

Cosmetic Procedures – General Principles

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| Commissioning decision | <p>Procedures that are primarily cosmetic in nature are considered a low priority for funding.</p> <p>Unless otherwise stated cosmetic procedures are not routinely commissioned and will only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Funding approval must be sought from the ICB via the Individual Funding Request process prior to treatment.</p> <p>This policy should be read in conjunction with the related procedure specific policies listed below.</p> |
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Policy Statement:

Procedures that are primarily cosmetic in nature are not normally funded by Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board. However, in exceptional clinical circumstances funding can be considered by submitting an application through the Individual Funding Request process as outlined in the ICB's Individual Funding Request policy.

Gloucestershire ICB has several specific policies relating to procedures that are considered largely cosmetic in nature. These policies outline procedures that are not normally funded, and procedures that may be funded but only when certain criteria are met demonstrating clinical need. The ICB's list of policies is not exhaustive but aims to cover the major cosmetic procedures that are likely to be requested by Gloucestershire residents. However, for avoidance of doubt where no specific policy exists the default position is that cosmetic procedures are not routinely commissioned and will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

The following cosmetic procedures are covered by specific commissioning policies. All policies are available on the Gloucestershire ICB website - <https://www.nhsglos.nhs.uk/your-health-services/funding-treatment/individual-funding-requests/effective-clinical-commissioning-policy-list/#link-Aesthetic>

- Abdominoplasty and apronectomy
- Blepharoplasty
- Body contouring procedures
- Breast augmentation
- Breast reconstruction
- Cosmetic skin and subcutaneous procedures
- Development asymmetry
- Facial procedures
- Female breast reduction
- Male breast reduction for gynaecomastia
- Other breast procedures
- Removal and replacement of breast implants
- Removal of benign skin lesions
- Surgical removal of lipomata
- Anal skin tags
- Minor eyelid surgery
- Botox for hyperhidrosis

Policy Category:**INNF****Who usually applies for funding?****GP****Rationale:**

The ICB does not normally fund procedures that are primarily cosmetic in nature. In some cases specific procedures may be funded where there is a clear clinical need such as significant congenital deformity and limitation of function and/or impaired ability to perform activities of daily living.

Evidence base:

Information for commissioners of Plastic Surgery - referrals and guidelines in Plastic Surgery *Modernisation Agency (Action on Plastic Surgery) (2005)*

For further information please contact GLICB.IFR@nhs.net

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| Date of publication | 1 st August 2015 |
| Policy review date | September 2025 |

Policy sign off

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| Reviewing Body | Date of review |
| Effective Clinical Commissioning Policy Group | |

Version Control

| Version No | Type of Change | Date | Description of Change |
|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------|--|
| 1 | | August 2015 | Initial policy |
| 2 | Date | September 2019 | Review date changed to Sept 2022 |
| 3 | Rewording | December 2022 | Significant rewording to link policy to wider list of polices that are cosmetic in nature. Title changes from Aesthetic to Cosmetic Procedures. All changes ratified by Exec Directors M Walkingshaw & M Andrews-Evans 8.2.2023 |