

# Re-procurement of Assisted Conception Services

## Summary document

Following the current provider, North Bristol NHS Trust, giving notice on provision of licensed Fertility services and provision of a Basic Semen analysis service (baseline test of male fertility), South Gloucestershire CCG is seeking a new provider of Assisted Conception services for NHS patients.

Assisted Conception Services consist of a Basic Semen analysis service plus the following licensed Fertility Services which are available to NHS patients who fulfil defined eligibility criteria:

- In Vitro Fertilisation (IVF) cycle\*
- Intra-cytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI) cycle\*
- Intra Uterine Insemination (IUI) stimulated and unstimulated depending on circumstances
- The storage of gametes (oocytes and sperm) including those harvested prior to treatment for cancer
- The storage of embryos
- Use of donor gametes such as egg or sperm where appropriate.

\*An IVF/ICSI treatment cycle includes:

- Appropriate diagnostic tests, scans and pharmacological therapy
- Counselling for couples
- Stimulation of prospective mother's ovaries to produce oocytes
- Harvesting of the oocytes
- Fertilisation using IVF or ICSI (assisted hatching is not provided)
- A fresh embryo transfer (maximum of 2 embryos transferred)
- Cryopreservation of all suitable remaining embryos
- If unsuccessful, within twelve months of cryopreservation, a frozen embryo transfer from remaining frozen embryos. (maximum of 2 embryos transferred)
- A follow up consultation / pregnancy scan with fertility services post IVF treatment

The above services are to be provided in line with NICE clinical guidelines 2013 and HFEA regulations in line with the following required outcomes:

- Fertility outcomes in line with or better than the national average as published by the HFEA

- Compliance with the HFEA policies to reduce multiple birth rates
- Achievement of positive patient satisfaction rates in excess of 80%
- Low Ovarian Hyper Stimulation Syndrome (OHSS) rates
- Cost-effective provision of treatment.

### **Aims and objectives of services**

- To provide a GP Direct Access basic semen analysis service as an initial test of assessment of male fertility
- To help couples suffering from subfertility or confirmed infertility who meet the criteria to access licensed treatment to achieve a successful pregnancy
- To offer licensed assisted conception treatment for patients suffering from subfertility or confirmed infertility who meet the criteria to access treatment.
- To offer storage of gametes or embryos for patients who are on the NHS funded pathway or will be at risk of requiring Assisted Conception treatment in the future (e.g. patients receiving cancer treatment likely to impact on their future fertility).
- To provide a quality, safe, cost effective Assisted Conception Service ensuring that the risk of infection and other complications such as OHSS and multiple pregnancy to service users is minimised.
- To provide a personal service sensitive to the physical, psychological and emotional needs of service users.
- To ensure effective communications between service users and the service providers.
- To ensure effective communication between commissioners and the service providers.
- To develop and implement a data collection and monitoring processes which provides fertility services intelligence to support the future commissioning of fertility services

A full copy of the service specification can be found on the [Bristol](#), [North Somerset](#) and [South Gloucestershire](#) CCG websites.