

Our Ref: ID 1500

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group
Marriss House
Hamilton Street
Birkenhead
Wirral
CH41 5AL
Tel: 0151 651 0011

Re: Freedom of Information Request – In Vitro Fertilisation (IVF)

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which was received into this office on 2nd September 2019.

You Asked for:

1. Does the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) fund IVF treatment?
2. If no, when did the CCG stop offering funding for IVF treatment?
3. What are the current criteria set out by the CCG that women under the age of 40 must meet in order to successfully qualify for NHS-funded IVF treatment?
4. How many full cycles of IVF will the CCG fund if a woman under the age of 40 meets all of these criteria?
5. What are the current criteria set out by the CCG that women aged 40 to 42 must meet in order to successfully qualify for NHS-funded IVF treatment?
6. How many full cycles of IVF will the CCG fund if a woman aged 40 to 42 meets all of these criteria?
7. Does the CCG fund IVF treatment for women over the age of 42? If so, what are the current criteria set out by the CCG that women must meet in order to successfully qualify for NHS-funded IVF treatment?
8. How many full cycles of IVF will the CCG fund if a woman over the age of 42 meets all of these criteria?

Our Response:

1. Yes.
2. Not applicable.
3. The criteria are set out in Wirral NHS Funded Treatment for Subfertility Policy. The policy is published on the NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) website. Please see the link below:
<https://www.wirralccg.nhs.uk/media/1254/subfertility-policy-wirral-2017-18.pdf>
4. For women aged 23-39; NHS Wirral CCG offers 2 full cycles. All cycles must commence prior to the woman's 40th birthday.
5. Please see the following link for more information regarding the current criteria:
<https://www.wirralccg.nhs.uk/media/1254/subfertility-policy-wirral-2017-18.pdf>
The First treatment cycles must be commenced before the woman's 42nd birthday.
6. NHS Wirral CCG will fund one cycle, provided they have never previously had IVF (including private treatment).

- There is no evidence of low ovarian reserve (see section 3.4) of the Wirral subfertility policy.
- There has been a discussion about the implications of IVF at this age.
- The cycle must commence prior to the woman's 42nd birthday.
- If patients have funded 2 or more IVF cycles privately, they will not be entitled to any NHS funded cycles.
- If patients have funded 1 cycle privately, they will be entitled to 1 NHS funded cycle.

7. No.

8. Not applicable.

We hope this information is useful, however if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Corporate Affairs Team (contact details at the top of this letter)

Re- Use of Information

Most of the information that we provide in response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 requests will be subject to copyright protection. In most cases the copyright will be owned by Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group. The copyright in other information may be owned by another person or organisation, as indicated on the information itself.

You are free to use any information supplied for your own non-commercial research or private study purposes. The information may also be used for any other purpose allowed by a limitation or exception in copyright law, such as news reporting. However, any other type of re-use, for example by publishing the information in analogue or digital form, including on the internet, will require the permission of the copyright owner.

For information where the copyright is owned by Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group please e-mail foirequests.nhswirralccg@nhs.net to request a reuse licence.

For information where the copyright is owned by another person or organisation you must apply to the copyright owner to obtain their permission.