

**This guide answers the questions you may  
have about NHS Grampian Fertility Services**



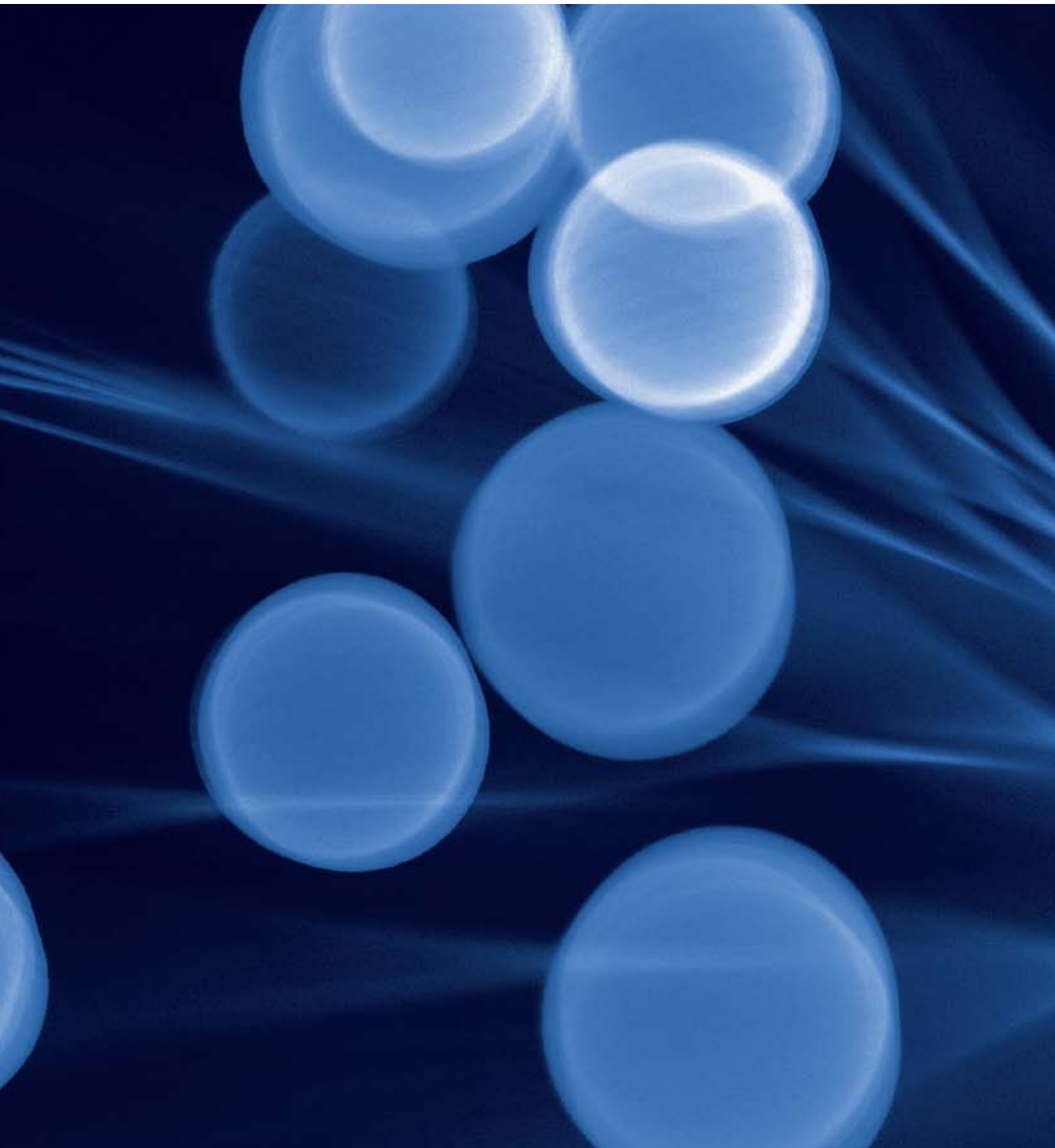
English



# **Guide to NHS Grampian Fertility Services**

October 2009

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## **Aberdeen Fertility Centre**

The **Aberdeen Fertility Centre** is a specialist centre for the diagnosis and treatment of infertility. The Centre provides In-Vitro Fertilisation (IVF) and other fertility treatments to assist people to overcome any conception difficulties.

