Future without women? 'Pseudo-embryos' could one day replace eggs in baby making process

Scientists say early experiments suggest it may one day be possible to make babies without using eggs.

They have succeeded in creating healthy baby mice by tricking sperm into believing they were fertilizing normal eggs.

The findings...could, in the distant future, mean women can be removed from the baby-making process, say the researchers.

. . .

The University of Bath scientists started with an unfertilized egg in their experiments.

They used chemicals to trick it into becoming a pseudo-embryo.

• • •

The researchers reasoned that if injecting sperm into mouse pseudo-embryos could produce healthy babies, then it might one day be possible to achieve a similar result in humans using cells that are not from eggs.

•••

Removing the need for an egg could have a wider impact on society.

Dr. [Tony] Perry said: "One possibility...is that it might be possible that ordinary cells in the body can be combined with a sperm so that an embryo is formed."

•••

[However,] Dr. Perry stressed that such scenarios were still "speculative and fanciful" at this stage. The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: <u>Making babies without eggs may be possible</u>, say scientists