

Draft General Commissioning Policy

Treatment	Face lift (rhytidectomy) / Neck lift / Brow lift
For the treatment of	Cosmetic indications
Background	<p>NHS Hull CCG is responsible for commissioning activity in secondary care, and this policy sets out the referral criteria for face lift (rhytidectomy) / neck lift / brow lift.</p> <p>These procedures are deemed as cosmetic and are not routinely commissioned by NHS Hull CCG. Requests are thus currently considered via the Individual Funding Request (IFR) process.</p>
Commissioning position	<p>A face, neck or brow lift will only be considered by NHS Hull CCG IFR Team on clinical grounds when any of the following circumstances apply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • corrective surgery for structural or soft tissue anatomical anomaly resulting from a congenital or acquired pathological condition; • following extensive facial scarring; • correction of facial nerve palsy or facial paralysis (congenital or acquired); • the correction of the consequences of trauma; the treatment of specific conditions affecting facial skin (e.g. cutis laxa, pseudoxanthoma elasticum, neurofibromatosis); • to correct deformity following NHS surgery. <p>NHS Hull CCG will not commission face/neck/brow lifts for cosmetic reasons or to treat the natural process of ageing.</p>
Effective from	October 2015
Summary of evidence / rationale	<p>These surgical procedures are performed to lift the loose skin of the face and forehead to achieve a firmer and smoother appearance. Guidance (Ref:1) on commissioning states the rationale is that “there are many changes to the face and brow as a result of ageing that may be considered normal, however, there are a number of specific conditions for which these procedures may form part of the treatment to restore appearance and function.”</p>
Date	October 2015
Review Date	October 2017
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Related NHS Hull CCG Policy:

Blepharoplasty

References:

- 1 Information for Commissioners of Plastic Surgery Services - Referrals and Guidelines in Plastic Surgery (NHS Modernisation Agency) London
<http://www.bapras.org.uk/docs/default-source/commissioning-and-policy/information-for-commissioners-of-plastic-surgery-services.pdf>