

Fertility Treatment Pricing Examples and Guide to Billing – IVF, ICSI and IUI

Unfortunately not everyone is eligible for fertility treatment on the NHS and we recognise it is an expensive undertaking. At Shropshire and Mid Wales Fertility Centre we have two different options for patients who are paying for their own treatment. The treatment pathway you choose does not affect your chance of having successful treatment, but you may find that one pathway is preferable or suits your personal circumstances. Further information can be found on our website www.shropshireivf.nhs. All our prices are subject to periodical review and change without notice.

1. Self-Funded Treatment.

If you choose this option you will essentially follow the same treatment pathway as NHS patients. You will see the same team of healthcare professionals that an NHS patient would and pay the hospital directly. NHS waiting lists will not apply so you would be able to have your treatment in the next available suitable slot, once all the necessary tests and paperwork is complete. If you choose to have treatment funded this way please contact the Fertility department on 01743 261202 option 2 in the first instance.

2. Access Fertility

The Shropshire and Mid Wales Fertility Centre have partnered with a company called Access Fertility to provide you with an alternative way of funding your treatment. Depending on your medical history, age and personal circumstances Access Fertility can offer a set price fertility treatment package of fresh and frozen treatments with the possible added security of a whole or partial refund if you do not have a baby as a result of the treatment. Access also have finance options available if you wish to spread the cost of your treatment. Please note that whilst the Access treatment package is comprehensive, additional charges will apply for investigations and for all appointments before your first treatment monitoring scan. These will be on a self-funded basis directly with the clinic. Medication is not included and is likely to cost between £1000-£2000 for a cycle of IVF/ICSI and around £250-350 for a frozen transfer. Additional procedures such as endometrial scratch or a surgical sperm retrieval, if required, will need to be on a self-funded basis. For further details on this please visit their website www.accessfertility.com. If you choose this route your first point of contact should be with Access Fertility, unless you have any specific questions for our clinic. When you contact Access please let them know that you wish to be treated at the Shropshire and Mid-Wales Fertility Centre.

Summary of benefits and drawbacks

	Benefits	Drawbacks
Self Funded Treatment	Cheapest option for “pay as you go” treatment	No finance option available Price includes one treatment only
Access Fertility	May be entitled to a full or partial refund if you do not have a baby as a result of your treatment. Fixed price treatment package (some additional charges apply). Package price includes the cost of the transfer of any embryos frozen in the cycles (up until a live birth). Can be very cost effective if multiple cycles and FETs are needed Finance options available	Would work out significantly more expensive than the other options if you became pregnant on the first cycle.

It is often difficult to give patients an exact cost for their treatment beforehand as everyone’s circumstances are different. For example, some patients will need more medication prescribed than others, some will have extra embryos to freeze and others won’t. Some patients will need diagnostic tests and screening whereas many others will have already had this done recently in earlier treatment, for this reason we don’t include the cost of diagnostics and your initial appointment in the cost of a treatment cycle. If you are a new patient who has not had diagnostic tests recently then you will need to book into the self funded fertility clinic to speak to a doctor and arrange the tests you need. Further information about this clinic and investigations is in a separate leaflet called Self funded Fertility Clinic – Patient Information. There is also some more information below.

As a very general guide self-funded patients are advised to budget for between £5500 and £6500 for a cycle of IVF (with one transfer), including medication and an additional £1200 if ICSI is required. If you have never had treatment before and need investigations and screening done you should allow around £1000 for this. Patients planning a frozen cycle are advised to have between £1600-2000 available to them to cover the cost

It is important to note that the chance of success is the same, no matter which pathway you choose.

Overleaf are some tables which detail the cost of fertility investigations and IVF/ICSI treatment on the three treatment pathways. At the end of this document there are examples of the cost of IVF for two patients, one of whom is a new patient, never seen before in the fertility unit and one for a returning patient who is funding their own treatment after having unsuccessful NHS treatment recently. Again, these are intended as examples only.

