



## Follicular Volume & Aspiration

It is important to consider the volume of follicular fluid in relation to the dead space in the ovum aspiration needle and aspiration line. To minimize trauma to the oocyte-cumulus complex, it is suggested that a continuous column of fluid within the aspiration needle be maintained. This helps prevent the oocyte-cumulus complex from sticking to the wall of the needle or aspiration line. In addition, air will travel faster than fluid through the aspiration lumen, and if air is introduced when oocytes are present within the needle, it is possible that the oocyte may be damaged. As a consequence, ovum aspiration technique should aim to minimize the introduction of air into the needle during aspiration.

