

Policy Category:

INNF

Who usually applies for funding?

GP/Consultant



Surrogacy

Commissioning decision

Surrogacy is considered a low priority for funding and will only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Funding approval must be sought from the ICB via the Individual Funding Request process prior to treatment.

Policy Statement:

The ICB does not support or fund treatments for surrogacy. In addition, support and funding will not be provided for any associated treatments (including fertility treatments) * related to those in surrogacy arrangements.

***See the fertility preservation policy for patients who are potentially at risk of infertility through a NHS pathway.**

The ICB will not therefore:

- Fund that element of treatment which relates specifically to addressing fertility treatments directly associated with surrogacy arrangements.
- Fund any payments to the surrogate mother (to cover expenses, legal costs, treatments abroad or transport costs).

Funding for other assisted conception services will continue to be funded for couples in line with our assisted conception policy. The fact that a couple may consider surrogacy at a later stage will not be an issue in determining initial entitlement to access fertility services.

The ICB commission's services to provide appropriate support and guidance to women during and after pregnancy and these services will continue to be provided to surrogates.

Rationale:

Gloucestershire ICB will not commission any form of fertility treatment to those in surrogacy arrangements. This is due to the numerous legal and ethical issues involved.

Plain English Summary:

Gloucestershire ICB will not normally fund any form of fertility treatment to those in surrogacy arrangements (i.e. the use of a third party to bear a child for another couple), but it may be considered in exceptional circumstances.

If your doctor believes you should be considered for this treatment your doctor will need to complete an Individual Funding Request application form to request funding from the ICB, and within this application will need to demonstrate why your circumstances are exceptional. The ICB will consider such applications on a case-by-case basis in order to determine whether or not the procedure would be funded on the NHS.

Policy Category:

INNF

Who usually applies for funding?

GP/Consultant



Evidence base:

Consistent with other ICB policies

For further information please contact GLICB.IFR@nhs.net

Date of publication	December 2015
Policy review date	June 2025

Policy sign off:

Reviewing Body	Date of Review
Effective Clinical Commissioning Policy Group	7 October 2015
Quality and Governance Committee (minor wording change to reference the fertility preservation policy)	13 June 2019

Version Control:

Version No	Type of change	Date	Description of change
2	Date change	03.05.2018	Policy review date changed from December 2017 to May 2022
3	Minor wording change	13.06.2019	Change to update policy to reflect the ratification of the fertility preservation policy.
4	Review date	09.06.2022	Review date changed to June 2025

Policy Category:

INNF

Who usually applies for funding?

GP/Consultant

