



last updated 19 March 2020

## Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Our regulator, the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA), issued a statement last night (which can be viewed [here](#)), setting out guidance that it expects fertility clinics to stop providing fertility treatment over the coming weeks.

We are also conscious of the advice of UK Government, Public Health England and the NHS.

We will of course be complying with the HFEA's guidance. On this basis we set out below our current position on providing care to our patients:

We plan to complete active treatment cycles. So if you are currently undergoing an active cycle we will at this time continue with your treatment. Your consultant will be available to discuss this with you in more detail and in particular if you are a patient undergoing embryo transfers.

We will for the time being not start any new fertility treatment cycles, apart from any urgent cancer cases. We understand that this is very upsetting for our patients who were hoping to start treatment imminently. Your consultant is available to discuss this with you on a one-to-one basis and the team as a whole will be available throughout this period to support and advise you.

It is very important to us that, at this time of great uncertainty, we do all we can to be socially conscious – to follow the Government's guidance on social distancing, to limit the risk of infection to our patients and staff and to limit any pressure on the NHS system which must be fully supported to combat this virus.

On this basis we will provide consultations that do not require a physical examination, but we will do so by telephone. We will continue to provide urgent and essential care to our patients unless and until we are restricted not to do so.

We want to reassure all our patients that The Eweell will remain "open". There may come a time, for what we hope will be a short period, that we are not able to provide onsite care at 61 Harley Street but our phone lines and your emails will remain answered. Our staff, of whom we are extraordinarily proud and who have shown and continue to show exemplary commitment to our patients, will be available by phone to counsel and advise you. The Eweell was founded on the highest values of both clinical and patient care. The wellbeing both physical and emotional of our patients remains of paramount importance to us all.

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For those patients still attending the clinic, we have taken the following precautions:

We are of course following, and continue to monitor, the advice of UK Government, Public Health England and the NHS.

The Government has asked any person experiencing symptoms to stay at home, as follows:

Anyone who has or who lives with someone who has (i) a high temperature (meaning a temperature of 37.8°C (or 100.0°F) or above), or (ii) a new continuous cough, or (iii) breathing difficulties (however mild) should stay at home.

If you have symptoms, you should stay at home for 7 days (from the day on which the symptoms started).

If you live with someone who has symptoms, you and everyone else you live with should stay at home for 14 days (from the day on which the first person you live with experienced symptoms).

The Government's detailed guidance on self-isolation can be viewed [here](#).

This applies, of course, to everyone who plans to visit the clinic, including our patients, our staff and any other visitors.

We have also increased our cleaning of the building, overnight and regularly throughout the day, with particular focus on regularly touched areas such as door handles and lift buttons.

We are asking all patients and other visitors to wash their hands when entering the building and to use the sanitisers available throughout the building.

**The Evewell**