Pathway Guide – Fertility

Patient presents with Subfertility. Initial assessment to include:

History:

- Length of time trying to conceive
- Past gynaecological, obstetric and medical history (both partners)
- Menstrual cycle, previous surgeries and infections
- Other medical history, Co-morbidities and BMI (both

partners)

- Examination:
- As determined by symptom history

Investigations:

· Chlamydia screen

Initial advice and management in Primary Care

- Preconception advice leaflet
- Advise / prescribe folic acid 400mcg per day (5mg if BMI >30 or PMH of diabetes, epilepsy, personal or family history of NT defects, Coeliac disease, sickle cell)
- Confirm has had MMR vaccination (or check Rubella Immunity)
- Smoking cessation advice (both partners)
- Weight management, where appropriate exercise and dietary advice (both partners). BMI ideally 19-25
- Lifestyle advice regarding alcohol, moderate exercise prescribed, over-the-counter & recreational drug use

Criteria for consideration of Secondary Care referral when:

1. Failure to conceive after regular unprotected sex for a period of not less than 1 year (or 6 months in patients aged 36+), in the absence of known reproductive pathology. For single people and same sex couples, the equivalent evidence would constitute 6 cycles of unstimulated artificial insemination **OR** 2. Known or suspected reproductive issue diagnosed in either partner (refer without delay) **OR** 3. Refer without delay if: *i. Patient over 39 years ii. History of chronic viral infection (HIV, HBC, HCV) iii. Patient awaiting treatment that may result in infertility*

Referral to Hospital Fertility Clinic

Eligibility Criteria For Assisted Conception Treatment In Tertiary Care (e.g. IVF)

All patients meeting the fertility clinic referral criteria should be referred, but please make them aware that they may not be eligible for all NHS treatment unless criteria decided by their CCG are met

Patient Information NHS website

Referral Proforma Link to webpage here xx Local Guidance N/a National Guidance
NICE Guidance