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16 January 2024

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**Re: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000**  
**Ref no: FOI-3729-LSC**

Thank you for your request dated 15 december 2023.

We can confirm that the ICB does hold the information you requested.

Please find our response to your questions below:

1. Who are the ICB's current contracted providers for tertiary level IVF/Fertility Specialist services?

**Leeds Teaching Hospitals**  
**Liverpool Women's Hospital**  
**Manchester Financial Trust**  
**Wigan, Wrightington & Leigh**  
**Countess of Chester NHS Foundation Trust (CoCH) via Cheshire & Merseyside ICB – Ceased 30th September 2023**

2. Who are the ICB's current contracted providers for secondary level reproductive medicine/sub fertility services?

**For preliminary investigations**

**Blackpool Teaching Hospitals**  
**East Lancashire Hospitals Trust**  
**Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust**  
**University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay**  
**Queen's Square Medical Centre**

3. Who have held the ICB/CCG's contracted providers for tertiary level IVF/Fertility Specialist services and for what time period/dates since 2012

**From 2012**  
**Leeds Teaching Hospitals**  
**Liverpool Women's Hospital**  
**Manchester Financial Trust**  
**Wigan, Wrightington & Leigh**  
**Countess of Chester NHS Foundation Trust (CoCH) via Cheshire & Merseyside ICB - - Ceased 30th September 2023**

4. Who are the ICB's/CCGs contracted providers for secondary level reproductive medicine/sub fertility services and for what time period/dates since 2012

From 2012  
 Blackpool Teaching Hospitals  
 East Lancashire Hospitals Trust  
 Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust  
 University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay

Queen's Square Medical Centre (from April 2018)

5. When was the last procurement exercise undertaken for IVF/Fertility Specialist services?

There has been no competitive procurement exercise undertaken in respect of fertility services since 2012. In accordance with Public Contracts Regulations (superseded by NHS Provider Selection Regime 01/01/24) the NHS provider contracts have been directly awarded each contractual year since 2012. A direct award of contract was made by Cheshire and Mersey ICB to Care Fertility in 2023 under the Public Contracts Regulations, due to an unforeseen termination of a sub-contracting arrangement between the provider and Countess of Chester NHS FT. It is the intention of LSC ICB, acting in the best interest of LSC patients, to be party to the contract between Cheshire and Mersey ICB and Care Fertility.

6. When is it expected the next procurement exercise will be undertaken for IVF/Fertility Specialist services?

Not yet determined

7. Is there a fixed tariff for IVF? If so what is this if not what is the tariff per current provider

The current tariff is as follows

	Women aged 37 and under	Woman aged 38 or older, or previous non-responder
IVF (price to include one fresh and one frozen cycle)	3,360	3,793

8. What volume of activity did the ICB commission for IVF and ICSI services per year from 2012? (use table below)

IVF & ICSI

Provided data indicates when the pathway and provider services have been utilised (actual activity).

Inaccurate data is being returned, indicating only two IVF (ICSI) procedures since 2014 this could be due to recording inaccuracies by the providers.

Provider	Calendar Year									
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
PENNINE ACUTE HOSPITALS NHS TRUST (Y964: In vitro fertilisation with intracytoplasmic sperm injection and donor egg)	1	1								

9. What volume of activity did the ICB commission for IUI services per year from 2012? (use table below)

Provided data indicates when the pathway and provider services have been utilised (actual activity).

#### IUI

Provider	Calendar Year									
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
CENTRAL MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST		4	1							
COUNTESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST						1				
EAST LANCASHIRE HOSPITALS NHS TRUST								1		
LIVERPOOL WOMEN'S NHS FOUNDATION TRUST	155	286	371	418	427	330	214	262	245	240
THE NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST									1	
WRIGHTINGTON, WIGAN AND LEIGH NHS FOUNDATION TRUST	1	4	28	14	9	8	7	11	12	7
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>247</b>

10. What volume of egg and or sperm donor services did the ICB commission per year from 2012? (use table below)

Provided data indicates when the pathway and provider services have been utilised (actual activity).

#### Sperm Donation

Provider Name	Primary Procedure OPC S4 With Code	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
CENTRAL MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST	Q137: Intrauterine insemination without superovulation using donor sperm		4	1							
LIVERPOOL WOMEN'S NHS FOUNDATION TRUST	Q135: Intrauterine insemination with superovulation using donor sperm	4	4	5	10	7	2	3	7	5	4
LIVERPOOL WOMEN'S NHS FOUNDATION TRUST	Q137: Intrauterine insemination without superovulation using donor sperm	6	10	11	7	19	12	13	19	10	8
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>

## Egg Donation

Provider	Calendar Year									
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
PENNINE ACUTE HOSPITALS NHS TRUST (Y964: In vitro fertilisation with intracytoplasmic sperm injection and donor egg)	1	1								

**NB. Some of the returns indicate the data may not be accurate. We would advise you to enquire directly with the listed providers to obtain the most accurate information.**

### **Right of Appeal**

Should you require any further information or clarification regarding this response please do not hesitate to contact us. If you are dissatisfied with the response, you are entitled to request an internal review which should be formally requested in writing and must be within 40 working days from the date this response was issued.

### **To request an internal review**

You can request this by contacting the FOI team by email at [MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net](mailto:MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net) or by post to Leyland House, Lancashire Business Park, Leyland, PR26 6TR, specifying why you require a review.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the CCGs FOI complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF  
[www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

**On behalf of Kevin Lavery  
ICB Chief Executive**