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Central data collection on PGD and screening: Reply

To the editor

The data on PGD being collected by ESHRE are indeed very valuable and we applaud the efforts of our European colleagues (Repping *et al.*, 2006). As our commentary mentioned, the ESHRE database includes data from very few ART or PGD centres in the United States. The American practice of PGD differs in some respects from European practice; for example, in the USA biopsy and genetic testing frequently occur at different sites. We feel it is important to examine the American practice specifically, as many American ART clinics either are or are considering offering PGD to patients and want better information about whether and how to incorporate it.

It is our hope that the American database will include data on all PGD performed in the USA, much as the CDC/SART/ASRM data collection has successfully collected data on ART in the USA. We expect that the information collected on PGD will aid in fruitful future collaborations with our colleagues abroad. Glimpses on the progress of PGD in USA are typified by references to the PGD Working Group (2005) and to the work of Munné *et al.* (2004).

We in the United States already have benefited from ESHRE representatives in our planning sessions and will continue to call upon their expertise, expecting to apply the lessons they have learned in order to generate an American system that will result in near-100% participation. We look forward to being able to pool data with ESHRE in order to compare and address questions of common interest.

Susannah Baruch and Kathy Hudson

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[Back to top](#)