

Andrology Service

Information for
Patients and Partners



Leicester Fertility Centre
Caring at its best



University Hospitals of Leicester **NHS**
NHS Trust

What is the regional diagnostic andrology service?

This NHS service is offered to patients registered with a GP within Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland and is located at the Andrology Laboratory at the Leicester Fertility Centre based at the Leicester Royal Infirmary.

The service is (ISO 9001: 2012 certified) The International Standards Organisation (ISO) is an internationally recognised standard; as a mark of achievement in quality management, it demonstrates our commitment to quality and improvement of services. There are numerous benefits associated with a certified ISO quality management system, including improved service and quality and increased customer satisfaction levels.

The centre is licensed by the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA).

The service provides a diagnostic analysis and information service for male patients about their semen (sperm) in accordance with the World Health Organisation Guidelines

This service is for patients who are actively trying to conceive (have a baby), for Spire post vasectomy semen analysis (PVSA) samples and a small number of other providers- please check list below. All other vasectomy samples are not tested at the Leicester Royal Infirmary- you should contact your GP for where to send your sample.

Anybody wishing to have a private semen analysis can do so by contacting the Leicester Fertility centre on 01162 585071 and booking an appointment, there is a charge for this service.

Opening times

The andrology laboratory is open Monday to Friday 9-12 noon (except Bank Holidays), Appointments for Semen analyses are available via the GP Choose and Book system which has replaced our previous drop off system.

Alternatively appointments for delivering samples can be made by calling the Leicester Fertility Centre on **0116 2585071**.

Out of hours cover is only provided for urgent sperm banking referrals.

Who can access the service?

The Diagnostic andrology service offers preliminary diagnostic semen analysis investigations for the investigation of male fertility.

Referrals are received from Consultants within UHL and for General Practitioners from the Leicester and Leicestershire area for the following patients:

- Infertility (NHS and Private patients)
- Retrograde analysis
- Oncology (NHS patients)

The centre provides a post vasectomy semen analysis service (PVSA) for organisations with whom it has a PVSA service level agreement. Listed below:

BPAS

Charnwood medical group

Dr Pulman (Long Lane Surgery)

Latham House

LLR Provider Company Ltd

North East Community Health Ltd

SPIRE Hospitals Leicester

UHL- Urology CMG (including procedures carried out at Nuffield on behalf of UHL)

Specimen collection requirements

To produce a sample, patients must obtain the following from their requesting clinician:

- Wide mouthed sterile sample pot with a screw top lid (not a universal) provided by UHL Trust and be labelled with patients details
- Leak proof sample bag
- Request form with patient details, test required, clinical details and requesting physician
- Current sample production instructions are available on our website: www.leicesterfertilitycentre.org.uk
- **Samples must be labelled with a minimum of three unique identifiers, including patient name- surname and forename and date of birth.**

Sample production

Samples should be produced at home and should be collected by dry masturbation only directly into the container provided. Lubrication should not be used. For diagnostic semen analysis and PVSA special clearance samples should reach the laboratory within 1 hour of production, as close to body temperature as possible e.g. by placing in a pocket close to the body. For routine PVSA samples these may be accepted within 4 hours of production.

Hands and genitals must be washed before sample production.

You must abstain from intercourse / ejaculation for more than 2 days but less than 7 days. The ideal period of abstinence is 2-3 days. A repeat may be requested for Samples with less than 2 or greater than 7 days abstinence

You must then bring the sample in a sealable bag along with the request form you were given by your doctor to the Leicester Fertility Centre.

You must make sure that prior to sample production the container is fully labeled with all your details: name, date of birth, address, time and date of production. Unlabeled samples will not be tested and will be discarded.

You will be asked to fill in a short form at the Leicester Fertility Centre reception.

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Approved by Jane Blower

Review date: 31/05/2021

The form will ask some personal questions. The answers are confidential and may aid analysis of your sample.

