

Further information

Information on who to contact, ie web sites / telephone numbers of other departments / organisations which may be of help.

How to contact us

Obstetrics and Gynaecology

St Albans City Hospital

West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust

Waverley Road

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Hertfordshire

AL3 5PN



**West Hertfordshire
Hospitals**
NHS Trust



A guide to...

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In vitro Fertilisation (IVF)

Patient information

Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Watford General Hospital

Hemel Hempstead Hospital

St Albans City Hospital

Author	Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Department	Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Ratified Date/ Review Date	June 2016/ June 2018
ID Number	00082_4-17v02
Version Number / Print Room	V02/ Print Room



In vitro fertilisation (IVF)

Following your last appointment in the fertility clinic, you have been put forward for IVF treatment on the NHS.

You would have been given a list of the five choices of NHS clinics that you can choose from. You are required to do your own research on these clinics and let the Fertility Nurse know on **01727 897388** in no less than 4 weeks.

When we provided the list of clinics, we would have requested virology bloods for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV as it is a legal prerequisite prior to the treatment. Please do those tests as soon as you have decided on the choice of your clinic and have informed us of the name of the clinic.

We recommend that you do these blood tests **after** you have decided which clinic you would like to go to and **before** you contact the fertility nurse; as these test results need to be within 3 months of starting your treatment.

If you do them early and take a long time to choose a clinic, the results might be out of date requiring you to repeat the tests, which will not only be time consuming but also might incur some cost.

The female partner undergoing treatment will also require a Chlamydia swab, for which you will need to contact the GP surgery. If this test has been done within the last 12 months make sure you take a copy of this result with you for your first appointment at the IVF clinic.

Once we know the clinic of your choice and have received all the tests that were requested, the referral with the relevant results will be forwarded to the clinic. A letter will be sent to your GP informing him/her of the referral and the clinic of your choice. A copy of the letter will also be sent to you.

Once the IVF clinic has received the referral, they will contact you directly to arrange an initial consultation, where you will have a detailed discussion about your treatment and have an opportunity to ask questions as well.

The waiting time as well as the duration of treatment varies from clinic to clinic. It is advisable to visit clinic websites and to attend open days held by these clinics, which are free to attend and not obligatory in any way.

We can only forward a referral if you contact us within the next 4 weeks. If we do not hear from you within 4 weeks after having been seen in the clinic unfortunately you will be discharged from the system, as we have to abide by a certain time limit, and assume that you no longer wish to proceed with the treatment.

You will then have to be re-referred to the service which can be time consuming and may impact your success due to loss of time.

If you are a self-funding patient you would be requested to do your own research and contact the clinic of your choice directly. You can visit the HFEA website to find out about different clinics. The correspondence you had so far with us should contain all the necessary information. However if any more information is required, you can contact your GP first and then our services.

We want to make sure that your journey is smooth, pleasant and most importantly successful. Should you need any more information or have questions please contact:

Aruna Coomaraswamy, Fertility Nurse: **01727 897 388**

Helen Hopla, Secretary: **01727 897 449**