

**Surrogacy**

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| **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 CCG via the Individual Funding Request process prior to treatment.** |

**Policy Statement:**

The CCG 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 CCG will not therefore:

* Be involved in the recruitment of surrogate mothers.

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* 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 CCG 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 CCG 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 CCG 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 CCG, and within this application will need to demonstrate why your circumstances are exceptional. The CCG 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.

# Evidence base:

Consistent with other CCG policies

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

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| **Date of publication** | **December 2015** |
| **Policy review date** | **June 2025** |

**Consultation**

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| **Consultee** | **Date** |
| Planned Care Programme Board | 21st July 2015 |
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| Has the consultation included patient representatives? | **No** |

**Policy sign off**

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

**Version Control**

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| **Version No** | **Type of Change** | **Date** | **Description of Change** |
| 2 | Date change  | 03.5.18 | Policy review date changed from December 2017 to May 2022 |
| 3 | Minor wording change | 13.6.19 | Change to update policy to reflect the ratification of the fertility preservation policy. |
| 4 | Review date | 9.6.22 | Review date changed to June 2025 |