

Ref: FOI/00043/CMICB
02 September 2022

Your Request:

1) It is my understanding that although there are NICE guidelines for Fertility Treatment, local CCGs have their own individual local priorities and decide the level of funding. I have also been informed that each individual CCG also determines the number of cycles they will fund, and what additional criteria a patient has to meet in order to qualify for treatment. Please could I request this information, and also receive the most up to date policy?

Our Response:

Please find listed below links to the current assisted fertility policies for each of the former CCGs that now make up NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB, which detail the type of NHS assisted fertility treatment options available and the inclusion/exclusion criteria for eligibility:

Cheshire (West)

<https://www.cheshireccg.nhs.uk/media/1839/subfertility-policy-wc-ccg-2017-18-update-may2018-final.pdf>

Cheshire (Eastern/South/Vale Royal)

https://www.cheshireccg.nhs.uk/media/1840/subfertility-policy-_ec_sc_vr_ccg_2017-18_final_revision_may_2018.pdf

Halton & Warrington

<https://www.haltonwarringtonccg.nhs.uk/about-us/policies-and-procedures/warrington-policies/policies-1/288-nhs-warrington-ccg-subfertility-policy/file>

Knowsley

https://www.knowsleyccg.nhs.uk/assets/uploaded/documents/26739_FINAL%20Infertility%20Policy%2026022015.pdf

Liverpool

<https://www.liverpoolccg.nhs.uk/media/1025/final-infertility-policy-26022015-1.pdf>

South Sefton

<https://www.southseftonccg.nhs.uk/media/1435/final-infertility-policy-27082015-sccg.pdf>

Southport & Formby

<https://www.southportandformbyccg.nhs.uk/media/1214/final-infertility-policy-27082015-sfccg.pdf>

St Helens

<https://www.sthelensccg.nhs.uk/media/1545/sub-fertility-policy-nhs-st-helens-ccg-review-date-november-2015.pdf>

Wirral

<https://www.wirralccg.nhs.uk/media/1254/subfertility-policy-wirral-2017-18.pdf>

Your Request:

2) I have noticed that CCGs across Cheshire/Merseyside/Liverpool have been dissolved, and are now partnered with other areas into an Integrated Care Board (ICB), does this mean the information I am requesting will change with this new partnership or has this information already been updated? If each area still has different funding and requirements, please can the information for each area within the ICB be sent to me?

Our Response:

2) Information regarding the current application of the inherited former CCG commissioning policies in operation across the Cheshire & Merseyside area can be found on our website via the following link:
<https://www.cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk/about/how-we-work/commissioning-policies/>

Your Request:

3) I am aware that some CCGs request that you need to be registered with a GP for a certain duration for assisted conception NHS funding, please could you confirm how long this needs to be, if this is a requirement of Cheshire and Merseyside ICB?

Our Response:

3) None of the former CCG assisted fertility policies listed in response to Question 1 stipulate a duration to which a patient must be registered with a member GP Practice as part of the eligibility criteria.