## **Who comes to the NHS Grampian Fertility Centre?**

- People who may need help to become pregnant.
- Both men and women who may have problems with fertility.

## **How to access the NHS Grampian Fertility Centre?**

By referral from your GP. Contact your GP for an appointment to discuss your fertility concerns. Your GP will arrange for a medical examination and basic tests.

The results of these tests will be discussed with you by your GP and if referral is appropriate, your GP will write to the Fertility Clinic. (Note: The Aberdeen Fertility Centre only accepts referrals from GPs or other hospital consultants).

When your referral letter arrives at the Fertility Clinic, a patient questionnaire will be sent to you. Please complete the questionnaire and return to the Clinic as soon as possible. An appointment will then be sent to you.

## **First visit**

Your first visit to the Fertility Clinic can last up to 45 minutes and both partners, if appropriate, are encouraged to attend all clinic appointments. You will have the opportunity to discuss your condition with a consultant or senior doctor.

## **Tests**

Tests on both partners will be carried out before the start of any fertility treatment. These tests will give the medical team information which will help in the planning of your future treatment.

## **Counselling**

Trying for a baby can be very stressful. The Fertility Clinic provides an independent counselling service to help both partners. Counsellors have been professionally trained to give support and help people find the solutions that are right for them.

## **Who pays for my fertility treatment?**

The cost of fertility treatment is met by NHS Grampian. However, funding for IVF is subject to meeting the eligibility criteria set by NHS Grampian. If you are not eligible for your IVF treatment to be funded by NHS Grampian, there is always the option of paying for your own fertility treatment.

## **Who is eligible for NHS funded IVF treatment in Grampian?**

People who live in Grampian and who fulfill any of the following criteria will be considered for NHS funded IVF treatment:

- Couples with infertility of diagnosed cause of any duration for which assisted conception represents effective treatment e.g. male factor, damaged or blocked tubes, major degree of endometriosis.
- Couples with unexplained infertility of at least three years duration.
- Couples where the woman is unable to produce their own eggs or who have a medical condition requiring treatment that will make them sterile.

### **Couples must also meet the following criteria:**

- Female partner must be less than 38 years old at time of treatment.
- Neither partner has previously undergone a sterilisation procedure.
- Have no child living with them in their home.
- Couples who have had less than three previous embryo transfers (including cycles obtained privately).

## **How to contact the Fertility Clinic?**

Fertility Clinic  
Aberdeen Fertility Centre  
Aberdeen Maternity Hospital  
Foresterhill  
Aberdeen  
AB25 2ZL

General Enquiry (Reception)  
Tel: (01224) 559230

**[www.aberdeenfertility.org.uk](http://www.aberdeenfertility.org.uk)**





### **Will I be able to communicate with the doctors and nurses if I speak little or no English?**

All GP Practices, Hospitals and Community staff in Grampian are equipped with the "Language Line" telephone interpretation service. "Language Line" gives access to expert interpreters on the telephone, for 120 different languages, in 60 to 90 seconds. If you are non-English speaking or if your English is not very good, you will still be able to communicate easily with your doctor or nurse. If you prefer, you can use "Language Line" to inform your doctor or nurse that you would prefer the presence of a "face to face" interpreter, if possible, for future appointments.

### **Do you have difficulty in understanding the English language?**

If you have a problem reading or understanding the English language, this document is available in a language of your choice. Please ask an English speaking friend or relative to phone, write or email Corporate Communications.

The details are:

Corporate Communications,  
Ashgrove House,  
Aberdeen Royal Infirmary,  
Aberdeen AB25 2ZA

Telephone: (01224) 551116 or 552245

Email: [Grampian@nhs.net](mailto:Grampian@nhs.net)

### **Do you have a visual impairment?**

This document is also available in large print, as a CD and in other formats, upon request.

Ask for publication:

**CGD 090135**