The specimen receipt form is available in English, Polish, Gujarati and Punjabi at the reception. If you require another language please contact the Leicester Fertility Centre on: 0116 258 5922.

What if I cannot find my request form?

If you have lost or misplaced your request form you will need to obtain a new one from the doctor who has requested the test prior to sample production and attending the Leicester Fertility Centre.

Samples without a request form will not be tested and will be discarded.

Why can't I use lubricant(s), intercourse or a condom to produce my sample?

Lubricants and 'normal' condoms are toxic to sperm and so must not be used when producing a sample for analysis as this may affect the results.

Withdrawal at intercourse should not be used to produce a sample, as the first part of the ejaculate that contains the majority of the sperm may be lost.

If you are unable to produce a sample by masturbation we can provide special silastic condoms into which you can collect your sample. These are available at our reception at a small cost.

Any samples not produced in accordance with the instructions above will not be tested and will be discarded.

On Site Production:

If a patient wishes to produce a sample on site at the Leicester Fertility Centre, patients must ring the LFC reception and book the room.

Production with Silastic Condom:

If patient needs to produce a sample via intercourse then silastic non-toxic condoms can be purchased directly from the Assisted Conception Unit reception. Condoms must be secured using the tie provided and placed into a labelled sample pot.

Specimen reception

On arrival at the Leicester Fertility Centre, patients will be asked to confirm their name and date of birth is written on the sample pot.

The patient or their representative must complete a sample receipt form. Information requested will include:

- Name and Date of Birth
- GP name and address

- Number of previous samples
- Number of days of sexual abstinence
- If the sample was complete
- Method of production
- Reason for analysis
- If the patient has ever had HIV, Hepatitis B, HepatitisC or Herpes virus
- Any recent travel to Zika affected countries
- Any medication or supplements taken within the last 3 months
- Whether they smoke or drink, and the quantities
- Date and time produced
- Time received

Acceptance criteria

Samples will only be tested if the acceptance criteria are met.

If a problem with the sample is noticed by the reception staff, the patient will be issued with a new sample pot, set of instructions, and asked to repeat the sample.

Samples will not be tested if;

- No referral form
- Sample is unlabelled
- Sample has leaked
- Incomplete sample (missed the pot)
- Sample arrived late
- Sample not hand delivered to Leicester Fertility Centre
- Less than three patient identifiers on the sample pot or request form. First name, surname and date of birth.
- Samples greater in excess of 1 hour old – dependant on assay request (>4 hours for initial PVSA)
- Samples not produced by masturbation (unless silastic condom is used)

What if my sample cannot be tested?

If the sample cannot be tested you will be informed by the reception staff. The sample will be taken from you to be discarded appropriately. A copy of your request form will be made and a note sent to your doctor as to why it has not been tested. You will be given instructions, bag and sample pot and asked to repeat the test.

Any other problems, concerns or recommendations will be highlighted on the report and these will be discussed with you by the requesting doctor.

How do I get my results?

Your results will be sent to the doctor who referred you both electronically (if facilities are available) and in paper form. This may take up to 5 working days. You will then need to contact your referring doctor to have the results discussed with you.

No results can be given to you directly either in person or over the phone.

Advisory Service and Results

Please note we are unable to provide patients with results, these will be issued by the referring clinician. Results will be available on iLab or within 5 working days if a paper copy is issued. Clinical advice concerning a semen analysis can be given to clinicians between 9am and 3.00pm by contacting the Centre.

The Laboratory Staff may be able to answer your question. If they are unable to help they will pass it on to a member of the Fertility Centre medical team.

Where can I find more information?

You can log on to: www.leicesterfertilitycentre.org.uk

You can call: 0116 258 5922

Our commitment to patients

We are constantly striving to improve our services to patients and we will welcome your comments or suggestions for improvement.

