

Reference: FOI.ICB-2324/401

Subject: Fertility Units

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

| QUESTION | RESPONSE | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|------|---|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|
| <p>I'd like to request, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, that you please provide answers to the following questions, along with any related details.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The total annual number of referrals to fertility units within your ICS in years 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 2. How many of these referrals, per year, were rejected? 3. What was the average waiting list time for referrals, per year, to fertility units within your ICS? 4. How many of these referrals, per year, were rejected due to missing/incomplete tests? <p>Clarification received 24/01/24: centres licensed by HFEA for IVF treatment is what was meant.</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <table border="1" data-bbox="1182 699 2022 879"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>No of Referrals sent to Fertility Treatment Providers</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2020</td> <td>216</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021</td> <td>233</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022</td> <td>263</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2023</td> <td>253</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> 2. Zero - Our prior approval systems ensure that only appropriate referrals are sent onto Providers 3. This information is not held by the ICB as each provider is a private company and does not report waiting times. We are however assured that no provider is carrying a "waiting list" as such and each patient/couple is seen within a short time at their own convenience when booking an appointment. 4. Where a referral is received with missing information, the referrer will be contacted to secure the missing information. | Year | No of Referrals sent to Fertility Treatment Providers | 2020 | 216 | 2021 | 233 | 2022 | 263 | 2023 | 253 |
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| 2020 | 216 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2021 | 233 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2022 | 263 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2023 | 253 | | | | | | | | | | |

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 29 January 2024 and has been approved for release by Rosi Shepherd, Chief Nursing Officer for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.