

HFEA Licence Committee Meeting

10 June 2009

21 Bloomsbury Street London WC1B 3HF

Minutes – Item 8

Midland Fertility Services (0008) – Unannounced inspection report

Members of the Committee:	Committee Secretary:
Anna Carragher (lay)	Kristen Veblen
Rebekah Dundas (lay)	
Emily Jackson (lay)	Legal Adviser:
William Ledger (clinician)	Sarah Ellson, Field Fisher, Waterhouse
	Observers:
	Brandon Welsh, HFEA
	Charlotte Augst, HFEA

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 (29 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 the centre was first licensed by the HFEA in 1992 and provided treatment to private and NHS patients, providing more than 1000 cycles of licensed treatment per year.
2. The Committee considered the papers, which included the inspection report and response of the Person Responsible (PR) and previous committee minutes.
3. The Committee noted that the inspection took place on 12 February 2009 and that improvements were required in the following areas:
 - suitable accreditation of the laboratory to undertake the diagnosis and investigation of patients, patient partners or donors, or their gametes, embryos or any material removed from them
 - storing embryos beyond the statutory period
 - welfare of the child risk assessment.
4. The Committee noted that there was one breach and one area of non-compliance requiring further action and follow up from the Executive: the centre's laboratory CPA accreditation and the completion of all welfare of the child patient history forms.
5. The Committee also noted that in the areas of change or improvement from the previous inspection in January 2008, the director of embryology reported that a monitoring system for the dewars had been purchased and was due to be fitted in the weeks following the unannounced inspection. The Committee requested the Executive to check with the Centre to ensure that this action had been completed.

Committee Decision

6. The Committee decided to continue the licence with no additional conditions.

Signed... Anna Carragher ... Date... 25.6.2009 ...
Anna Carragher (Chair)