

# Research Licence Committee Meeting

9 January 2008

21 Bloomsbury Street London WC1B 3HF

## MINUTES Item 5

### Analysis of the impact of human embryo mosaicism on the reliability of PGS (R0163)

#### The Lister Fertility Clinic (0006)

#### Interim Inspection

##### Members:

Emily Jackson, Lay Member – Chair  
Clare Brown, Lay Member  
Maybeth Jameson, Consultant Embryologist, Glasgow Royal Infirmary  
William Ledger, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University of Sheffield

##### In Attendance:

Graham Miles, Legal Adviser  
Chris O'Toole, Head of Research Regulation  
Trish Davis, Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Regulation  
Joanne McAlpine, Minute Taker  
Barbara Lewis, Minute Taker

##### Providing Scientific Advice:

Neva Haites, Professor of Medical Genetics, University of Aberdeen

##### Observing:

Elaine Suthers, Inspector

Conflicts of Interest: members of the Committee declared that they had no conflicts of interest in relation to this item. The Committee noted that the Person Responsible at this centre is a member of the Authority

The following papers were considered by the Committee:

- papers for Licence Committee (39 pages)

1. The papers for this item were presented by Chris O'Toole, Head of Research Regulation. Dr O'Toole informed the Committee that the progress in this project has been slow. This is due to the fact that the centre is making increased use of blastocyst culture, in order to improve outcomes for patients, which has reduced the number of embryos donated to research/

2. Dr O'Toole informed the Committee that the Person Responsible would like to vary the licence to include embryo culture and disaggregation as licensed activities.

3. Dr O'Toole informed the Committee that the inspection team were impressed with the facilities at the centre and found that appropriate alarms are in place, as well as the laboratory and cryostore being fit for purpose. Dr O'Toole explained that the PR hoped to utilise fresh embryos at some point in the project but that this had not been possible due to changes in the laboratory practice, whereby most surplus embryos following ET are grown to the blastocyst stage prior to freezing.

4. Dr O'Toole communicated to the Committee that 35 embryos were thawed with the intention to use them in this project. However only 15 of the 35 produced a sufficient number of intact blastomeres post-thaw, to enable the single cell isolation to be attempted.

6. The Committee agreed that the centre's licence should continue with no additional conditions.

Signed..... Date.....  
Emily Jackson (Chair)