

F-2015-00118- single women and same sex couples undergoing NHS funded fertility treatment

6th May 2015

Summary of request

The Authority has been asked two questions about single women and same sex couples undergoing NHS funded fertility treatment:

- 1) The number of single women undergoing publicly funded fertility treatment annually between 2008 and 2014.
- 2) The number of couples (heterosexual and homosexual) undergoing NHS funded fertility treatment annually between 2008 and 2014.

HFEA response

Please find that information attached. As you will see I have not included data for 2014 as the HFEA has not yet verified this information with the fertility sector. The collection of funding source only began in 2007 and as you can see there were problems in its completion up until 2009. To illustrate this I have included a column to show when funding source was not recorded.

I have replaced a low number with a '<5' figure because there is a significant possibility that this information, when combined with other information to which you may reasonably be expected to have access, could lead to the identification of a person to whom the HFEA owes a duty of confidentiality. To disclose this information in these circumstances may therefore result in a breach of the confidentiality provisions of section 33A of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990 (as amended), and the information is therefore exempt from disclosure under section 44 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.