

Briefing

ACART's Annual Report 2022/2023 for tabling

Date due to MO:	9 September 2024	Action required by:	N/A
Security level:	IN CONFIDENCE	Health Report number:	H2024046615
To:	Hon Casey Costello, Associate Minister of Health		
Consulted:	Health New Zealand: <input type="checkbox"/>		

Contact for telephone discussion

Name	Position	Telephone
Simon Medcalf	Deputy Director-General, Regulation and Monitoring Te Pou Whakamaru	s 9(2)(a)
Ruihua Gu	Group Manager, Quality Assurance and Safety, Regulation and Monitoring	s 9(2)(a)

Minister's office to complete:

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved | <input type="checkbox"/> Decline | <input type="checkbox"/> Noted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Needs change | <input type="checkbox"/> Seen | <input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> See Minister's Notes | <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn | |

Comment:

ACART's Annual Report 2022/23 for tabling

Security level: IN CONFIDENCE

Date: 9 September 2024

To: Hon Casey Costello, Associate Minister of Health

Purpose of report

1. The purpose of this briefing is to request that you table in the House of Representatives the annual report of the Advisory Committee on Assisted Reproductive Technology (ACART) for 2022/23.
2. The ACART annual report 2022/23 is attached as Appendix 1.

Summary

3. The Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora (the Ministry) prepares and publishes annual reports for ACART in line with the requirements set out in the Human Assisted Reproductive Technology (HART) Act 2004 (the Act). The Act requires these reports to be tabled in the House and made public. Once you have tabled these reports, we will publish them on the ACART website and make them available in the National Library.
4. This is a standard report for ACART. The report provides information on the membership during the year, ACART's work during the year, ECART's decisions, and information on the governance of the committee. During the 2022/2023 reporting year, ACART primarily worked on reviewing *Guidelines for Extending the Storage period of Gametes and Embryos* and *Guidelines for Research involving Human Gametes and Embryos*. This work is ongoing, and we will update you on these projects in upcoming months.
5. The ACART annual reports may be of interest to members of the public, fertility treatment providers and to the fertility research community. It is in the public interest to make the reports readily accessible. Any enquiries will be responded to by the Ministry as a matter of course.
6. Negligible risks are associated with publication as the annual report is a standard report about regular operational work. No unusual events or decisions occurred in the reporting year and there is likely to be minimal media interest.

Recommendations

We recommend you:

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| a) Agree to table the ACART annual report in the House. | Yes/No |
| b) Note that following tabling, the Ministry will publish the report on the ACART website and make it available in the National Library. | Noted |



Simon Medcalf

Deputy Director-General

Regulation and Monitoring | Te Pou Whakamaru

Date: 9 September 2024

Hon Casey Costello

Associate Minister of Health

Date:

PROACTIVELY RELEASED

ACART's Annual Report 2022/2023 for tabling

Background

Role of ACART

1. ACART's functions include issuing guidelines and giving advice to the Ethics Committee on Assisted Reproductive Technology (ECART) on assisted reproductive procedures and human reproductive research, as well as providing advice to you on related aspects of assisted reproductive technology (ART).
2. Section 42(3) of the HART Act 2004 requires ACART, as soon as practicable after each 12-month period, ending on 30 June, to provide you with a report on:
 - its progress in carrying out its functions
 - the number and kinds of decisions made by ECART in that period.

ACART annual report 2022-2023

3. ACART's annual report 2022/2023 covers its financial year from 1 July 2022 to 20 June 2023 and includes:
 - information on the membership of the committee and attendance at meetings
 - ACART's work during the reporting period
 - ECART's decisions during the reporting period
 - information on the governance of the committee.

Notable items in the report

4. The attached annual report notes that during the 2022/2023 reporting year ACART primarily worked on reviewing two sets of guidelines: *Guidelines for Extending the Storage period of Gametes and Embryos* and *Guidelines for Research involving Human Gametes and Embryos*. During the reporting period, ACART published consultation documents on both sets of guidelines.
5. The report also contains information on ECART's decisions during the 2022/23 reporting year. ECART reviewed 66 applications for assisted reproductive procedures and human reproductive research and 128 applications to extend the storage period of gametes, embryos or tissue. More detail on ECART's decisions can be found in the ECART annual report for 2022/2023 (H2024046614 refers).
6. The annual report includes information about the Australian and New Zealand Assisted Reproduction Database (ANZARD) report which, in most aspects, combines Australian and New Zealand data. In 2012, ACART entered a contract with the University of New South Wales (UNSW Sydney) to produce a quantitative, New Zealand-specific report on numbers, types and perinatal outcomes of assisted reproductive treatments, based on the ANZARD report. The New Zealand-specific report is provided to contribute largely to ACART's statutory role to monitor the outcomes of ART in Aotearoa New Zealand and is published on ACART's website.

7. In the 2022/2023 year, ACART published on its website (www.acart.health.govt.nz):
- agendas of ACART meetings (after each meeting)
 - minutes of ACART meetings (after their confirmation at each following meeting)
 - Advisory Committee on Assisted Reproductive Technology: Annual report 2020/21
 - Advisory Committee on Assisted Reproductive Technology: Annual report 2021/22
 - advice on the Amended Guidelines for Extending the Storage Period of Gametes and Embryos
 - research involving Human Gametes and Embryos: Consultation document.

Equity

8. The Committee has one member appointed in the role of expertise in tikanga and the ability to articulate issues from the Māori perspective. They are currently serving as the Deputy Chair, having been appointed in March 2022. In total, the committee currently has two Māori members, one of whom was appointed in another membership category.
9. During the reporting period ACART has worked to establish more relationships with a range of Māori stakeholders. This work continues and ACART is gradually engaging more with Māori. ACART now includes more narrative in its consultation material that is designed to increase Māori participation in its work.

Next steps

10. Once tabled in the House, the reports will then be published by the Ministry on the ACART website and made available in the National Library.

ENDS.

Minister's Notes

PROACTIVELY RELEASED