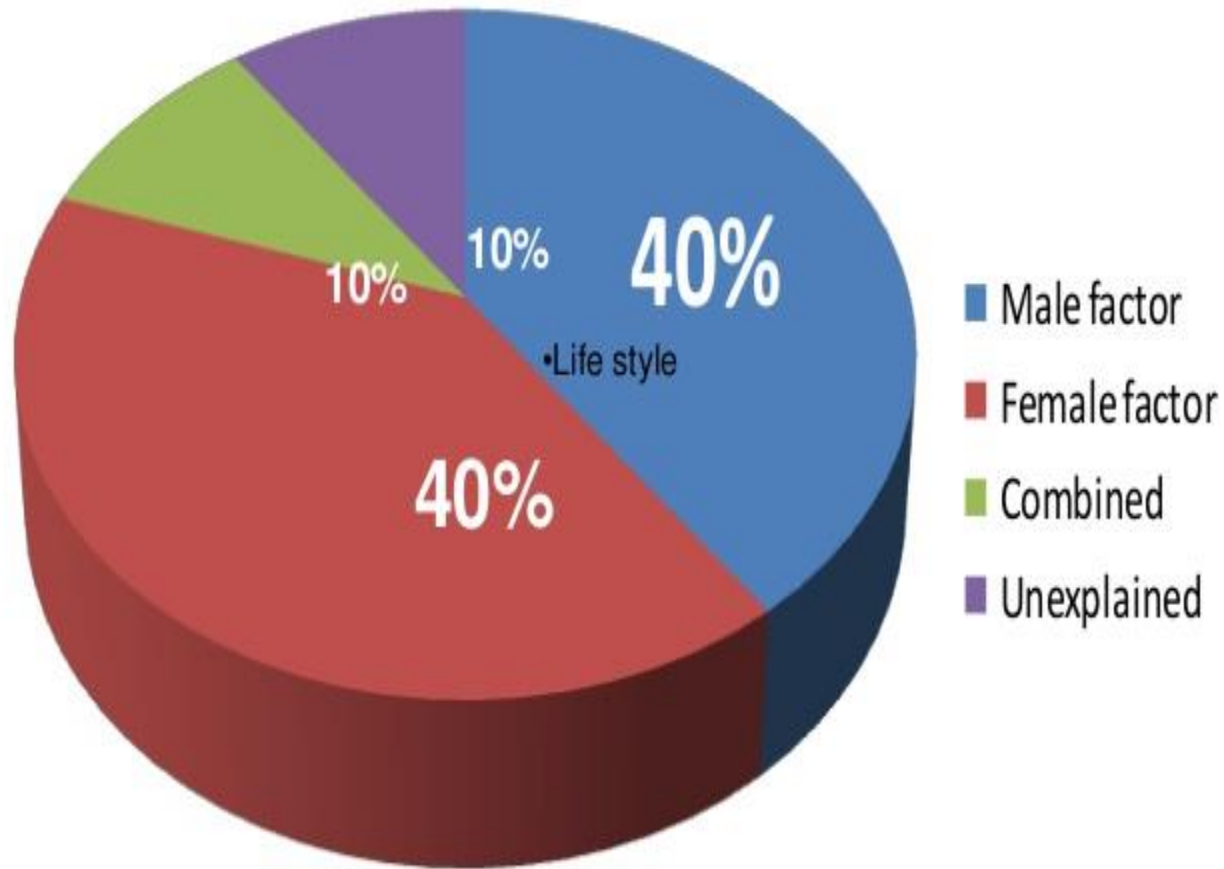


**Part 2:**  
**Medical Genetics and infertility**

