

HFEA Licence Committee Meeting

27 May 2010

21 Bloomsbury Street London WC1B 3HF

Minutes – Item 02

Centre 0250 (Glasgow Centre for Reproductive Medicine) – Application to Vary Licence to Use Unquarantined Embryos

Members of the Committee:	Committee Secretary:
David Archard (lay) – Chair	Terence Dourado
Anna Carragher (lay)	
Rebekah Dundas (lay)	Legal Advisers:
Sue Price (Professional)	Graham Miles

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:

- Executive Summary
- Previous relevant minutes
- Application

The Committee also had before it:

- HFEA Protocol for the Conduct of Licence Committee Meetings and Hearings
- 8th edition of the HFEA Code of Practice
- Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990 (as amended)
- Decision trees for granting and renewing licences and considering requests to vary a licence (including the PGD decision tree)
- Guidance for members of Authority and Committees on the handling of conflicts of interest approved by the Authority on 21 January 2009.
- Guidance on periods for which new or renewed licences should be granted
- Standing Orders and Instrument of Delegation
- Indicative Sanctions Guidance
- HFEA Directions 0000 – 0012
- Guide to Licensing

- Compliance and Enforcement Policy
- Policy on Publication of Authority and Committee Papers

Consideration of Application

1. The Committee considered the Centre's application to vary the licence and the Executive summary.
2. The Committee noted that the Centre had submitted an application to vary licence condition A.7.3 to permit fresh embryos created with non quarantined gametes to be transferred to a gestational surrogate.
3. The Committee noted that the commissioning couple and surrogate had been through the normal pathway of medical assessment and counselling and appropriate advice given in relation to surrogacy in accordance with the Code of Practice.
4. The Committee acknowledged the reasons outlined in the report for the request. It noted the recommendation by the Executive that the Centre should be allowed to vary licence condition A.7.3 for the treatment of the named patients. The Committee also noted that the couple would have been screened for HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C in the course of the failed course of treatment, that the Centre proposed to rescreen them prior to stimulation, and that accordingly the risk to the gestational surrogate of waiving the usual quarantine period is reduced.

Decision

5. The Committee endorsed the Executive's recommendation to vary the Centre's licence for condition A.7.3

Signed:



Date: 3 June 2010

David Archard (Chair)