Figure 3 ROC curve of endometrial thickness and endometrial blood flow parameters (RI, PI, S/D)

DISCUSSION

In the field of assisted reproduction, transvaginal ultrasonography is often used to examine endometrial thickness, morphology and blood flow status to predict uterine receptivity (Schild RL et al., 2001). However, many issues, such as time of ultrasonography examination and its value in predicting IVF-ET outcome remain uncertain.

The time of choice for transvaginal ultrasonography varied in the past studies. Much research was based on records of ultrasonographic blood flow after the day of hCG injection or on the day of embryo(s) transfer. Because of the reports on increased impedance of uterine arteries after hCG injection and its influence on the predictive value of ultrasonography (Bassil S et al., 1995), we believe conducting ultrasonography before hCG allows physicians to make decisions on the time of hCG injection or treatment to improve uterine artery blood flow (Hsieh YY et al., 2000).