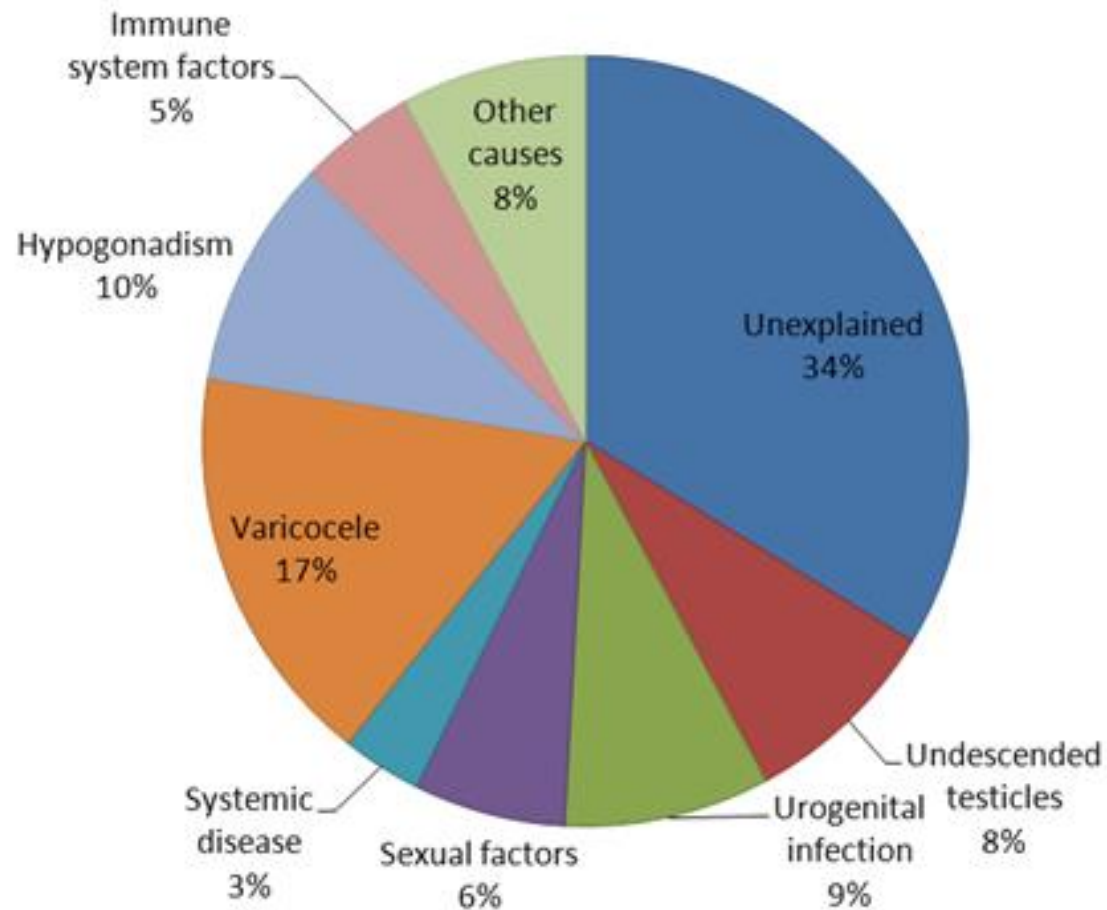


# Causes of infertility



➤ Infertile couples in western countries : 15-20% (WHO)

