

# Licence Committee - minutes

## Centre 0017 & 0246 (Newcastle Fertility Centre at LIFE & Francis Crick institute) – Variation of research objectives

Thursday, 8 September 2016

HFEA, Level 2, 10 Spring Gardens, London, SW1A 2BU

Committee members	Lee Rayfield (Chair) Margaret Gilmore Ruth Wilde Kate Brian Anita Bharucha	
Members of the Executive	Ian Brown Trent Fisher	Head of Corporate Governance Secretary
Legal Adviser	Graham Miles	Blake Morgan LLP
Observers	None	

### Declarations of interest:

- members of the committee declared that they had no conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

### The committee had before it:

- 8th edition of the HFEA Code of Practice
- standard licensing and approvals pack for committee members

### The following papers were considered by the committee:

- executive summary
- Licence Committee minutes 14 July 2016
- Interim inspection report (March 2016)

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## 1. Consideration of application

- 1.1. The committee noted from the paper work that it was considering an application for an amendment to research objective 1 of research project R0152 which is currently licensed at centres 0017 and 0246.
- 1.2. The committee noted that the addition to research objective one would include culturing blastocysts up to 14 days.
- 1.3. The Committee noted that under the act, no research can be carried out on an embryo after the appearance of the primitive streak which is deemed to have appeared no later than 14 days after the embryo was created.
- 1.4. The committee noted that within correspondence between the HFEA executive and the PR of centre 0017 that the PR is aware that embryos must be discarded within the 14-day period.
- 1.5. The Committee noted that the inspection team is satisfied that the proposed amendment does not constitute a new research objective, but represents a change in the approach proposed to meet an existing objective.
- 1.6. The Committee noted that the PR has advised that there is likely to be an increase in the number of embryos created and used as a consequence of the amendment.
- 1.7. The committee noted that the suggested amendment has received ethics approval.

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## 2. Decision

- 2.1. The committee noted the proposed amendment to objective one of research project R0152 at centres 0017 & 0246.
- 2.2. The committee agreed with the view of the inspection team that the proposed amendment does not constitute a new objective and, therefore, does not amount to a variation that requires the approval of the Committee.
- 2.3. The Committee is satisfied it had adequate information to support this application. It requests the PR supply more detail about the need for extra embryos and how they will be obtained as it believes this would be in the public interest

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## 3. Chair's signature

- 3.1. I confirm this is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

### Signature



### Name

Lee Rayfield

### Date

27 September 2016