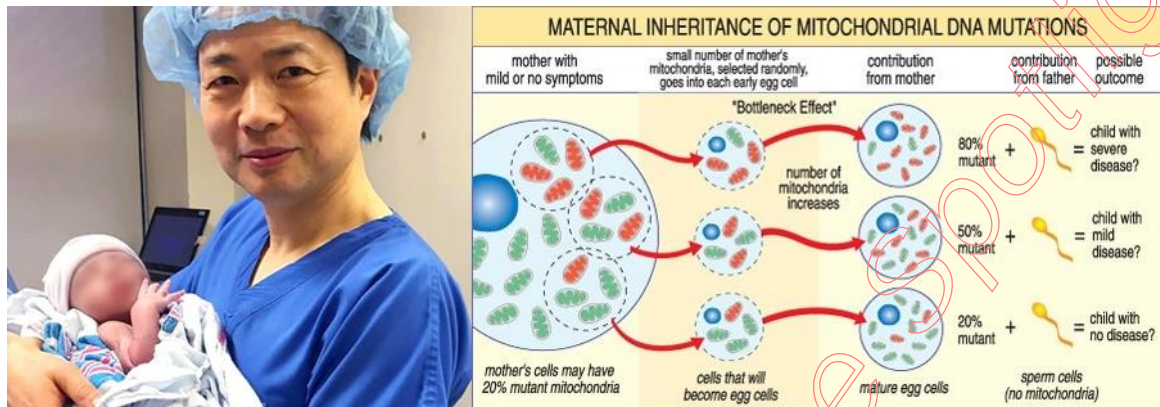


Genetic Science Spotlight

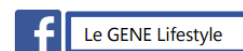
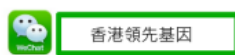
Spindle nuclear transfer, novel approach in IVF witnessed the birth of a 3-parent baby in hope to eradicate disease carrying mtDNA



A Jordanian couple who has struggled with the death of 2 children and 4 miscarriages from Leigh Syndrome has successfully given birth to a healthy baby boy by using a novel IVF technique, spindle nuclear transfer under the care of Dr. Zhang and its team at the New Hope Fertility Center based in New York. Leigh Syndrome is a fatal condition that is caused by a mutated gene that resides in the mitochondria. Therefore, a child inherits the mutated mitochondrial genes solely from the mother. Dr. Zhang pioneered this revolutionary IVF technique that removes the nuclease of a donor egg and replaced it with the nuclease of the mother's egg before fertilizing with the father's sperm. This technique allows the preservation of the mother's and father's DNA while utilizing the mitochondria DNA of the donor egg. Dr. Zhang created 5 embryos and only 1 survived. Preliminary test has shown the baby carries 1% of the mutated mitochondria DNA and is hoping the level remains low to avoid onset of the condition. Continuous monitoring would be required to assess the growth and well being of the baby boy.

<https://www.newscientist.com/article/2107219-exclusive-worlds-first-baby-born-with-new-3-parent-technique/>

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