Fertility Investigations and screening

Diagnosis/Work up	Self Funded
Clinician's first appointment (medical history and investigation planning)	£140
Diagnostic bloods (normally AMH, FSH and Progesterone) (Others requested by doctor are extra)	£84.12
Baseline scan (diagnostic)	£115
Semen analysis (with antibodies)	£147
If seeking treatment with donor sperm: CMV IgG and Ig M screening CMV PCR (if required) Blood group if required.	£68.64 each person £40.04 £45
Blood test for Chlamydia antibodies	£34.32
Follow up / medical review	£70
Pre-treatment screening tests (valid for 2 years)	
Swab for STD's (if required)	£40.04 payable to pathology
Blood test for Thyroid hormone levels	£28.04
Screening bloods (£108.68 each) (only required once every 2 years)	£217.36 Payable to pathology

IVF/ICSI Treatment

IVF/ICSI Treatment	Self Funded	Access
Treatment package Includes: Monitoring Scans (up to 4) Nurse consultations Admin charge Procedure and Lab charges (IVF or ICSI), Timelapse incubation, HFEA charge, Medical charges Pregnancy reassurance scan	£4358 IVF or £5558 ICSI	Included in Access Package (* please note if you require an ICSI when you are on an IVF package you will have the option to pay clinic a top up of £1200 or upgrade to ICSI package with Access)
Medication	Varies between patients/cycles. Allow £1000-2000	Not included. Varies between patients/cycles. Allow £1000-2000
E2 bloods (monitoring) (* if 4 or more required cost is £21.04 each)	Not included £28.54 for up to 3 * Payable to pathology	Included
Embryoscope	Included	Included
Blastocyst culture (if recommended)	Included	Included
Cryopreservation (only payable if spare embryos are to be frozen and includes first year's storage)	Not included Optional £450	Included

Other charges

Other	Self Funded	Access
Semen analysis (second sample without antibodies)	£125	£125
Support Counselling	Up to 3 sessions included in package. Others chargeable £50	Up to 3 sessions included in package. Others chargeable £50
Implications Counselling Mandatory for donor cycles	Not included £50 to clinic	Not included £50 to clinic
Endometrial scratch	£265	Not included £265 Payable to clinic
PESE/TESE Includes procedure with sedation, Scientist consultation, medical charges and first year's storage of any sperm found	£1753 Payable to clinic	£1753 Not included in Access package Payable to clinic on a self funded basis
Pregnancy reassurance scan following successful treatment	Included	Included
Doctors follow up appointment (if necessary)	Included	Included
Scientific follow up appointment (if required)	Included	Included
Donor sperm (if required)	Not included Approx. £1000-2000 per cycle	Not included Approx. £1000-2000 per cycle
Annual Storage (First year is included in your cryopreservation cost - after 1 st year becomes payable)	Not included Payable to clinic if embryos in storage. Annual fee £250	Not included Payable to clinic if embryos in storage. Annual fee £250

Frozen Treatments

Self-funded cycles only include the treatment and a fresh transfer. The transfer of any additional embryos frozen in that cycle is an additional cost.

An Access package includes the transfer of all frozen embryos created in their fresh cycle. If your treatment is successful and you have a baby then no further transfers are funded by Access, though you can choose to have them transferred as a self-funded patient if you wish to have further treatment in future.

The following table gives a breakdown of what you can expect to pay for a cycle of frozen treatment.

	Self Funded	Access
Frozen treatment package (Includes monitoring scan/s, nursing care. Medical charge, laboratory work, procedure, HFEA charge, admin)	£1481	Included in Access package
Medication	Payable to clinic. Price varies approx. £250-350	Payable to clinic. Price varies approx. £250-350
Endometrial scratch (optional and only offered to patients we feel may benefit)	Not included Payable to clinic £265	Not included Payable to clinic £265

Intrauterine Insemination (IUI) with or without a donor

New patients are likely to require a self-funded fertility clinic appointment and investigations prior to being accepted for treatment. This is detailed on page 3.

Please also note that patients having treatment with donated sperm will be required to have a counselling appointment to discuss the implications of this. This costs £50 and need only be done once, before the first cycle. If additional sessions, are required, are chargeable.

