

Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority

Minutes of the Licence Committee

Meeting held at Finsbury Tower, 103-105 Bunhill Row, London, EC1Y 8HF on
16 July 2015

Minutes – item 3

Centre 0017 (Newcastle Fertility Centre at Life) – Change of research objectives and lay summary, R0152

Members of the Committee:	Andy Greenfield (Chair, lay) Kate Brian (lay) Margret Gilmore (lay) Anita Bharucha (lay)
Legal Adviser:	Ros Foster, Browne Jacobson
Members of the Executive:	Sam Hartley – Head of Governance and Licensing Trent Fisher – Secretary

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 report
- previous committee minutes for the last three years
 - 22/05/2015 variation, adjourned
 - 31/10/2014 change of PR
 - 08/05/2014 licence renewal
 - 21/06/2013 interim inspection
 - 23/05/2013 interim inspection, adjourned

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 the 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 the publication of Authority and committee papers.

Background

1. Research project R0152 'Towards improving assisted reproductive technologies for the treatment of infertility and prevention of disease' has been licensed since August 2004.
2. Centre 0017 has applied to update the research project's objectives and the lay summary.

Discussion

3. The committee considered the papers that included an executive report and licensing minutes for the past three years.
4. The committee noted that application was first considered by the Executive Licensing Panel, which referred the matter to the Licence Committee.
5. The committee noted the inspectorate's recommendations to:
 - approve the updates to the research objectives; and
 - approve the updates to the lay summary.

Decision

6. The committee agreed to approve the updates to the centre's lay summary and the updates to the research objectives. The committee was content that the revised objectives and lay summary were consistent with the activities and purposes for which the project was licensed.
7. The committee noted that the Executive Licensing Panel had referred the application to the Licence Committee as it did not have sufficient expertise to take a view on this application. The Committee reminded the executive to ensure that appropriate expertise was available to advise the panel or committee in future, as required. The committee further noted that it was entirely appropriate for a licensing committee to consider the changes to this project in light of the recent changes to the legislation regarding Mitochondrial Donation.

Signed:

Date: 27 July 2015



Andy Greenfield (Chair)