



Help us to shape local IVF services for the future

Introduction

When people living in the Southampton, Hampshire, Isle of Wight or Portsmouth (SHIP) areas seek treatment for infertility, their local Clinical Commissioning Group is responsible for funding fertility services (such as In-Vitro Fertilisation, or IVF) to help women become pregnant.

IVF is a high-cost treatment and so it is important to make sure the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) across SHIP offer the treatment in the most effective way for the local population. They must also ensure that they balance the funding for this treatment alongside the other pressures on local NHS funding.

What is happening?

The SHIP-wide Priorities Committee has recently reviewed the most recent evidence of clinical and cost effectiveness for IVF and Intra-Cytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI). (For the purposes of this document, the term 'IVF' shall be considered to apply to both treatments). The Committee is now preparing a recommendation about the future commissioning of these services which will be considered by each of the CCGs. The local CCGs are keen to ensure they do this in light of the views of local people.

Why is this happening now?

In February 2013, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) published updated clinical guidelines: 'Fertility: Assessment and treatment for people with fertility problems'. The non-compulsory guidelines included specific guidance for CCGs regarding IVF.

How does NHS funding work?

Each CCG is allocated an annual budget which it uses to commission (buy) a wide range of health services and treatments for local people. These services include urgent care services, treatment for long-term conditions such as diabetes or arthritis, community-based services, planned operations, x-rays and diagnostic tests.

The CCGs' role includes researching and planning which services are needed most by the local population, buying those services at the best possible price, and monitoring those services to ensure they are delivering what was agreed, and what people need.

The NHS budget is limited so funding for any service or treatment must be balanced against the funding requirements for many other necessary local health services and treatments.

What is the current IVF policy?

There is a joint SHIP IVF Access Criteria which is available on each CCG's website:

- www.farehamandgosportccg.nhs.uk – covering Fareham, Portchester, Crofton, Titchfield, the Western Wards, Gosport, Bridgemary, Elson and Lee-on-the-Solent
- www.isleofwightccg.nhs.uk – covering the Isle of Wight
- www.northeasthampshireandfarnhamccg.nhs.uk – covering Aldershot, Farnborough, Yateley, Fleet and Farnham

- www.northhamshireccg.com – covering Tadley, Kingsclere, Overton, Basingstoke, Alton, Hook, Harley, Wintney and Odiham
- www.portsmouthccg.nhs.uk – covering Portsmouth
- www.southeasternhamshireccg.nhs.uk – covering Havant, Waterlooville, Petersfield, Bordon and part of the South Downs National Park.
- www.southamptoncityccg.nhs.uk – covering Southampton
- www.westhamshireccg.nhs.uk – covering Eastleigh, Test Valley, Winchester, Andover, Totton and Waterside, and the New Forest.

The latest NICE guideline, a non-binding recommendation, is available at www.nice.org.uk/guidance/CG156.

The following table shows the current SHIP access criteria compared to the 2013 NICE guideline:

Criteria	Current SHIP access criteria	2013 NICE guidance
Age of woman at time of referral	Up to 35 years old (treatment must start before the woman is 35)	Up to and including 42 years old
Availability of fresh and frozen cycles	Fresh cycle only	Full fresh cycle and all subsequent frozen cycles
Number of cycles available	One cycle	Three cycles to women under 40 years old (one cycle for women aged 40 to 42 years)
BMI eligibility	Women must have had a BMI of between 19.0 and 29.9 for six months or more	Offer advice to women with a BMI of 30 or over to lose weight in order to increase the success rate and reduce complications during their pregnancy
Smoking status	Couples must be non-smoking for at least six months in order to improve the likelihood of success.	Offer advice and refer to a local smoking cessation programme

Seeking your views

We are undertaking a period of engagement to gather the views on whether funding for IVF is a priority for the NHS and on the access criteria for treatment with local people, their representatives, GPs and interest groups. Each CCG will then consider the recommendation from the SHIP Priorities Committee in light of this valuable feedback.

How can you share your views?

There are two ways you can provide us with your views:

- By completing a brief online survey at www.surveymonkey.com/s/ivf-review-2014
- Completing the survey at the back of this document and posting it to:

Communications and Engagement Team
 South Eastern Hampshire CCG
 Commissioning House, Building 003
 Fort Southwick
 James Callaghan Drive
 Fareham. PO17 6AR

Responses must be received by October 19, 2014.

Please note that whilst all of the feedback will be collected and evaluated by South Eastern Hampshire CCG on behalf of all eight CCGs, each individual organisation will receive details of the views of their local residents, and make their own decision.

