

Fertility problems committee meeting 8

Date: 06/09/2023

Location: Virtual via Zoom

Minutes: Final

Committee members present:	
Fergus Macbeth	Present for notes 1-6
Raj Mathur	Present for notes 1-5
Jason Kasraie	Present for notes 1-6 (out between 2-3pm)
Kate Brian	Present for notes 1-6
Ciaran Hannington	Present for notes 3-6
Stuart Lavery	Present for notes 4-6
Guy Morris	Present for notes 3-6
Allan Pacey	Present for notes 1-6
Kevin McEleny	Present for notes 1-4
Yasmin Rahman	Present for notes 3-6
Francesca Steyn	Present for notes 1-6
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
Odette Megnin-Viggars	Senior Systematic Reviewer	Present for notes 1-6
Katriona O'Donoghue	Systematic Reviewer	Present for notes 1-6
Rachel Connolly	Systematic Reviewer	Present for notes 1-6
Paul Jacklin	Senior Health Economist	Present for notes 1-6
Sarah Palombella	Editor	Present for notes 1-6
Stephen Murphy	Clinical Adviser	Present for notes 1-6
Clifford Middleton	Commissioning Manager	Present for notes 1-6

Observers		
Maija Kallioinen	NICE Guideline Lead	Present for notes 4-6
Georgina Winney	NICE Business Administrator	Present for notes 1-6

Apologies	
Maj Shabbir	GC member
Bethan Shoemark-Spear	GC member
Nicky Hudson	GC member
Ceri Williams	Information Scientist, NICE

1. Welcome and objectives for the meeting

The Chair welcomed the committee members and attendees to the 8th meeting of the fertility guideline update.

The Chair informed the committee that apologies had been received as noted above.

The Chair outlined the objectives of the meeting which included looking at review questions and protocols.

2. Confirmation of matter under discussion, and declarations of interest

The Chair confirmed that, for the purpose of managing conflicts of interest, the matter under discussion was fertility problems.

The Chair asked everyone to verbally declare any interests that had arisen since the last meeting. No new interests were declared.

3. Minutes of last meeting

The committee confirmed they were happy with the minutes from the 7th committee meeting.

4. Presentations

The Chair introduced Katriona O'Donoghue, Systematic Reviewer, who presented RQ 1.1.1b draft protocol: What is the association between Y chromosome microdeletions (positive AZF a, b, and c) and successful sperm retrieval in people with non-obstructive azoospermia?

The Chair introduced Odette Megnin-Viggars, Senior Systematic Reviewer, who presented RQ 3.5.5 draft protocol: What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of immune therapies as a treatment add-on for people undergoing fertility treatment?

The Chair introduced Odette Megnin-Viggars, Senior Systematic Reviewer, who presented a discussion on RQ 2.2.3: What is the effectiveness of surgical interventions including tubal surgery and uterine surgery as treatment for fertility problems?

The Chair introduced Katriona O'Donoghue, Systematic Reviewer and Paul Jacklin, Senior Health Economist, who presented RQ 2.2.1b evidence report: What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of ovulation induction strategies in people with hypogonadotropic hypogonadism?

The Chair introduced Rachel Connolly, Systematic Reviewer, who presented RQ 4.1.1 draft protocol: What is the effectiveness and safety of fertility preservation for children and adults undergoing treatment for cancer and other conditions or situations which are likely to impair their fertility?

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 1.1.1b and agreed on the population characteristics and any separate groups or subgroups and relevant interventions and their comparisons. The committee also agreed on what outcomes would indicate effectiveness.

The committee discussed the protocol for RQ 3.5.5 and agreed on populations, characteristics and potential subgroups, the measures to indicate effectiveness and the details of relevant interventions. The committee agreed on the secondary outcomes to be captured in the protocol.

The committee discussed RQ 2.2.3. 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 that four protocols should be developed to cover the different interventions and populations and brought back to the committee for their consideration.

The committee discussed the protocol and health economic evidence for RQ 2.2.1b discussed if there should be changes to the current recommendations.

The committee discussed the protocol for RQ 4.1.1 and agreed that further work and discussion with the topic group was required before bringing the draft protocol back to the committee for consideration.

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

Esther Clifford, Project Manager, informed the committee that next year's committee dates have been agreed and that there is likely to be an in-person meeting in March 2024.

The Chair closed the meeting at 16:27 and reminded the committee that the next meeting will be held virtually on Zoom.

Date of next meeting: 11 October 2023

Location of next meeting: Via Zoom