**Response to Editorial comments:**

1. Manuscript has been proofread
2. Reference format has been checked
3. All abbreviations are defined before use
4. Table of supplies have been revised to include all essential supplies, reagents and equipment
5. All commercial language has been removed from the text
6. Short abstract has been revised as suggested
7. Text has been changed to imperative tense
8. Details to some steps have been added
9. How staging is confirmed as been added to 3.1
10. Clarification on numbers of embryos has been provided in 4.10 and 2.1
11. A description in 5.2 has been added to clarify this point
12. Substeps have been created in #6
13. All figures are primary figures obtained by the authors
14. On discussion with the editor, we were told we could ignore this comment (the information requested is in the discussion)

Video: All video edits have been made as suggested. The VO was re-recorded. Commercial language has been removed, imperative tense is used, inserted video section added to show VO filling water container, arrows are now animated to appear as VO speaks.

Animal use concern: our university ethics board does not require approval of research using embryos.

**Response to Reviewer #1:**

1. The distinction between this protocol and others has been provided
2. This has been explained in the discussion

**Response to Reviewer #2:**

Title has been changed as suggested

#1.2a this has been added to the table of supplies

#3.2a This has been corrected

#3.2b this is more fully described now

#3.2c this edit has been made

#4.5 this has been revised throughout the text

Representative results: we have clarified the delay observed

Table: dimensions of petri dishes have been revised

Other comments:

This additional information has been added as suggested

**Response to Reviewer 3:**

The comments made by this reviewer were confusing and unclear. On discussion with the editor, it was agreed that many of the comments were statements with no actions required. References to the grid method have been included.