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Premature Centromeric Division and Abortions

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KEY WORDS Recurrent spontaneous abortions; premature centromere division.

ABSTRACT An increased frequency of mitoses with centromere separation affecting all chromosomes was found in lymphocyte cultures of couples with recurrent spontaneous abortions. This anomaly was recorded in six individuals out of seventy couples (one hundred and forty individuals) with recurrent miscarriages. The abnormal behaviour of centromeres may predispose the individual to cell division errors, the consequence of which may be a spontaneous abortion.

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