

FACT SHEET 3: ABOUT IVF

- One in seven couples have fertility problems
- Female infertility accounts for 40% of all cases and male infertility accounts for 30%. The remaining 30% is largely caused by infertility in both partners and unexplained infertility.
- 8,106 babies were born by IVF in the UK in 2000-2001
- IVF births account for 1% of all births in the UK. There have been over 1 million IVF births worldwide.
- In 2001, nearly 24,000 patients underwent IVF treatment. There were 25,000 cycles of treatment.
- There are 115 licensed centres in the UK regulated by HFEA to carry out all types of fertility treatment and 75 licensed for IVF and DI only.
- The first IVF baby was born in 1978. Since 1991 more than 68,000 children have been born in the UK through IVF.
- The success rate (live birth rate) for IVF patients of all ages is about 22%
- Cost of IVF treatment ranges from £2,000-£4,000 per cycle and the drugs can cost an additional £1,000.
- At present about 25% of IVF treatments in the UK are funded by the NHS.
- Following the publication of the NICE Guidelines in February 2004, the Health Secretary stated that all Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) should offer at least on full cycle of treatment to all eligible women from April 2005.