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Our Ref: ID 830

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group  
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## Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which was received by the Corporate Affairs Team on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

### You Asked for:

1. According to your current IVF treatment policy:
  - a. How many cycles of IVF do you offer to eligible patients?
  - b. Do you fund a full cycle of IVF, as defined by NICE, which includes replacement of all frozen embryos? If not how many frozen embryo transfers do you fund?
  - c. What is your upper and lower age limit that female patients must meet in order to qualify for treatment?
  - d. Do you fund one full cycle of IVF for women aged 40-42 in line with the NICE guidance?
  - e. Do you have an age criteria that male patients must meet in order to qualify for treatment? If so, please state what the criteria is.
  - f. How long do couples need to be trying to conceive before becoming eligible for treatment?
  - g. What eligibility criteria do you apply in relation to existing children that either one or both partners may have?
  - h. What policy is in place (if any) for the use of Single Embryo Transfer?
  - i. Do you fund fertility treatment for same sex couples, and if so what eligibility criteria do they have to fulfill?

**The information you have requested as above is available in a previous FOI response letter which is also available on our public facing website. I have provided the link below to this response letter for your convenience.**

**<https://www.wirralccg.nhs.uk/media/2529/foi-id553-ivf.pdf>**

Chair – Dr Sue Wells  
Chief Officer – Simon Banks

2. What is the average cost of a cycle of an IVF cycle funded by the CCG and what does that include?

**The average cost of IVF treatment funded by NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is £4,125. A cycle is defined as an attempt at ovarian stimulation, egg recovery, fertilisation and embryo transfer and generally is deemed to have commenced at the patients attendance at a Patient Information Event (PIE).**

3. What providers does the CCG contract with to provide IVF services?

**NHS Wirral CCG contract with the following providers for IVF services:**

- **Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust**
- **Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust**

4. Is the assisted conception policy available on the CCG's website? If so please provide a link to the policy.

**Please note that the CCG's current conception policy can be located on our website if you use the following link:**

<https://www.wirralccg.nhs.uk/media/1254/subfertility-policy-wirral-2017-18.pdf>

5. In the last 12 months, how many patients have applied for fertility funding (both successfully and unsuccessfully) through an Individual Funding Request?

**In the last financial year, 6 requests for fertility treatment were received by the Individual Exceptional Funding Request (IEFR) Team.**

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