An appointment to sign consent forms is chargeable for the first treatment only. This is £68 for partner IUI or £106 for donor IUI. Those receiving donor sperm can expect to see a scientist as well as a nurse at this appointment. Those receiving donor treatment are also required to pay a HFEA fee on each treatment (this is included in the treatment package).

The table below gives a breakdown as to what you can expect to pay for **ONE** cycle of **non-stimulated IUI** without medication or using medication for ovulation induction (e.g Clomid/Letrozole)

	IUI with partner's sperm	IUI with donor sperm
Consent signing appointment (first cycle only)	£68	£106
Non- Stimulated IUI (Includes ultrasound scans, admin charge, medical charge, insemination and laboratory work)	£823	£823
HFEA fee (payable to clinic only if donor is used)	N/A	£40.00
Donor sperm per cycle (cost varies)	N/A	Approx £1000-2000
Ovulation induction medicine (if used) An example only – dependant on your prescription (you may be issued a private prescription to source yourself if this is the most cost effective option)	Approx £20-100	Approx £20-100
Total (if price of meds assumed to be £60 and donor sperm assumed to be £1500)	£951	£2529

The table below gives a breakdown as to what you can expect to pay for **ONE** cycle of **Stimulated IUI** with medication.

	IUI with partner's sperm	IUI with donor sperm
Consent signing appointment (first cycle only)	£68	£106
Stimulated IUI (Includes ultrasound scans, medical charge, admin charge, insemination and laboratory work)	£938	£938
HFEA fee (only payable if donor is used)	N/A	£40
Donor sperm per cycle (cost varies)	N/A	Approx £1000-2000
Oestrodinol blood tests (payable to pathology)	£28.54	£28.54
Stimulation medication An example only – this will vary according to your prescription	£1000-2000	£1000-2000
Total (drug bill of £1500 and donor sperm costing £1500 used for this example)	£2534.54	£4112.54

Patients need to be aware that their bills will be issued by more than one hospital department.

1. Bills from the Shropshire and Mid Wales Fertility Centre are issued by the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital (SaTH) Finance Department on our behalf or taken directly by our staff using a card machine.
2. Bills from the SaTH Pathology Department for routine blood sampling, screening and diagnostic tests are issued by Shropshire Consultant Pathology Services.

1. Shropshire and Mid Wales Fertility Centre

These bills will differ from patient to patient and cycle to cycle as treatment plans vary between individuals. Staff will be able to guide you as to what, in their experience, you are likely to need but sometimes it is difficult to predict how the body or the eggs/sperm/embryos will react, in these cases extra charges can apply and we will do our best to inform you of these as soon as possible.

Your medication must be paid for at the time of treatment scheduling (when we book your treatment) so that we can release your prescription to our supplier Fertility2U and arrange for your drugs to be delivered to you in plenty of time. One of our administrators will contact you to take payment for your medication over the phone. For this reason, we politely ask that you have up to £2000 for IVF and up to £500 for FET available to pay for medication and appointments once you know we are working on your treatment plan. A card machine is available in the Fertility Centre for making payment. Please note that we cannot accept any cash payments. If you are unable to make a payment by card please contact the unit in advance so we can arrange an alternative method.

Your treatment price includes IVF/ICSI and associated laboratory costs including time-lapse incubation, nursing care and appointments, treatment monitoring scans, medical time, administration charge and Human Fertilisation & Embryology Authority (HFEA) fees. It also includes a pregnancy reassurance scan if your treatment is successful or a follow up appointment, if this is necessary. Your treatment bill must be paid before your baseline scan date, approximately two weeks before the scheduled egg collection. It will generally be invoiced in advance from our Trust Finance Department and may be paid to them over the phone by card or by bank transfer. All major credit cards are accepted. Unless this bill is settled your treatment will not be able to go ahead and a cancellation charge will apply.

You can expect to receive bills if you have any of the following: Medical appointments and diagnostic tests which are outside of the package you have paid for, screening tests prior to treatment, any additional nurse/scientist/medical consultations, mandatory implications counselling, more than 3 support counselling sessions, surgical sperm retrieval, etc. These may be issued in advance or on the day. You will also need to make extra payments if you have any “add ons” such as an endometrial scratch, have any surplus embryos frozen or need any extra top up drugs. These may have to be paid for on the day. You may receive additional bills from the department if the procedure changes from what was originally planned e.g. you were scheduled for IVF but found on the day ICSI would be more appropriate (ICSI is an additional £1200).

