

### Draft General Commissioning Policy

<b>Treatment</b>	Interventional treatment for Haemorrhoids
<b>For the treatment of</b>	Haemorrhoids
<b>Background</b>	NHS Hull CCG is responsible for commissioning activity in secondary care, and this policy sets out the treatment pathway for haemorrhoids and the threshold at which surgical treatment in secondary care will be commissioned.
<b>Commissioning position</b>	<p>NHS Hull CCG will commission non-operative therapy for Grade I and II haemorrhoids and surgical intervention only for Grade III and IV haemorrhoids in accordance with the referral pathway which is recommended By NICE (IPG 525).</p> <p>NB if symptoms of suspected cancer are present then patient should be referred under the 2 week rule</p> <p>Definition of degrees of haemorrhoids:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First grade the haemorrhoids remain inside at all times</li> <li>• Second grade: the haemorrhoids extend out of the rectum during a bowel movement but return on their own</li> <li>• Third grade : the haemorrhoids extend out during a bowel movement but can be pushed back inside</li> <li>• Fourth grade: the haemorrhoid is always outside</li> </ul> <p>Any requests outside the threshold criteria must be considered via the Individual Funding Request (IFR) process.</p>
<b>Effective from</b>	October 2015
<b>Summary of evidence / rationale</b>	<p>Haemorrhoids occur when the vascular anal cushions become enlarged. Some patients may be asymptomatic, but others have symptoms of bleeding, itching or discomfort (grade I). If the haemorrhoids are large, they may prolapse out of the anus. Haemorrhoids that prolapse may reduce spontaneously after defaecation (grade II); they may need to be reduced digitally (grade III); or they may not be reducible, remaining continually prolapsed (grade IV).</p> <p>Grade I or II haemorrhoids may be managed by diet modification, use of laxatives, or treated by topical applications. Interventional treatments include rubber band ligation, sclerosant injections, infrared coagulation or bipolar electrocoagulation using diathermy.</p> <p>Treatments for Grade III and IV haemorrhoids include bipolar electrocoagulation using diathermy, haemorrhoidectomy, stapled haemorrhoidopexy or haemorrhoidal artery ligation. (IPG 525)</p>
<b>Date</b>	October 2015
<b>Review Date</b>	October 2017
<b>Contact for this policy</b>	Karen Billany, Senior Commissioning Manager, NHS Hull Clinical Commissioning Group. <a href="mailto:karen.billany@nhs.net">karen.billany@nhs.net</a>

## References:

1. Electrotherapy for the treatment of haemorrhoids NICE IPG 525 June 2015  
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ipg525/chapter/3-the-procedure>
2. Acheson, A and Scholefield, J H. (2008) Clinical Review: Management of haemorrhoids. BMJ 2008;336:380-3  
<http://www.bmj.com/content/336/7640/380.full.pdf>
3. NICE Interventional Procedure Guidance 34 (Dec 2003) Circular stapled haemorrhoidectomy  
<http://guidance.nice.org.uk/IPG34>
4. NICE Technology Appraisal Guidance 128 (Sept 2007) Stapled haemorrhoidopexy for the treatment of haemorrhoids.  
<http://guidance.nice.org.uk/TA128>
5. Cataldo P, et al. (2005) Practice parameters for the management of haemorrhoids (revised). Diseases of the Colon and Rectum.  
[http://www.fascrs.org/files/hemorrhoids\\_0605.pdf](http://www.fascrs.org/files/hemorrhoids_0605.pdf)
6. NICE Interventional Procedure Guidance 342 (May 2010) Haemorrhoidal Artery Ligation  
<http://guidance.nice.org.uk/IPG342>
7. NICE Clinical Knowledge Summary (last revised Sept 2012)  
<http://cks.nice.org.uk/haemorrhoids>
8. NICE Clinical Knowledge Summary (last revised Jan 2013)  
<http://cks.nice.org.uk/constipation>
9. Hull and East Riding Prescribing Committee - Management of Constipation in Adults  
<http://www.hey.nhs.uk/herpc/guidelines/constipation.pdf> (reviewed 2013)

**Appendix: Haemorrhoid Referral Pathway**

