

PRESERVATION OF FERTILITY

FOR PATIENTS COMMENCING TREATMENT WITH HIGH RISK OF INFERTILITY (CRYOPRESERVATION)

CRITERIA BASED ACCESS

BSW ICB will fund the collection and storage of eggs and sperm (gametes) and embryos for individuals who are commencing NHS treatment with high risk of infertility.

Patients must satisfy the following criteria:

- Patient is about to receive cytotoxic therapy, irradiation or surgery that carries a high risk of infertility (for cancer or benign conditions).

OR

- Patient has been assessed by the NHS commissioned Gender Identity Development Service (GIDS) and will be commencing treatment for gender dysphoria on the NHS Specialised Commissioning pathway (undergoing endocrine treatment or surgery).

AND

- The patient is a post pubertal, pre-menopausal female under the age of 40 or a post-pubertal male under the age of 55.

BSW ICB will fund storage for the initial 10-years; storage beyond this will require ICB prior approval.

Cryopreservation for any other indication is **not normally funded**.

Women should be offered egg or embryo cryostorage as appropriate only if they are well enough to undergo ovarian stimulation and egg collection, if this will not worsen their condition and that sufficient time is available. One cycle of ovarian stimulation and harvesting is normally funded. Any additional cycles will require prior approval.

Cryopreservation of ovarian or testicular tissue is considered to be an experimental treatment and is **not normally funded**.

Approval of cryopreservation does not guarantee future funding of assisted conception or fertility treatment. Local fertility policies and criteria for eligibility in place in the commissioning area in which the patient is living at the time of application will apply.

(Please see: BSW ICB policy for Assisted Conception Services for Infertile Patients).

All individuals should be informed at the time of storage that if, at the time of treatment for infertility, surrogacy is the only option, this is not funded by the Integrated Care Board.