If you are using donated sperm or donated/shared eggs there are extra charges incurred which will be fully explained to you by centre staff.

Following your treatment, you will be billed annually for any embryos/eggs/sperm you want to remain in storage. The first year of storage is included in your payment for embryo freezing, which is charged when and if you freeze embryos. After the first year expect to be billed £250 per year for their continued storage around the anniversary of your treatment until you use all your embryos or tell us to discard them.

Cancellations

You will be asked to sign a financial declaration stating you agree to pay for all costs incurred as part of your treatment. Please be aware that if you cancel an IVF/ICSI cycle after the schedule has been written then a £525 cancellation fee will be payable as this slot will be unable to be offered to another patient at short notice. If a fee-paying patient cancels their frozen treatment after booking the £132 deposit is held to cover the administration costs.

Appointments that are not attended or are cancelled within 24 hours are subject to a cancellation charge, which may be the full cost of the appointment. Please be advised our prices are subject to review and can change without notice.

Invoices/Credit Notes and Refunds

Invoices are issued by the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital Trust Finance Department.

In the event of an amendment to your cycle it may be necessary to issue a credit note to cancel all or part of an invoice you have already received. This is calculated on an individual basis. These have to be issued for audit purposes, even if the invoice has not been paid and is being replaced. Please check your invoices carefully on arrival, credit notes are marked as such. If money has been paid it will be kept on hold if the next treatment is imminent or refunded on your request.

Please note that invoices are also generated following a card payment, it is not a request asking you to pay again. Please check your documents carefully. Any queries with your invoices should be raised with the Finance department in the first instance. Their contact details will be on the invoice.

If your cycle is abandoned before egg collection some costs are still incurred by you, e.g. drugs, scans (£115 each) and administration (£140). The procedure and HFEA fee will be refunded or held in credit if your treatment is being rescheduled or refunded on request. This is calculated on a case-by-case basis.

If your egg collection is unsuccessful or there is a total failure of fertilisation then only the transfer element of the treatment cost can be credited/refunded which is £350. If no fresh embryo transfer takes place due to the patient developing OHSS and the embryos are frozen then there will be no charge for the subsequent embryo transfer, except for medication.

Drugs are non-returnable and non-refundable once dispensed.

Please be aware that unfortunately treatment can fail at any stage irrespective of the quality of care and treatment provided. The Shrewsbury and Telford Hospitals NHS Trust will not offer refunds for treatment provided.

Medication

Please note that your medication is provided by an independent homecare pharmacy company called Fertility2U. You do not pay them directly, it is all handled through the fertility unit and SaTH pharmacy. You will be charged a delivery/dispensing charge and a prescription handling fee as part of your drugs bill. Medication costs vary between patients, it tends to be more for older women and those who have lower ovarian reserve. To be on the safe side we advise you allow between £1000-2000 to cover the medication needed for a full cycle of IVF and around £200-300 for a Frozen Cycle. If you have medication left from a previous cycle this may be able to be used in a future cycle providing they've been stored correctly. Please inform your Consultant and the Fertility unit about this before your treatment is scheduled as it can reduce your costs.

Once Fertility 2U make contact to arrange delivery of your medication you are advised to accept this as soon as possible. Some prescriptions have an expiry date and if delivery is delayed past this date there will be a charge for the prescription to be rewritten.

Please be aware that all medication is non-refundable once it has been delivered. If a prescription is cancelled after Fertility2U have prepared it a £20 administration fee is payable. You would also be liable to pay any other associated costs related to a cancelled prescription, for example, if a courier had been booked then you would be liable for the courier costs including redelivery of the package back to Fertility2U. This can amount to a sizable sum of money, and you advised to speak to Fertility2U about this if you are thinking of cancelling your prescription.

Your Consultant may also issue Private Prescriptions for small amounts of medication and top ups if required. You must take these prescriptions to a pharmacy to be dispensed and pay the pharmacy direct for the full cost of the medication. Independent pharmacies can set their own fees for this.

