

Your Guide to Fertility Treatment Bills

Thank you for choosing to have your treatment at Shropshire and Mid Wales Fertility Centre. We recognise that self-funded treatment is a large financial undertaking. This guide will help you understand the bills you will receive as part of your treatment and help make the process as straight forward as possible.

Patients need to be aware that bills from their private consultant and bills from the hospital are issued and dealt with separately. You will receive three types of bill as part of your treatment package

1. Bills from the Shropshire and Mid Wales Fertility Centre. We are part of the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital Trust (SaTH) and invoices are issued by the Trust Finance Department on our behalf.
2. Bills from your Private Consultant which are issued by their private secretary.
3. Bills from the SaTH Pathology Department for blood sampling and tests

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. Figures are given in this document are intended as examples only.

Your main two bills from the Fertility Unit will be for your medication (drugs) and your treatment package. Your medication must be paid for at time of treatment scheduling (when we book your treatment) so that we can release your prescription to our homecare medication supplier Fertility2U, and arrange for your drugs to be delivered to you in plenty of time. We also ask you to pay for your information and consents appointments at this time. For this reason we politely ask that you have £2000 for IVF and £500 for FET available for payment on this day, in most cases your actual bill will be much less than this. A card machine is available in the Fertility Centre for making payment. Please note that we cannot accept any cash payments in the unit. If you are unable to make a payment via a card please contact the unit in advance so we can arrange an alternative method.

Your treatment price includes IVF/ICSI and associated laboratory costs, nursing care, scans, administration and Human Fertilisation & Embryology Authority (HFEA) charge. The first year's storage of any embryos created is free. This bill must be paid before your baseline scan date, approximately two weeks before scheduled egg collection. It will generally be

invoiced in advance from our Trust Finance Department and may be paid over the phone by card or by bank transfer.

You can expect to receive further bills if you have any of the following: Diagnostic tests (e.g. scans or semen analyses), additional nurse/scientist consultations, private counselling, surgical sperm retrieval, etc. You will also need to make extra payments if you have any "add ons" such as an endometrial scratch or time lapse imaging (embryoscope), 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 extra 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, or if your embryos are cultured (grown) on for longer in the laboratory to the blastocyst stage. The costs of these can be found on our website www.shropshireivf.nhs.uk/prices

If you are receiving donor sperm or donor/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.

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 scheduling then a £500 cancellation fee will be payable as this slot will be unable to be offered to another patient at short notice. If an FET/FBT is cancelled after scheduling then an administration charge of £132 will be payable.

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. 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 if necessary.

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 you are unlucky enough to have your cycle abandoned before egg collection some costs are still incurred by you (drugs, scans and administration), the procedure and HFEA fee will be refunded.

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

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. Drugs costs vary between patients, to be on the safe side we advise you allow between £800-1,800 to cover the drugs needed for a full cycle of IVF and around £300 for a Frozen Cycle. If you have drugs left from a previous cycle these may be able to be used in a future cycle providing they've been stored correctly. Please inform your Consultant and the Fertility unit asap if this is the case as it can reduce your costs.

Your Consultant may also issue Private Prescriptions for small amounts of drugs and top ups if required. You have to take these prescriptions to a pharmacy to be dispensed and pay the pharmacy direct for the full cost of the medication.

2. Your Private Consultant

Your private consultant will bill for his services separately from the unit. They charge for consultations, planning and the procedures they perform. Details of these prices can be obtained from their private secretary, whose details are on your letter.

Please be aware that if you cancel your cycle after scheduling a cancellation fee will also be payable to your consultant. This is currently £50 for a fresh or frozen cycle cancelled after scheduling but before treatment has started. Additional charges will apply if cancelled after treatment has started.

Pathology Department – Blood Tests

You will also receive bills from the SaTH Pathology Department. These are bills to cover the cost of their staff taking blood samples and the laboratory tests they perform.

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.

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.

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.

Attached are pages of 6 worked examples of bills you could expect

Patient A – Standard Fresh IVF Cycle

Patient B – Standard Fresh ICSI cycle

Patient C – Standard Frozen Cycle

Patient D – Standard IVF with unexpected laboratory extras

Patient E – IVF with Embryoscope and Endometrial Scratch

Patient F – IUI with donor sperm

Important Note - Prices throughout the document correct at time of going to press on 3rd April 2020 but are intended as examples only. Please confirm current prices with www.shropshireivf.nhs.uk and your private consultant if you have any queries.

Worked examples of billing

Patient A is coming through for a standard IVF cycle with a private consultant

Charges from the fertility unit were:

Standard IVF Cycle	(includes ultrasound scans, nursing care, IVF, Embryo transfer, admin charge and HFEA charge)	£3,101
Drugs	This varies from patient to patient but an example of typical cycle including drugs, delivery/dispensing charge of £31 and prescription handling charge of £75	£1007.71
Information and consents appointments		£132.00
Total bill from Fertility Unit on this occasion		£4,240.71

This is split between

Bill 1 – Drugs and information/consents appointment = £1139.71 payable at consents

Bill 2 – Balance of treatment = £3101 payable prior to baseline scan

Patient A's treatment bill from the consultant was

IVF/ICSI monitoring and Procedure		£800
Total bill from Consultant on this occasion		£800

Patient A's Pathology bill

HIV, Hep B and C blood tests		£217.36
Oestrodiol blood test x3		£49.58
4 x blood sampling charges @ £5.00		£20.00
Total bill from Pathology on this occasion		£286.94

Total cost to patient A for a standard IVF cycle = £5,327.65

Example 2

Patient B is coming through for a standard ICSI cycle with a private consultant

Charges from the fertility unit were:

