

**EVALUATION OF A CONTINUOUS INFUSION PUMP FOR  
OVUM PICK-UP (OPU) IN BOVINE.**

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The IVF embryo production shows a great expansion in Brazil, and the number of veterinarians working with OPU has been improved. The high cost of OPU equipments has been a critical aspect for the OPU beginners. The aim of this work was to evaluate alternative equipment for vacuum generation, able to allow oocyte recovery in quality and quantity similar to pumps specifically designed for OPU. We used a continuous infusion pump, whose application was only possible because the inverse use of the infusion catheter. The extremity that should be connected to the infusion recipient was connected to the OPU tube while the other extremity, meant to the catheter, remained free allowing constant maintenance of negative pressure, able to perform follicular aspiration. The work was conducted with healthy Nelore donor cows. The animals were submitted to 28 OPU sessions with the continuous infusion pump. We obtained 704 oocytes, with average of 25,14 viable oocytes for each OPU procedure. These results were similar to the ones described in the literature using conventional equipment. The continuous infusion pump advantages are, besides the lower cost, the small size, electronic control and 6 hours battery power. These results suggest that the proposed equipment could be a lower cost viable alternative for OPU.