2. Pathology Department – Blood Tests

You will also receive bills from the SaTH Pathology Department. These are bills to cover the cost of the laboratory tests they perform such as blood tests and analysis of swabs for diagnosis or screening.

Screening blood tests normally don't have to be repeated for 2 years, so are not payable in subsequent fresh cycles and FETs done within this time.

On occasions your Consultant may need to request tests to be done at other laboratories for example, Cystic Fibrosis and karyotyping. If this is the case, it will be discussed by the Consultant at your initial appointment. These will be billed separately. The current prices for these are as follows:

Cytogenetic Test CF Only	£211
Cytogenetic Test Chromosomes only	£250

Further Information

Further information on our prices and billing can be found on our website www.shropshireivf.nhs.uk/prices and on your financial agreement forms.

The following pages include some worked examples for common scenarios including a patient who has not previously had any fertility investigations or treatment and one who has recently had treatment and is returning for another cycle. A second cycle is usually less expensive than the first as it is not necessary to do diagnostic tests and screening again within 2 years unless an individual’s circumstances have changed. It is important to note that these are examples only for the most common situations. In reality extra charges may apply e.g. additional blood tests. The cost of medication will almost certainly be different from the £1500 used for the example (it is often a little less than this but can be more). Please remember to allow an extra £1200 if ICSI is necessary rather than IVF.

Example 1 – Two couples, who had not had fertility investigations or treatment before, requiring full work up before the medical appointment that recommends IVF treatment. In this example the patients had embryos to freeze, chose to have both a medical and a scientific follow-up appointment and her medication totalled £1500. The heterosexual couple did not need donor sperm or male surgery. The same sex couple needed to be screened to use donor sperm and they were not donating eggs within their relationship. The cost of the investigations is the same for both Self-funded and Access patients.

Diagnosis/Work up	Heterosexual couple (donor sperm not required)	Same sex couple (donated sperm required)
Self funded fertility clinic – 1 st appointment	£140	£140
Diagnostic bloods (normally AMH, FSH and Progesterone) (Others requested by doctor are extra)	£84.12	£84.12
Baseline scan (diagnostic)	£115	£115
Semen analysis x1 (2 nd may be necessary at £125 extra)	£147	Not necessary
CMV IgM and IgG x2	Not necessary	£137.28
Blood group x1		£45.00
Implications counselling (donor sperm)	Not necessary	£50
Follow up/medical review	£70	£70
Total Cost of Investigations / Work Up	£556.12	£641.40

The cost of the actual treatment for each couple is the same, with the exception of the cost of the donor sperm, which for the purpose of this example is assumed to be £1500.

	Heterosexual couple, no donor sperm		Same sex couple using donor sperm	
	Self Funded	Access	Self funded	Access
Screening bloods (only required once every 2 years)	£217.36 Payable to pathology	£217.36 Payable to pathology	£217.36 Payable to pathology	£217.36 Payable to pathology
Swab for STD's (if required)	£40.04 payable to pathology	£40.04 payable to pathology	£40.04 payable to pathology	£40.04 payable to pathology
Thyroid hormones	£28.04	£28.04	£28.04	£28.04
Treatment package Scans (up to 4) £403 40 Admin charge £140 Nurse consultation, Medical charge, Procedure and Lab charges (IVF £3082), Timelapse incubation, blastocyst culture, HFEA charge, treatment follow up appointment (if required)	£4,358 IVF	Included in Access Package	£4,358 IVF	Included in Access Package
Medication Varies between patients/cycles. Allow £1000-2000	Varies but for this example assumed to be £1500	Varies but for this example assumed to be £1500	Varies but for this example assumed to be £1500	Varies but for this example assumed to be £1500
E2 bloods (monitoring) (if 4 or more required cost is £21.04 each)	Not included £28.54 for up to 3. Payable to pathology More than 3 = £21.04 each	Included in Access Package	Not included £28.54 for up to 3. Payable to pathology More than 3 = £21.04 each	Included in Access Package
Donor sperm (cost varies)	Not required	Not required	£1500	£1500
Cryopreservation (only payable if spare embryos are to be frozen and includes first year's storage)	Not included Optional £450	Included	Not included Optional £450	Included
Cost of Treatment	£6621.98	£1785.44 plus the cost of Access package	£8121.98	£3285.44 plus the cost of Access package
Total cost of the work up and treatment for this patient.	£7178.10	£2341.56 plus the initial cost of the Access package	£8763.38	£3926.84 plus the initial cost of the Access package

If these same couples required ICSI treatment an additional £1200 would be payable.

