

Our Ref: FOI ID 42765

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Re: Freedom of Information Request

Please find below the response to your recent Freedom of Information request regarding IVF services within South Sefton CCG.

Request/[Response](#):

1. How many cycles of IVF has the authority funded in each of the financial years:
 - (a) 2014/15 - [45](#)
 - (b) 2015/16 - [76](#)
 - (c) 2016/17 - [59](#)

2. What was the total amount paid by the authority in each of these years to providers in payment for IVF services?
 - (a) 2014/15 - [£194,073](#)
 - (b) 2015/16 - [£320,429](#)
 - (c) 2016/17 - [£252,319](#)

3. How many of the cycles stated in each year in answer to question 1 above were provided by NHS providers, and how many were provided by private or third sector providers?
 - (a) 2014/15
 - (b) 2015/16
 - (c) 2016/17

[All cycles provided by Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust](#)

4. Are individuals for whom the authority funds IVF services given any choice of provider? For example, does the authority procure a list of qualified providers and allow individuals eligible for IVF to choose from this list, or does the authority require individuals to use a provider nominated by the authority?

[The CCG funds fertility services in accordance with the criteria within the Cheshire and Merseyside Commissioning Policy - this is in Cheshire and Merseyside provider contracts which enables CCGs to have assurance that their policy criteria is closely followed. The majority of IVF treatments funded by the CCG are undertaken by Liverpool Women's Hospital. There may be occasions where the CCG will fund IVF at providers who have an](#)

NHS Standard Contract outside the Cheshire and Merseyside area but the policy criteria will still apply.

5. How, if at all have the authorities funding criteria for IVF services changed between the financial year 2014/15 and 01/11/2017. For example
 - a. Has the number of cycles funded changed (if so, from what to what)
 - b. Has the minimum age changed (if so, from what to what)
 - c. Has the maximum age changed (if so, from what to what)
 - d. Has the time trying to conceive criteria changed (if so, from what to what)
 - e. Have criteria relating to previous children changed (if so, from what to what)
 - f. Have any other criteria changed or been introduced in this period, eg BMI

The current policy was implemented in 2014/15 and there have been no changes since this date however the policy is currently under review.