CPD EVENT RECORD

Case-Based Discussion

This discussion examined the role of visceral treatment in manual therapy, in particular claims for its effectiveness in addressing fertility problems. The near-impossibility of showing causation was described, with the nature of the anatomical structures involved suggesting that the idea of exerting an influence on the relevant hormones is highly implausible. Therefore it was stressed that appropriate communication with patients played an important role in managing their expectations. It is not unreasonable to consider that addressing functional stresses or dysfunction might have a secondary effect on fertility, but it would not be appropriate to make claims on this basis. Advertising treatment to address fertility in the absence of evidence would be a clear breach of UK guidelines as well as professional standards.



Evaluation, Reflection and Impact on Practice (this part of the certificate is **not** automatically generated - it has been entered by the participant) This was a useful reminder of the communication issues surrounding the emotive topic of infertility. Anatomical/physiological factors were revised, and the need for clear, evidencebased communication was stressed. Where this topic arises in clinic, I will bear these factors in mind.