SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION
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Gardnerella vaginalis infection, which causes non-specific vaginitis (bacterial vaginosis) in females, is now reputed to be one of the most prevalent of the sexually transmitted diseases.

In male population, Gardnerella vaginalis is not limited to the asymptomatic carriage. Examples of clinically manifest inflammations include: balanoposthitis in uncircumcised men with bad hygienic conditions, urethritis, cystitis, prostatitis, and bacterio-spermia.

The aim of this study was to screen the incidence of Gardnerella vaginalis in the semen of 40 infertile men attending the Department of Andrology and Sexually Transmitted Diseases in Kasr El-Eini Hospitals, as well as, control group of 20 fertile men. All men were examined clinically and semen samples were subjected to routine seminal analysis. Semen samples were cultured aerobically in 5% carbon dioxide atmosphere onto human blood agar made selective for Gardnerella vaginalis by adding: gentamicin, nalidixic acid, and amphotericin B. After 48 hours of incubation at 37°C, the organism was identified by its cultural characters, morphology, oxidase and catalase tests.

From the results obtained, there was no significant
difference between the incidence of Gardnerella vaginalis in semen of infertile men (9 out of 40 i.e. 22.5%) versus the fertile men (3 out of 20 i.e. 15%). Also, in infertile men, there was no significant difference in sperm count between those with and without Gardnerella vaginalis. But a significant different was noted regarding sperm motility.

However, in fertile men, there was no significant difference in semen parameters between those with and without Gardnerella vaginalis infection.

So, from the present study, it can be concluded that male genital tract infection with Gardnerella vaginalis may affect the motility of sperm, but, a definite causal relationship between Gardnerella vaginalis and male infertility has not been established, and another study on an extensive number of cases together with their female partners may be recommended because the condition in the female may be different and may alter the chance for infertility.