

F-2016-00128- Welfare of the Child

24 May 2016

Summary of request

The Authority was asked for information regarding section 13 of the HFE Act 1990 (welfare of the child provisions).

HFEA response

Responses to your request can be found below:

* how many fertility treatments have been refused to patients in the last 3 years under the provisions of section 13 of the HFE Act 1990 (welfare of the child provisions)

I can confirm that the HFEA does not hold this information.

* is this a condition of licence for each clinic?

I can confirm that welfare of the child considerations is a standard licensing condition (T56) on all treatment licenses issued by the HFEA. More information is contained within the guidance note on the HFEA website: <http://www.hfea.gov.uk/5473.html>

* if so, how is provision enforced?

I can confirm that the HFEA requires a Welfare of the Child: patient history form to be completed by each patient requesting any licensed treatment or any unlicensed treatment which involves the handling or manipulation of gametes outside the body. This form can be found on the HFEA website: <http://www.hfea.gov.uk/docs/WelfareofthechildformV2.pdf>

* does the HFEA undertake any scrutiny of these decisions? How many inspections has the HFEA undertaken in the past 12 months?

I can confirm that at the time of inspection, a centre's inspector will perform an audit ensuring the forms are completed. There have been 81 inspections carried out between 11 May 2015 and 10 May 2016.

This data was extracted from the HFEA's data warehouse containing Register data as at 22 April 2016. Please note that the information in our database may be subject to change as licensed centres notify us of information that updates or corrects information they have previously supplied.