Further copies of this document are available from South Eastern Hampshire CCG. Please contact us by email sehccg.enquiries@nhs.net or by phone 023 9228 2085.

How will my views be considered?

All of the feedback will be evaluated on both a SHIP-wide, and an individual CCG area basis. This will form a single report which each CCG will use to help them when considering the SHIP Priorities Committee recommendation.

Each CCG will consider the recommendation at the following Governing Body meetings:

- Isle of Wight CCG – November 6, 2014
- North East Hampshire and Farnham CCG – November 12, 2014
- Portsmouth CCG – November 19, 2014
- North Hampshire CCG – November 25, 2014
- Southampton City CCG – November 26, 2014
- West Hampshire CCG – November 27, 2014
- Fareham and Gosport CCG – January 21, 2014
- South Eastern Hampshire CCG – January 28, 2014.



Help us to shape local IVF services for the future survey

You can complete this survey online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/ivf-review-2014.

Alternatively, please complete the following pages and return them to:

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Questions (please tick only one answer for each)	
<p>Do you think funding for IVF is a priority for the NHS?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No opinion</p>	Any further comments:
<p>Evidence shows that the likelihood of IVF being successful reduces with age. With regard to age, do you think we should:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Implement the NICE guideline in full including women up to and including 42 years old</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Keep the existing criteria where treatment is restricted to women receiving treatment before their 35th birthday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Extend the current access criteria to include treatment for women before their 38th birthday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No opinion</p>	Any further comments:

<p>With regard to the availability of fresh and frozen cycles, do you think we should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Implement the NICE guideline in full by offering a 'full' cycle, which includes a fresh cycle and all subsequent frozen cycles <input type="checkbox"/> Keep the existing criteria by continuing to offer one fresh cycle <input type="checkbox"/> Extend the current criteria to offer one fresh cycle, and one subsequent frozen cycle <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion 	<p>Any further comments:</p>
<p>With regard to the number of cycles available, do you think we should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Implement the NICE guideline in full by offering three cycles to women under 40 years and one cycle for women aged between 40 and 42 years <input type="checkbox"/> Keep the existing criteria by continuing to offer one cycle <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion 	<p>Any further comments:</p>
<p>Evidence shows that women who are obese (BMI of 30 or above) are less likely to become pregnant, and more likely to develop complications during pregnancy.</p> <p>With regard to weight, do you think we should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Implement the NICE guideline in full by offering advice to women with a BMI of 30 (30kg/m²) or more to lose weight, in order to increase the success rate and reduce complications during their pregnancy <input type="checkbox"/> Keep the existing criteria where women need to have had a BMI of between 19.0 and 29.9 for six months or more <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion 	<p>Any further comments:</p>

(Please continue on the next page)

<p>Evidence shows that women who smoke are less likely to become pregnant, and more likely to develop complications during pregnancy. With regard to smoking, do you think we should:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Implement the NICE guideline in full by offering advice and referring to a smoking cessation programme</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Keep the existing criteria where couples must be non-smoking for at least 6 months</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No opinion</p>	<p>Any further comments:</p>
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About You...

<p>Are you responding as:</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> A member of the public</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A GP</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A representative for an organisation (please name, or specify any other capacity in which you are responding):</p>
<p>Which CCG area are you from?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Fareham and Gosport: covering Fareham, Portchester, Crofton, Titchfield, the Western Wards, Gosport, Bridgemarky, Elson and Lee-on-the-Solent</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Isle of Wight</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> North East Hampshire and Farnham: covering Aldershot, Farnborough, Yateley, Fleet and Farnham</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> North Hampshire: covering Tadley, Kingsclere, Overton, Basingstoke, Alton, Hook, Harley, Wintney and Odiham</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Portsmouth</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> South Eastern Hampshire: covering Havant, Waterlooville, Petersfield, Bordon and part of the South Downs National Park</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Southampton</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> West Hampshire: covering Eastleigh, Test Valley, Winchester, Andover, Totton and Waterside, and the New Forest</p>
<p>How old are you?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> 22 years or younger</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 23 to 39 years old</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 40 to 49 years old</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 50 years or over</p>
<p>Have you or your partner ever had IVF treatment, or are seeking IVF treatment?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No - I have / my partner has never had IVF treatment, and neither I / my partner is seeking IVF treatment</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes - I have / my partner has had IVF treatment, or are seeking IVF treatment</p>

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey and sharing your views with us.