

What Next?

Hopefully this leaflet has given you enough information about the changes to the joint policy. If you choose, you can read the full version of the new policy on the Publications page of the Calderdale CCG website at www.calderdaleccg.nhs.uk

Or these documents can be sent to you if you do not have access to the internet. You can request this by:

Writing to us:

NHS Calderdale Clinical Commissioning
Group, 5th floor, F Mill, Dean Clough,
Halifax, HX3 5AX

Sending an email to:

calccg.contact@nhs.net

By telephone:

01422 307400



Changes to the Access to Infertility Treatment Policy

Changes to our joint Access to Infertility Treatment policy

Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) in the Yorkshire and Humber area are making changes to our shared approach to supporting people who are experiencing infertility to access specialist interventions to help them conceive.

Background

A joint commissioning policy was developed in partnership with the Yorkshire and Humber Expert Fertility Panel (a panel predominantly made up of clinicians and fertility experts) and adopted in 2013. Recently CCGs across the Yorkshire and the Humber agreed to work together again to update this policy in light of new NICE guidance and other policy changes.

What the policy is

The shared policy sets out who is eligible for specialist fertility services.

What the policy is not

This shared policy is not about how many cycles of infertility treatment are paid for by individual CCGs. This is covered by each CCG's own local policy around funding of specialist infertility treatment.

What this document is

This document highlights and explains the changes in the new policy.

The majority of changes are simple wording to make the policy easier to read and reflect changes to clinical terminology as infertility treatment develops.

There are two changes that affect eligibility for NHS funded specialist fertility treatment. These are positive changes which will make access to specialist fertility treatment more equitable.

So what are the changes?

Eligibility of Overseas Visitors

The NHS (Charges to Overseas Visitors) Regulations 2015 and further 2019 Guidance on Implementing Overseas Visitors Regulations will not apply, providing one partner in the couple is ordinarily resident in the UK

This policy relates to couples not individuals. This means a couple is now eligible for NHS funded assisted conception providing one of them resides in the UK. This includes initial fertility investigations.

Definition of Infertility

The definition of infertility has been explicitly amended to include transgender and same sex couples, recognising that it is not possible to conceive by regular sexual intercourse. This broadens access to NHS funded specialist infertility treatment.