Example 2 – A couple returning for a new cycle of IVF after a recent unsuccessful cycle of treatment. For this example the cost of the medication is £1500. They did not need donor sperm, male surgery or counselling.

Diagnosis/Work up	Self Funded	Access
Initial appointment/ history taking (not always necessary)	Not necessary	Not necessary
Diagnostic bloods (normally AMH, FSH and Progesterone) (Others requested by doctor are extra)	Not necessary	Not necessary
Swab for STD's (if required)	Not necessary	Not necessary
Baseline scan (diagnostic)	Not necessary	Not necessary
Semen analysis	Not necessary	Not necessary
Follow up/medical review	Not necessary	Not necessary
Total Cost of Work Up	£0	£0
IVF/ICSI Treatment	Self Funded	Access
Screening bloods (only required once every 2 years)	Not necessary	Not necessary
Treatment package Scans (up to 4) £403 Admin charge £140 Nurse consultation, Medical charge, Procedure and Lab charges, timelapse incubation, blastocyst culture, HFEA charge	£4,358 IVF	Included in Access Package
Medication Varies between patients/cycles. Allow £1000-2000	Varies but for this example assumed to be £1500	Varies but for this example assumed to be £1500
E2 bloods (monitoring) (if 4 or more required cost is £21.04 each)	Not included £28.54 for up to 3. Payable to pathology	Included in Access Package
Cryopreservation (only payable if spare embryos are to be frozen and includes first year's storage)	Not included Optional £450	Included in Access Package
Doctors follow up appointment (if necessary)	Included in self funded treatment package	Included in Access package
Scientific follow up appointment (if required)	Included in self funded treatment package	Included in Access package
Total cost of <u>treatment</u> for this patient	£6336.54	£1500 plus the initial cost of the Access package

Example 3 – Patient returning for the transfer of a frozen embryo following recent treatment. The cost of the medication for this example patient is £250.

	Self Funded	Access
Frozen treatment package (Includes monitoring scan/s, nursing care laboratory work, procedure overheads, medical charge, HFEA charge, admin)	£1466	Included in Access package
Medication Price varies approx. £250-350	Varies, but for this example assumed to be £250	Varies, but for this example assumed to be £250
Total cost of treatment for this patient	£1716	£250 plus initial cost of Access package

Example 4 – Couple wanting one non-medicated cycle of IUI for first time using donor sperm

	Self Funded
Self funded investigations (as example 1)	£641.40
Chlamydia testing (ab and PCR)	74.36
Implications counselling	£50
Consent appointment	£106
Donor IUI (scans, admin, procedure, lab, medical charge HFEA fee)	£863
Donor sperm (approx. £1000-2000 per cycle)	£1500 (for example)
Total cost of treatment for this patient	£3234.76

The cost of subsequent cycles of donor IUI for this couple is reduced as follows:

	Self Funded
Further investigations	Not required
Chlamydia testing (ab and PCR)	Not required
Implications counselling	Not required
Consent appointment	Not required
Donor IUI (scans, admin, procedure, lab, medical charge, HFEA fee)	£863
Donor sperm (approx. £1000-2000 per cycle)	£1500 (for example)
Total cost of treatment for this patient	£2363

NB – medicated cycles of IUI are more costly as they require extra scans and the specialist medication alone could amount to £1000-2000, please refer to price list on pages 3 and 4 of this leaflet or ask clinic staff.

Example 5 – A surgical sperm retrieval

Other	Self Funded	Access
Procedure, consultation with a scientist, medical charge, sperm freezing and up to 1 year's storage	£1753	Not available through Access but payable through self funded add on
Total	£1753	

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