Fertility/IVF referral pathway involving primary care (part 1)

Couple sees GP with failure to conceive
See NICE guidelines

Primary Care investigation of all couples STARTS with

Male investigations
- Analysis of seminal fluid. This should be the first step in the investigation of infertility since in the absence of sperm the fertility appointment is not required.

Method
- 3 days abstinence from intercourse
- Collection of specimen of semen in a sterile plastic container after masturbation
- Examine within time set by clinic prior appointment

NICE guidance: Fertility problems assessment and treatment
Referral forms available as templates on your software

Female investigations also required

Female investigations
- Assessment of ovulation - mid-luteal progesterone - taken seven days prior to menses e.g. day 21 of 28 day cycle or day 25 of 32 day cycle. For amenorrhoea just state this at the time of the tests.
- Other hormonal tests – LH, testosterone, TSH
- FSH, Prolactin - performed on day 2 – 5 of cycle. See above for amenorrhoea.
- Rubella status (if not already known)
- In date cervical smear
- Chlamydia swab
- Pelvic/TV USS if available

Normal/Low sperm count
- Normal / low sperm count
- Abnormal bloods and/or
- Abnormal scan and/or
- No conception after one year of regular SI but see previous advice

Azoospermatic couples who meet the funding criteria go straight to IVF with the female partner’s tests, which are required prior to referral.

Patients seen and treated in NHS FERTILITY CLINIC (see part 2)

OR

NO SPERM

Refer all couples to NHS Fertility Clinic (Via C&B) with above test results

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Author: Dr S Hayles