HFEA Executive Licensing Panel Meeting

11 February 2010

21 Bloomsbury Street London WC1B 3HF

Minutes – item 3

IVF Hammersmith (0078), Application to vary licence to include PGD for HLA tissue typing for named patients

Members of the Panel:	
Peter Thompson, Director of Strategy & Information (Chair) Mark Bennett, Director of Finance & Facilities Trish Davies, Director of Compliance	Committee Administrator: Joanne McAlpine

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 (17 pages)
- no papers were tabled for this item

The Committee also had before it:

- HFEA Protocol for the Conduct of Licence Committee Meetings of the Authority's Executive Licensing Panel
- 8th edition of the HFEA Code of Practice
- Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990 (as amended)
- Direction 0008 (where relevant), and any other relevant Directions issued by the Authority;
- Decision Trees for Granting and Renewing Licences and Considering Requests to Vary a Licence
- Guidance for members of Authority and Committees on the handling of conflicts of interest approved by the Authority on 21 January 2009
- Indicative applications guidance on the time period for which licences should be granted approved by the Authority on 21 October 2009
- Indicative sanctions guidance approved by the Authority on 18 March 2009
- Licence application and any relevant documentation

1. The Panel considered the papers for this item which included an executive summary, a redacted application form for the variation to include HLA typing in a specified patient couple with a child suffering from transfusion dependent anaemia, believed to be Diamond-Blackfan Anaemia (DBA) disease.

2. The Panel noted that this centre is licensed to provide PGD and along with the independent genetics testing laboratory that it uses for the diagnostic work, Reprogenetics UK, has considerable experience with the techniques required for PGD.

3. The Panel noted that although the centre has had considerable experience in PGD this is its first application to conduct PGD for HLA Tissue Typing.

4. The Panel noted the letter from the clinician supporting this application provides sufficient detail about the medical history of the couple's child.

5. The Panel noted that the couple is not planning to use PGD to test for DBA, as this diagnosis has not been confirmed but is based on the exclusion of other conditions. However, the couple wish to use PGD to assist them conceive a child that would be an HLA match and possible bone marrow donor for their daughter.

6. The Panel noted that embryo testing for HLA type to provide a bone marrow tissue match for a sibling suffering from a serious medical condition, even without additional PGD testing of the embryo for the serious medical condition, is a lawful defined purpose for embryo testing, as specified at HFE Act (1990) as amended, Schedule 2, para 1ZA (1) (d), and qualified by HFE Act (1990) as amended, Schedule 2, para 1ZA (4).

7. The Panel noted the points made in the clinician's letter and that he is in support of the application.

8. The Panel noted that this condition is serious and has been licensed by a previous Licence Committee for use in PGD.

<u>The Panel's Decision</u>

9 The Panel agreed that they were satisfied that they had enough information on which to make a decision and therefore decided to approve this application to vary the licence to include PGD for HLA tissue typing for named patients (Patient HB and Patient KH)

Signed.....Date.....1/3/10.
Peter Thompson (Chair)