

## **Fertility Policy V6 September 2018**

### **Eligibility Criteria**

- Eligible couples requiring IVF, with or without ICSI, will be funded for 2 cycles of IVF/ICSI. This equates to two fresh and two frozen cycles. (Eligible couples will be offered 2 cycles of IVF/ICSI if no previous fresh cycles have been funded by the NHS, or if they have already received 1 non-NHS funded fresh cycle. If the couple has already received 1 NHS funded fresh cycle or 2 non-NHS funded fresh cycles they will be offered 1 fresh cycle. Couples will not be funded if either partner has already had 3 previous fresh cycles of IVF/ICSI, irrespective of how these were funded).
- IUI is not routinely funded.
- All assisted conception treatments must be undertaken within the year with the exception of miscarriages i.e. where a patient has had fertility treatment (IVF or ICSI) which results in a pregnancy but the pregnancy results in a miscarriage the patient may need time to recover before commencing their next treatment cycle. In these circumstances the patient may not be able to have all their treatment entitlement within 1 year. However all treatment would still need to be completed by or before the patient's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- Where there is unexplained infertility couples need to have been trying to conceive for a minimum of two years duration before being referred for treatment. Where there is a known cause the trying period is 1 year.
- Funding is available for "adult" couples where the woman is under the age of 40. Females need to be investigated and all treatment completed by or before their 40<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- The female's BMI must be 19 to less than 30.
- The couple must be childless i.e. no living children by either partner from this relationship, previous relationship or by adoption. This is irrespective of the child's age or place of abode.
- The female's FSH must be 10 or below.
- A full cycle of IVF with or without ICSI includes treatment where egg collection has taken place. If treatment is abandoned on the 1<sup>st</sup> cycle due to poor response the patient will only be offered one more cycle.
- If treatment is abandoned due to poor response at the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle, the patient will **not** be offered another cycle.

- If a patient falls pregnant naturally at any stage of treatment after funding has been offered, further treatment/cycles will not be offered as the patient no longer meets eligibility criteria. This is irrespective of whether the pregnancy results in a live birth.
- Assisted conception procedures are not routinely funded if subfertility is a result of sterilisation of either partner.
- Eligible couples where the male has obstructive azoospermia will have one surgical sperm retrieval procedure funded (*Surgical Sperm retrieval will not be funded if sub-fertility is the result of sterilisation*).
- Routine Cryopreservation - egg harvesting and freezing/sperm retrieval and freezing/embryos is not routinely funded. *Applications for fertility preservation for patients who are diagnosed with cancer and who wish to preserve their fertility will be assessed through a fast track process.*
- Assisted conception treatments involving surrogates are not routinely funded for any patient group.
- Use of donor gametes/ products is not routinely funded
- In order to access NHS funded fertility treatment couples will be required to fulfil **all** eligibility criteria set out in the Coastal West Sussex CCG fertility policy.
- Patients must be registered with a Coastal West Sussex CCG General Practitioner (GP)
- Coastal West Sussex CCG will not fund fertility treatment where patients self-fund other treatment elements
- Eligibility criteria must be met at the time of referral and treatment.
- If funding is approved and a patient is determined not to meet the eligibility criteria funding and treatment will be withdrawn.

Coastal West Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group will always consider appropriate *exceptional* Individual Funding Requests (IFRs) through their IFR process

Applications for fertility preservation for patients who are diagnosed with cancer will be assessed through a fast track process. [CWSCCG.WestsussexIFR@nhs.net](mailto:CWSCCG.WestsussexIFR@nhs.net)



***Coastal West Sussex  
Clinical Commissioning Group***