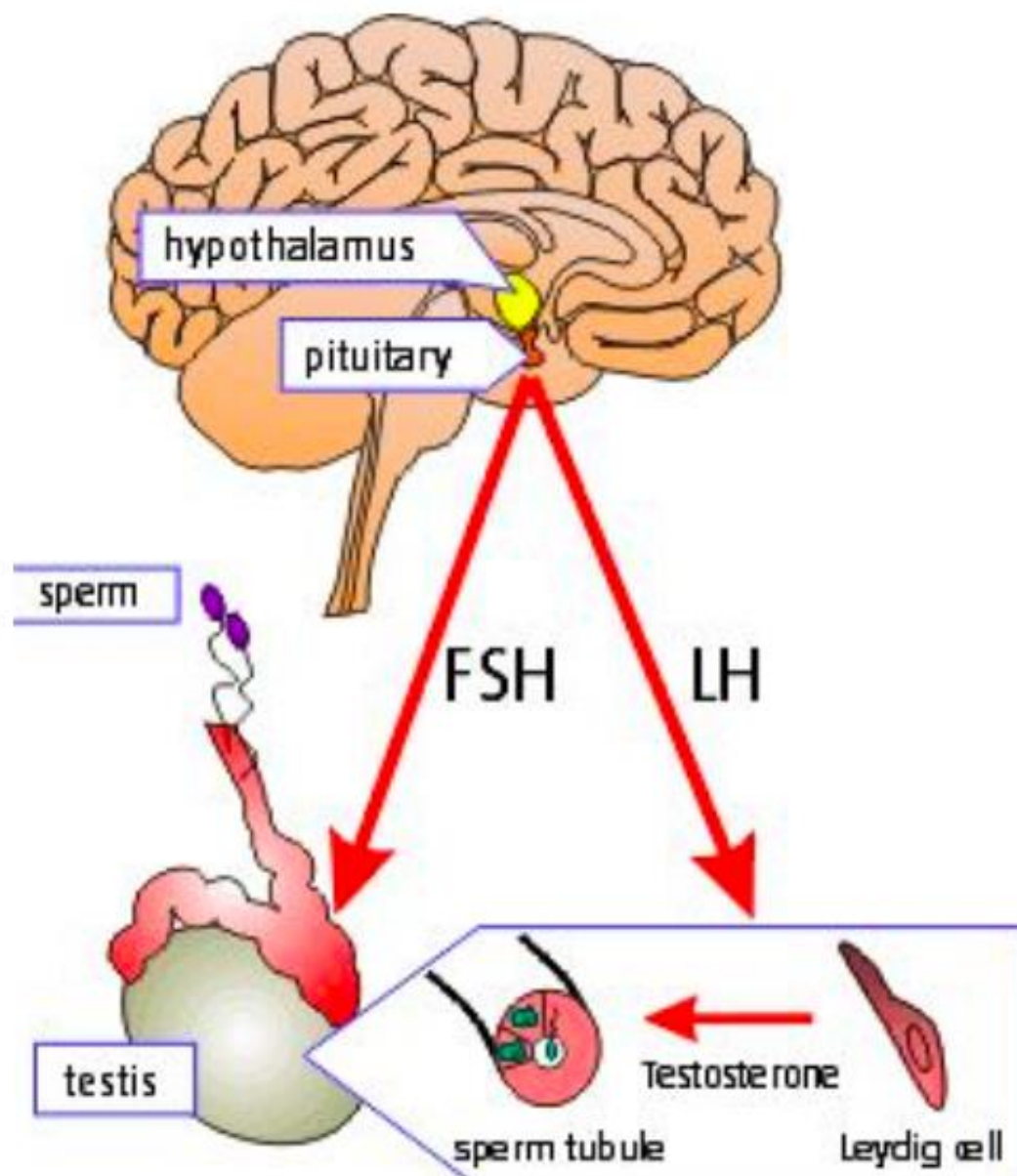
## Causes of male infertility



# Genetic testing in infertile males

# Before to start....

- **Get information about:**
  - Clinical history (varicocele, criptorchidism, infective diseases, drug abuse etc.)
  - Possible exposure to environmental factors dangerous for spermatogenesis
- **To identify the best genetic test:**
  - To have a clear picture of
    - Sperm count
    - FSH, LH and Testosteron levels
  - To distinguish among:
    - pre-testicular conditions,
    - testicular conditions
    - post-testicular conditions