You can download a questionnaire at: www.leicesterfertilitycentre.org.uk

Useful addresses:

Mens fertility forum, mensfe.net/forum

Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, www.hfea.gov.uk

The British Andrology Society, www.britishandrology.org.uk/

National Gamete Donation Trust, www.ngdt.co.uk

NHS - Response line: 0870 1555 455

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Leicester Fertility Centre Contact Details

Tel: 0116 2585922
E-mail: enquiries@leicesterfertilitycentre.org.uk
Fax: 0116 2587688
Website: www.leicesterfertilitycentre.org.uk

Useful addresses:

Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority www.hfea.gov.uk
NICE guidelines: www.nice.org.uk
NHS - Response line: 0870 155 5455
NHS - Smoking Helpline: www.givingupsmoking.co.uk / 0116 295 4141
Infertility Network UK www.infertilitynetworkuk.com / 0800 0087464
National Gamete Donation Trust www.ngdt.co.uk / 0845 2269193

Do you feel that you are at risk of verbal or physical abuse? If so, you may find the following numbers useful:

Domestic Violence Helpline:

United against violence & abuse (UAVA)

0808 802 0028



This information was correct at the time of printing. While the Trust makes every reasonable effort to keep its information leaflets up to date, very recent changes may not be reflected in the guidance and you should discuss this with the clinical staff at the time of your appointment.

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Approved by Jane Blower

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Today's research is tomorrow's care

We all benefit from research. Leicester's Hospitals is a research active Trust so you may find that research is happening when you visit the hospital or your clinic.

If you are interested in finding out how you can become involved in a clinical trial or to find out more about taking part in research, please speak to your clinician or GP.

If you would like this information in another language or format, please contact the service equality manager on 0116 250 2959

إذا كنت ترغب في الحصول على هذه المعلومات في شكل أو لغة أخرى ، يرجى الاتصال مع مدير الخدمة للمساواة في 0116 250 2959.

আপনি যদি এই লিফলেটের অনুবাদ - লিখিত বা অডিও টেপ'এ চান, তাহলে অনুগ্রহ করে সার্ভিস ইকুয়ালিটি ম্যানেজার ডেভ বেকার'এর সাথে 0116 250 2959 নাম্বারে যোগাযোগ করুন।

如果您想用另一种语言或格式来显示本资讯，请致电 0116 250 2959 联系“服务平等化经理” (Service Equality Manager)。

જો તમને આ પત્રછાનું લેખિત અથવા ટેપ ઉપર ભાષાંતર જોઈતું હોય તો મહેરબાની કરી સર્વિસ ઈકુવાલિટી મેનેજરનો 0116 250 2959 ઉપર સંપર્ક કરો.

यदि आप को इस लीफलेट का लिखती या टेप पर अनुवाद चाहिए तो कृपया डेव बेकर, सर्विस इक्वालिटी मैनेजर से 0116 250 2959 पर सम्पर्क कीजिए।

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać niniejsze informacje w tłumaczeniu na inny język lub w innym formacie, prosimy skontaktować się z Menedżerem ds. równości w dostępie do usług (Service Equality Manager) pod numerem telefonu 0116 250 2959.

ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਲੀਫਲੈਟ ਦਾ ਲਿਖਤੀ ਜਾਂ ਟੇਪ ਫੀਡਬੈਕ ਆਨੁਵਾਦ ਚਾਹੀਦਾ ਹੋਵੇ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਡੇਵ ਬੇਕਰ, ਸਰਵਿਸ ਇਕੁਅਲਿਟੀ ਮੈਨੇਜਰ ਨਾਲ 0116 250 2959 'ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

Ak by ste chceli dostať túto informáciu v inom jazyku, alebo formáte, kontaktujte prosím manažéra rovnosti služieb na tel. čísle 0116 250 2959.

Haddaad rabto warqadan oo turjuman oo ku duuban cajalad ama qoraal ah fadlan la xiriir, Maamulaha Adeegga Sinaanta 0116 250 2959.