Data Dictionary

A description of variables in the file datasharebmjopen.xls follows. Wherever data were not available, this is coded as ‘NA’. The exception is for the variables ‘periodstart’ and ‘periodend’, where blank spaces were used for this purpose (this was so statistical software could interpret these variables as dates). The data are in long form, so that there is a row in the dataset for each extracted item.

clinicid: A numerical ID variable, specific to each clinic

dateextracted: Date the data were extracted

age: Age (or age range) of the participants included in this item

treatment: treatment types included in this item

donation: details relating to the use of donor gametes in the reported item

fresh: does the item relate to fresh or frozen cycles? 0 = frozen, 1= fresh, both = both fresh and frozen, full = full cycle (transfer of fresh and subsequently frozen embryos)

diagnosis: details of patient diagnosis for the reported item

samplesize: sample size for the reported item

periodstart: start of the calendar period covered by the reported item (US format mm/dd/yyyy)

periodend: end of the calendar period covered by the reported item (US format mm/dd/yyyy)

numcancellations: number of cancelled cycles in the reported item

reportdropout: were dropouts reported? 0 = no 1 = yes

numdropout: how many dropouts?

timetoevent: was the item reported as a time to event? 0 = no 1 = yes

timescale: If timetoevent = 1, what was the timescale used (eg: number of cycles, months etc)

location: where were the results reported on the website? (dedicated = dedicated page, front = front page, headline = presented as headline figure, treatment information = amongst patient information relating to treatment). Note that we have concerns relating to the quality of this variable, as it does not capture the scenario where results are presented in several places.

numerator: numerator used in the reported item

denominator: denominator used in the reported item

outcome: outcome measure (from numerator and denominator)