

Gonadotropin treatment

Gonadotropin is a treatment of follicle stimulating hormone (FSH) injections used to stimulate ovulation. It is used for patients with polycystic ovarian syndrome (PCOS) when clomifene or letrozole has not induced ovulation. It is also used for patients with infertility due to pituitary gland failure and some male infertility.

How is the treatment taken?

By injections self-administered every day.

How does it work?

The hormone stimulates the ovaries to produce eggs.

What are the possible side effects?

Over stimulation of the ovaries (OHSS); risk of multiple pregnancy, allergic reactions and skin reactions.

Treatment schedule

The following is a description of how your Gonadotropin treatment cycle may work. Please bear in mind that every cycle is different and this is an approximation of what may take place.

Day 1 of the cycle

Phone the Fertility Unit to book a baseline scan (if this falls on a Saturday or Sunday please phone the unit on Monday).

0118 322 8785

After your scan you will be seen by the nurse who will organise your treatment schedule.

Day 3 to 5

Start daily injections (injections should be given in the morning).

Day 10

Ultrasound of ovaries to assess follicular growth. Once the ultrasound results have been discussed with the clinic nurse, further injections and scans may be required.

Day 14 to 18 (approx.)

Once the follicles are mature (**no more than two**), we will give you an injection of human Chorionic Gonadotropin (hCG) to rupture the follicles and release the eggs.

Seven days after your hCG injection we will ask you to have a Progesterone blood test to check you have ovulated.

18 days after you hCG injection

If no period, then do a home pregnancy test and ring the clinic with the result.
If your period starts please ring the clinic to organise your next treatment cycle.

Where can I find further information?

The clinic doctors produce a number of information sheets especially for this clinic and update them frequently. You can find some of these sheets on the Trust website leaflet catalogue <https://www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk/leaflets-catalogue/> by typing in the leaflet name.

To find out more about our Trust visit www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk

Please ask if you need this information in another language or format.

Fertility Clinic, December 2018

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Next review due: March 2023