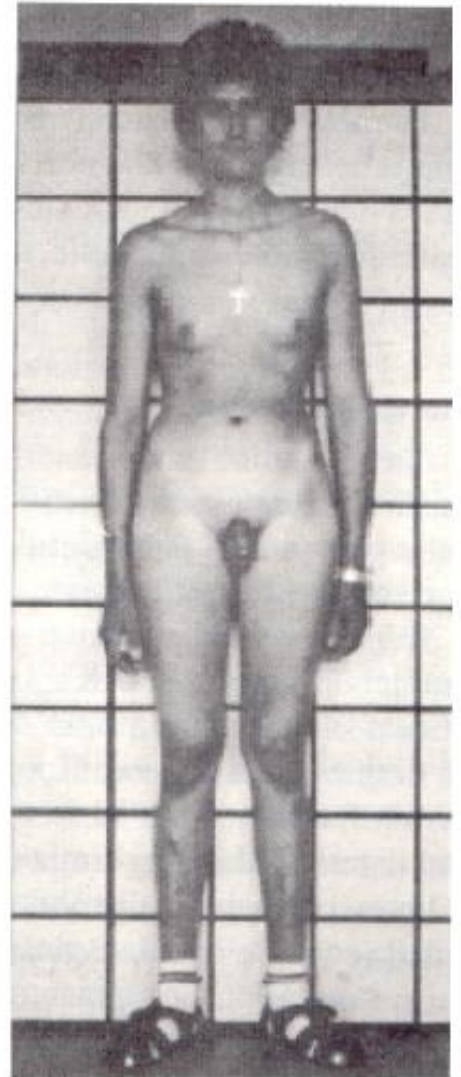
# CAUSES

PRE TESTICULAR	TESTICULAR	POST TESTICULAR
<b>ENDOCRINE:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hypogonadotropic hypogonadism</li> <li>• Hypothyroidism</li> <li>• Hyperprolactinaemia</li> <li>• Diabetes</li> </ul> <b>COITAL DISORDERS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Erectile dysfunction</li> <li>• Ejaculatory failure</li> </ul>	<b>GENETIC:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Klinefelter syndrome</li> <li>• Y chromosome deletion</li> <li>• Immotile cilia syndrome</li> </ul> <b>CONGENITAL:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cryptorchidism</li> <li>• Infective</li> <li>• Antispermato-genic agents heat, irradiation, drugs, chemotherapy</li> </ul> <b>VASCULAR :</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Torsion</li> <li>Varicocele</li> </ul> <b>IMMUNOLOGICAL</b>	<b>OBSTRUCTIVE:</b> <p><b>Epididymal</b> congenital infective</p> <p><b>Vasal</b> Genetic: cystic fibrosis. Acquired: Vasectomy Ejaculatory duct obstruction Accessory gland infection Immunological Idiopathic post vasectomy</p>



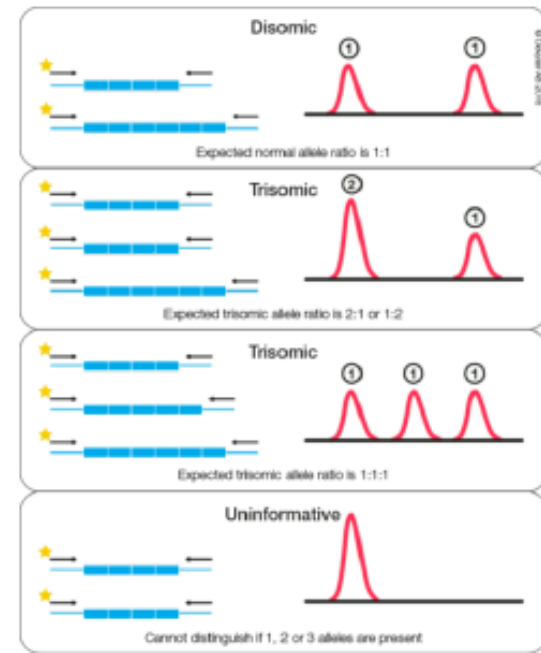
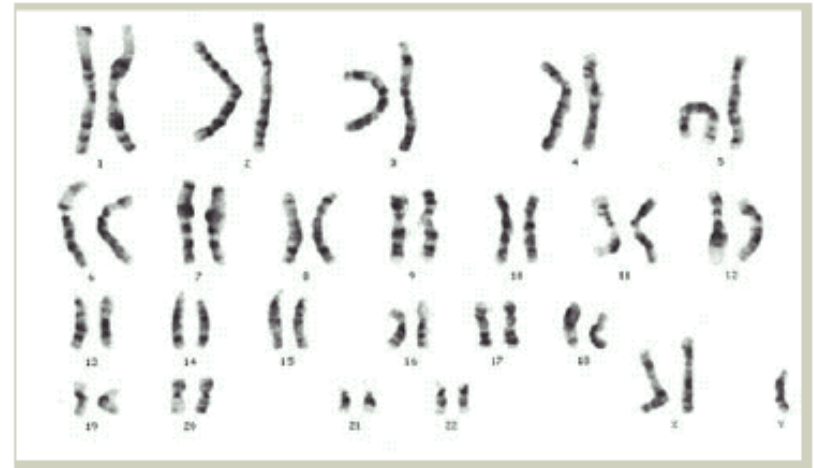
# Klinefelter syndrome (47,XXY)