Standard IVF Cycle	(includes ultrasound scans, nursing care, IVF, Embryo transfer, admin charge and HFEA charge)	£3,684
Drugs	This varies from patient to patient but an example of typical cycle including drugs, delivery/dispensing charge of £31 and prescription handling charge of £75	£1007.71
Information and consents appointments		132.00
Total bill from Fertility Unit on this occasion		£4823.71

This is split between

Bill 1 – Drugs and information/consents appointment = £1139.71 payable at consents

Bill 2 – Balance of treatment = £3684 payable prior to baseline scan

Patient B's treatment bill from the consultant was

IVF/ICSI monitoring and Procedure		£800
Total bill from Consultant on this occasion		£800

Patient B's Pathology bill

HIV, Hep B and C blood tests		£217.36
Oestrodiol blood test x3		£49.58
4 x blood sampling charges @ £5.00		£20.00
Total bill from Pathology on this occasion		£286.94

Total Cost to Patient B for a standard ICSI cycle = £5,910.65

Example 3

Patient C is coming through for a standard Frozen Cycle.

Example of a bill for a Frozen Cycle from Fertility Unit

Standard Frozen Cycle	Includes Ultrasound scans with specialist nursing care, frozen embryo transfer, admin charge and HFEA Charge	£1,236
Drugs	This varies from patient to patient but an example of typical cycle including drugs, delivery/dispensing charge of £31	£197.57
Information and consents appointments		132.00
Total bill from Fertility Unit due baseline scan date		£1565.57

This is split between

Bill 1 - Drugs = £197.57 and appointment £132 payable at consents

Bill 2 – Treatment = £1236.00 payable prior to first scan

Example of Typical Bill for Frozen Cycle from Private Consultant

Frozen Transfer	Monitoring and Procedure	£250
Total bill from Consultant		£250

Total cost to Patient C for a standard frozen cycle = £1,815.57

Example 4 – Unexpected laboratory work

Patient D is coming though for a standard IVF cycle. On day of egg collection it becomes apparent that ICSI is necessary and then rather than being transferred on day 3 the embryos are cultured onto blastocyst stage at the request of the patient.

Standard IVF Cycle	(includes ultrasound scans, nursing care, IVF, Embryo transfer, admin charge and HFEA charge)	£3,101
Drugs	This varies from patient to patient but an example of typical cycle including drugs, delivery/dispensing charge of £31 and prescription handling charge of £75	£1007.71
Information and consents appointments		132.00
Total bill from Fertility Unit on this occasion		£4,240.71

ICSI top up charge	Difference between price of an IVF and an ICSI cycle	£583
Blastocyst culture		£387
Total second bill from Fertility unit		£970

This is split between

Bill 1 – Drugs = £1007.71 and appointments £132 payable at consents

Bill 2 – Treatment = £3101 payable prior to baseline scan

Bill 3 – Payable at embryo transfer= £970

Patient D's Pathology bill

HIV, Hep B and C blood tests		£217.36
Oestrodiol blood test x3		£49.58
4 x blood sampling charges @ £5.00		£20.00
Total bill from Pathology on this occasion		£286.94

Patient D's treatment bill from the consultant was

IVF/ICSI monitoring and Procedure		£800
Total bill from Consultant on this occasion		£800.00

Total Cost to Patient D = £6,297.65

Example 5 – Patient E – IVF Cycle with Endometrial Scratch, Embryoscope and freezing of unused viable embryos

Treatment bill from fertility unit

Standard IVF Cycle	(includes ultrasound scans, nursing care, IVF, Embryo transfer, admin charge and HFEA charge)	£3,101
Drugs	This varies from patient to patient but an example of typical cycle including drugs, delivery/dispensing charge of £31 and prescription handling charge of £75	£1007.71
Information and consents appointments		132.00
Embryoscope		£788
Endometrial scratch	Covers use of theatre, instruments, consumables, unit staff time	£139
Cryopreservation of embryos	Freezing of unused viable embryos	£368
Total bill from Fertility Unit on this occasion		£5,535.71

Bill 1 – Drugs = £1007.71 and appointments £132 payable at consents

Bill 2 – Endometrial scratch = £139 payable by card on day of procedure

Bill 3 – Treatment including embryoscope = £3889 payable prior to baseline scan

Bill 4 – Cryopreservation of embryos = £368 payable by card or BACs following treatment

Patient E's treatment bill from the consultant was

IVF/ICSI monitoring and Procedure		£800
Endometrial scratch		£125
Total bill from Consultant on this occasion		£925.00

Patient E's Pathology bill

HIV, Hep B and C blood tests		£217.36
Oestrodiol blood test x3		£49.58
4 x blood sampling charges @ £5.00		£20.00
Total bill from Pathology on this occasion		£286.94

Total Cost to Patient E = £6,747.65

Patient F**Single cycle of Natural Cycle (no medication) IUI with Donor sperm**

Initial nurse consultation	Only payable on first cycle	£101
Natural Cycle DIUI	Includes scans, admin fee, insemination and HFEA charge	£711.50
Donor Sperm	Varies depending on where we can source from	£552-1200
Total bill from Fertility Unit on this occasion		£1364.50-£2012.50

Patient F's treatment bill from the consultant was

Treatment Planning		£125
Total bill from Consultant on this occasion		£125

Patient F's Pathology bill – Only payable on first cycle

HIV, Hep B and C blood tests		£217.36
Total bill from Pathology on this occasion		£217.36

Total Cost to Patient F for cycle of DIUI = £1706.86 - £2,354.86

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