

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

KEY

Primary Care

Secondary Care

Private Care

**NHS**

Oxfordshire  
Clinical  
Commissioning  
Group

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

[See this link](#) for options and forms

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,
- 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

## NO SPERM

[See this link](#)

Or **previously proven inability to conceive**

Azoospermic couples who meet [the funding criteria](#) go straight to IVF with the female partner's tests, which are required prior to referral.

## Normal/Low sperm count

[See this link](#)

- Normal / low sperm count
- Abnormal bloods and/or
- Abnormal scan and/or
- No conception after one year of regular SI ([but see previous advice](#))

**Referral made to  
IVF UNIT of CHOICE (see part 2)**

Please use [OCCG guidelines](#) for eligibility criteria for NHS funded treatment and the referral form

Options available on the [CCG website](#) here

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

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

**CONCEPTION and/or END OF TREATMENT**

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Dr S Hayles  
V4