

HFEA Licence Committee Meeting

26 March 2009

21 Bloomsbury Street London WC1B 3HF

Minutes – item 8

Assisted Conception Unit, UCH (0044), application to conduct human leukocyte antigen tissue (HLA) typing with PGD to select an embryo with the same tissue type as a child with beta Thalassaemia Major

Members of the Committee:

Clare Lewis-Jones, Lay Member – Chair
Ruth Fasht, Lay Member
Roger Neuberg, Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, Leicester Royal Infirmary

Committee Secretary:
Claudia Lally

Legal Adviser:
Graham Miles, Morgan Cole

Non-voting Specialist Adviser – present with the permission of the Chair:
Sue Price, Consultant in Clinical Genetics, Oxford Regional Genetics Service

HFEA Members Observing:
Jane Dibblin
Lillian Neville
Debbie Barber

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 (19 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 reviewed the documentation before them and agreed to defer consideration of this item on the basis that insufficient information was available to them to make a decision.

2. In particular, the Committee agreed that the following additional information should be included in the papers when they are next put before a Licence Committee:

- more detailed information about the health of the female patient risks to her health from bearing further children; and
- the reasons for the decision to seek treatment for one but not both of the children affected by the condition, and the consequences of identifying a tissue match only with the child for whom treatment is not currently being considered.

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