Summary of request

The Authority was asked for information relating to egg freezing.

HFEA response

Thanks for contacting the HFEA for some information. I’m not sure what [name redacted] told you when you spoke with her but we don’t actually collect information on the reason for storing eggs (i.e social or medical reasons). I think I do have some information that you might find useful regarding the use of frozen eggs.

The data shows all the centres who have conducted this kind of treatment each year since 1999. It shows the number of patients having treatments, the number of cycles and the number of those treatments that led to pregnancies and birth events. It is HFEA policy to not give out success rates if the cohort of cycles contains fewer than 50 treatment cycles because a group that size is not large enough for a useful rate to be derived. In these circumstances we have released the actual numbers of birth events.

Please be aware that I have replaced any number between 1 and 5 with a ‘<5’ figure because there is a significant possibility that this information, when combined with other information to which you may reasonably be expected to have access, could lead to the identification of a person to whom the HFEA owes a duty of confidentiality. To disclose this information in these circumstances may therefore result in a breach of the confidentiality provisions of section 33A of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990 (as amended), and the information is therefore exempt from disclosure under section 44 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.