

General Commissioning Policy

Treatment	Surgical Fillers
For the treatment of	Various indications
Background	This commissioning policy is needed because surgical fillers may be requested for cosmetic reasons which are not routinely commissioned. Such requests are currently considered via the Individual Funding Request (IFR) process.
Commissioning position	<p>NHS Hull Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) routinely commissions the use of surgical fillers in cases of clinical need, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in post-trauma cases; • as part of planned reconstructive surgery ; • to treat rare cases of acquired or congenital facial asymmetry or hemifacial atrophy. <p>NHS Hull CCG does not routinely commission surgical fillers for any indication that may be deemed as a cosmetic procedure. This commissioning position applies to the use of both natural (e.g. fat, dermis) and synthetic fillers (temporary or permanent) including hyaluronic acid fillers and collagen.</p> <p>In addition, NHS Hull CCG does not routinely commission the treatment of complications arising from the cosmetic use of surgical fillers in private practice.</p>
Effective from	Feb 2014 <i>(This policy supercedes Hull PCT policy T46-12 dated Feb 2012)</i>
Summary of evidence / rationale	<p>Cosmetic or Aesthetic Plastic Surgery is defined as elective surgery designed to alter and enhance a patient's physical appearance, with the objective of bringing about an improvement in appearance rather than to treat disease.</p> <p>Surgical Fillers are widely used in cosmetic surgery, for the treatment of wrinkles and skin aging, to improve the appearance of scars and for augmenting the volume of soft tissue such as in the lips.</p> <p>Cosmetic surgery is not commissioned by NHS Hull CCG except in exceptional individual circumstances after approval by the IFR Panel where a clear clinical rationale can be demonstrated.</p>
Date	June 2017
Review Date	June 2018
Contact for this policy	Karen Billany, Head of Acute Care, NHS Hull Clinical Commissioning Group. Karen.billany@nhs.net

References:

Modernisation Agency - Information for Commissioners of Plastic Surgery Services (March 2012)
<http://www.bapras.org.uk/downloadaddoc.asp?id=425>

Notes

1. This Policy will be reviewed in the light of new evidence, or guidance from NICE.
2. General Commissioning Policy Statements are agreed by the Hull Clinical Commissioning Group on behalf of NHS Hull.