

Fertility problems committee meeting 7

Date: 27/07/2023

Location: Virtual via Zoom

Minutes: Final

Committee members present:	
Fergus Macbeth	Present for notes 1-6
Raj Mathur	Present for notes 1-6
Maj Shabbir	Present for notes 1-6
Jason Kasraie	Present for notes 1-6
Kate Brian	Present for notes 1-6
Ciaran Hannington	Present for notes 1-6
Nicky Hudson	Present for notes 1-6
Stuart Lavery	Present for notes 1-6
Guy Morris	Present for notes 1-6
Allan Pacey	Present for notes 1-6
Yasmin Rahman	Present for notes 1-6
Francesca Steyn	Present for notes 1-6
Bethan Shoemark-Spear	Present for notes 1-5
Peter Taylor	Present for notes 1-5

In attendance:		
Hilary Eadon	Guideline Lead	Present for notes 1-6
Esther Clifford	Project Manager	Present for notes 1-6
Katriona O'Donoghue	Systematic Reviewer	Present for notes 1-6
Alexandra Bonnon	Health Economist	Present for notes 1-6
Ceri Williams	Information Scientist	Present for notes 1-6
Sarah Palombella	Editor	Present for notes 1-6
Stephen Murphy	Clinical Adviser	Present for notes 1-6

Observers		
Georgina Winney	NICE Business Administrator	Present for notes 1-6
Hugh McGuire	NICE International, Senior Scientific Adviser	Present for notes 1-6
Valentina Ricci	Agency for Care Effectiveness (Singapore)	Present for notes 1-6
Kan Shu Jun	Agency for Care Effectiveness (Singapore)	Present for notes 1-6
Phyllis Kim	Agency for Care Effectiveness (Singapore)	Present for notes 1-6
Ye Sun	Agency for Care Effectiveness (Singapore)	Present for notes 1-6

Apologies	
Kevin McEleny	GC Member
Paul Jacklin	Senior Health Economist, NICE
Odette Megnin-Viggars	Senior Systematic Reviewer, NICE
Rachel Connolly	Systematic Reviewer, NICE
Clifford Middleton	Commissioning Manager, NICE

1. Welcome and objectives for the meeting
<p>The Chair welcomed the committee members and attendees to the 7th meeting of the fertility guideline. The committee members and attendees introduced themselves.</p> <p>The Chair informed the committee that apologies had been received as noted above.</p> <p>The Chair outlined the objectives of the meeting which included looking at review questions and protocols.</p>
2. Confirmation of matter under discussion, and declarations of interest
<p>The Chair confirmed that, for the purpose of managing conflicts of interest, the matter under discussion was fertility problems.</p> <p>The Chair asked everyone to verbally declare any interests that had arisen since the last meeting. No new interests were declared.</p>
3. Minutes of last meeting
<p>The committee confirmed they were happy with the minutes from the 6th committee meeting.</p>
4. Presentations

The Chair introduced Katriona O'Donoghue, Systematic Reviewer, who presented RQ 1.1.1a protocol: What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of screening sperm DNA fragmentation (with or without treatment of any detected DNA damage) on reproductive outcomes for people with male-factor fertility problems?

The Chair introduced Katriona O'Donoghue, Systematic Reviewer, who presented RQ 1.2.4 protocol: What is the effectiveness of treatments for fertility problems associated with varicocele (including radiological embolisation and surgery)?

The Chair introduced Katriona O'Donoghue, Systematic Reviewer, who presented RQ 3.4.1 protocol: What is the effectiveness of intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) versus standard in-vitro fertilization in non-male factor fertility problems?

The Chair introduced Katriona O'Donoghue, Systematic Reviewer, who presented RQ 1.3.1 evidence report: What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of surgical sperm retrieval (SSR) techniques for fertility problems associated with non-obstructive azoospermia, or obstructive azoospermia?

The Chair introduced Hilary Eadon, Guideline Lead, who led a discussion on research recommendations relating to endometrial receptivity testing.

The Chair introduced Hilary Eadon, Guideline Lead who led a discussion reviewing comments to the guideline received from the editor.

5. Questions and discussion

The committee discussed the protocol for RQ 1.1.1a and agreed a change to the wording of the review question. With the changes to the wording the committee then discussed and agreed the protocol.

The committee discussed the protocol for RQ 1.2.4 and agreed on populations, characteristics and potential subgroups, the measures to indicate effectiveness and the details of relevant interventions. The committee agreed that the Cochrane review should be updated with any new evidence available to the technical team during searching.

The committee discussed the protocol for RQ 3.4.1. The committee agreed the population and potential subgroups for the questions, the relevant interventions and comparison and what measures would indicate effectiveness. It was agreed the Cochrane review should be updated.

The committee discussed the protocol for RQ 1.3.1 and agreed on populations and potential subgroups for the questions, the relevant interventions and comparison and what measures would indicate effectiveness.

The Chair asked for questions from the observers attending from the Agency for Care Excellence (Singapore). These were answered by the Chair and Hilary Eadon, Guideline Lead.

The committee discussed the research recommendations for endometrial receptivity and agreed upon how these should be conducted.

The committee discussed and agreed upon edits to be made to the guideline recommendations based upon the editor's questions and comments.

6. Any other business

The Chair closed the meeting at 15:30 and reminded the committee that the next meeting will be held virtually on Zoom.

Date of next meeting: 6 September 2023

Location of next meeting: Via Zoom