

HFEA Executive Licence Panel Meeting

17 December 2010

21 Bloomsbury Street London WC1B 3HF

Minutes – Item 4

Centre 0070 (The Bridge Centre) – Variation to Change Person Responsible (Treatment and Storage)

Members of the Panel: Peter Thompson, Director of Strategy & Information (Chair) Nick Jones, Director of Compliance Helen Richens, Policy Manager	Committee Secretary: Joanne McAlpine
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Declarations of Interest: members of the Panel declared that they had no conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

The Panel also had before it:

- HFEA Protocol for the Conduct of Meetings of Executive Licensing Panel
- 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 Panel noted that an application to vary the centre's current licence to change the Person Responsible (PR) has been submitted to the HFEA.
2. The Panel noted that the current PR, Professor Alan Handyside has submitted a letter confirming his resignation.
3. The Panel noted that the proposed PR, Dr Alan Thornhill, has submitted a letter confirming his willingness to assume the responsibility of the role of PR.
4. The Panel noted that Dr Alan Thornhill is also a member of the Authority.
5. The Panel noted Dr Thornhill's CV and his considerable experience in clinical embryology, and that he has the relevant qualifications that meet the requirements of section 16 (2) of the HFE Act 1990 (as amended). Furthermore, the Panel noted that the proposed PR had two references which both attested to his suitability for the role.
6. The Panel noted that Dr Thornhill is also registered with the Health Professions Council as a clinical scientist.
7. The Panel noted that Dr Thornhill has completed the PR Entry Programme satisfactorily, and meets the requirement of Licence Condition T8.
8. The Panel noted that the Inspectorate recommend the appointment of the proposed PR.
9. The Panel also noted that the Inspectorate had provided information about the centre's renewal inspection and subsequent management review. The Panel noted the actions the centre had already taken and urge the new PR to secure the necessary improvements at the earliest opportunity.

Decision

10. The Panel agreed to vary the centre's licence to recognise Dr Alan Thornhill as the Person Responsible in accordance with Section 18A of the HFE Act (as amended).

Signed:  Date: 23/12/10.

Peter Thompson (Chair)