F-2014-00131 - Information about the use of time-lapse incubators and resultant pregnancies

14 May 2014

Summary of request

The Authority was asked for information about the use of time-lapse incubators and pregnancies following their use.

HFEA response

The information requested is not held by this Department as the Authority does not collect information about the use of time-lapse incubators, including resultant pregnancies following their use.

It may be helpful to explain that the information collected by the Authority for the HFEA Register includes UK fertility clinics' treatment activities, such as how many women received fertility treatment and how old they were, what types of treatment were given, and whether cycles used fresh or frozen gametes and embryos. The data collected also includes whether treatments are privately or NHS funded, the number of multiple pregnancies that occurred per clinic, and how many treatments resulted in a live birth.

Furthermore, the Authority stores centre data and information in its internal system Epicentre. Clinic information is stored, amended and updated in Epicentre, and includes staff lists, any licence conditions and licensing histories for every closed, active and prospective centre within the UK.

For more information, please refer to Section 31(2) of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act which sets out the information collected by the Authority for the Register of Information.