

HFEA Licence Committee Meeting

28 May 2009

21 Bloomsbury Street London WC1B 3HF

Minutes – Item 14

Edinburgh ACU (0201) – Variation to add oocyte freezing and storage to the licence

Members of the Committee:	Committee Secretary:
Clare Lewis-Jones (Lay) – Chair	Kristen Veblen
Ruth Fasht (lay)	
Sue Price (clinical geneticist)	Legal Adviser:
	Graham Miles, Morgan Cole

Declarations of Interest: members of the Committee declared that they had no conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

The following papers were considered by the Committee:

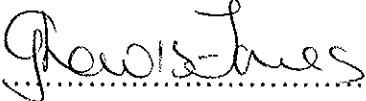
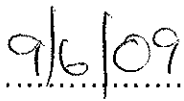
- papers for licence committee (20 pages)
- no tabled papers.

The Committee also had before it:

- HFEA Protocol for the Conduct of Licence Committee Meetings and Hearings
- 7th edition of the HFEA Code of Practice
- Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990 (as amended)
- HFEA (Licence Committees and Appeals) Regulations 1991 (SI 1991/1889)
- Decision Trees for Granting and Renewing Licences and Considering Requests to Vary a Licence; and
- Guidance for members of Authority and Committees on the handling of conflicts of interest approved by the Authority on 21st January 2009.

1. The Committee noted that this Centre had applied to freeze and store oocytes and that it intended to offer this service to certain patient groups including oncology patients.

2. The Committee noted that a signed application for the procedure had been received from the Centre. It also took into account the recommendation by the Executive that the application be granted.
3. The Committee noted that the Executive Summary stated that the Centre had appropriate premises and equipment for this procedure and suitably qualified and experienced staff. In addition, it noted that the Centre had submitted proposed patient information and consent forms and a laboratory protocol for the procedure.
4. The Committee noted the patient information sheet and agreed that it was suitable, subject to the inclusion of information on counselling. Additionally, the Committee reminded the Centre of the importance of ensuring that patient information was appropriate for each patient group, and observed that the Centre may wish to create derivative information sheets for each group.
5. The Committee agreed that it was satisfied the addition of oocyte freezing and storage was necessary and desirable for the purpose of providing future treatment for these patients and agreed that it had sufficient and satisfactory information on which to make a decision.
6. The Committee decided to vary the Centre's licence to allow for freezing and storage of oocytes.

Signed.......... Date..........
Clare Lewis-Jones (Chair)