- Prevalence: 1:500 – 1:1000 males
- Karyotype 47, XXY
- Common features:
  - Infertility
  - High stature
- Other possible features:
  - Female secondary traits



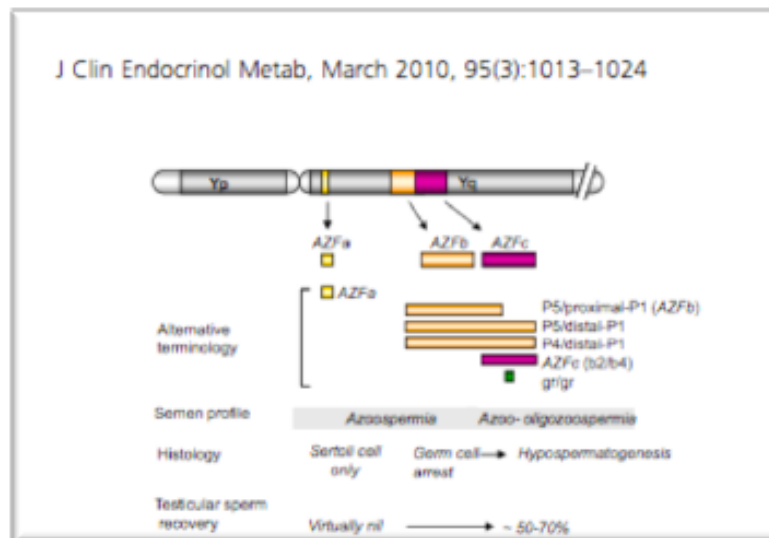
# Genetic testing for KS

- Cytogenetic investigation
  - Count up to 100 metaphases in order to verify the presence of mosaicisms
- QF-PCR
  - When peripheral blood lymphocytes are not available



# Non obstructive azoospermia or severe oligozoospermia (<5ML/ml) (2)

- **Microdeletions of the Y chromosome**
  - 10% of cases , 1/2500 in general population
  - To search only after cytogenetic investigation
  - Detection rate in not selected patients <2%



# Genetic testing in female infertility

# Premature Ovarian Insufficiency (1)

- **Karyotype:**
  - 13% of cases carriers of numeric or structural aberrations of the X chromosome
  - Most frequent: 45,X karyotype (Turner syndrome)
    - 40% of cases mosaic 45,X/46,XX (POI)
    - Count up to 30-50 metaphases
  - Structural abnormalities
    - Xq Isochromosome
    - Xq deletions or translocations
      - Xq26-Xqter (POF1), Xq13.3-Xq21.1 (POF2)
    - Xp deletions or translocations
      - Xp11.1-Xp21



# Premature Ovarian Insufficiency (2)

- **Search for premutations of the FMR1 gene:**
  - Association with POI:
    - 3% of sporadic cases
    - 15% of familial cases
  - Prevalence of POI in women with FMR1 premutation:
    - 13-26%
- Technical gold standard: High Resolution Methylation PCR



