

## Dilatation and Curettage in Women with Menorrhagia

### Commissioning decision

Dilatation and Curettage in women with Menorrhagia is not routinely funded by the ICB.

### Policy Statement:

Dilatation and Curettage in women with Menorrhagia is not routinely funded by the ICB and will only be funded on an exceptional basis.

### Rationale:

Dilatation and curettage [D&C] was previously the standard treatment for women with menorrhagia or heavy menstrual bleeding.

NICE guidelines recommended that dilatation and curettage should not be used for heavy menstrual bleeding because they found limited evidence available on its effectiveness. They recommended also that it should not be used as a diagnostic tool for heavy menstrual bleeding and that hysteroscopy with biopsy would be a more accurate method for identification of endometrial pathology (NICE, 2007).

RCOG guidelines (1999) suggested that D&C does not give additional diagnostic information over and above a hysteroscopy with endometrial biopsy and it is not therapeutic in cases of heavy menstrual. They also suggested that hysteroscopy allows direct visualisation of the uterine cavity and gives the opportunity for an endometrial biopsy without the need for a general anaesthetic (NICE, 2007)

### Plain English Summary:

Dilatation and curettage is a minor operation carried out under general anaesthetic (whilst you are asleep). It involves opening or stretching the cervix (neck of the womb) and scraping out some of the contents of the womb or taking a specimen of the lining of the womb.

#### Hysteroscopy

The ICB commissions hysteroscopy and clinicians seeking to manage patients with heavy menstrual bleeding should refer to the published policy to ascertain treatment options available

If your doctor believes that you have exceptional circumstances, they can submit an Individual Funding Request application to the ICB in order to seek funding approval for your surgery. The ICB will review your case and if we agree that your circumstances are exceptional, we will authorise funding.

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

This policy has been developed with the aid of the following references:

NICE. (2007, January). Heavy menstrual bleeding: assessment and management. Retrieved from NICE: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg44>

For further information please contact [GLICB.IFR@nhs.net](mailto:GLICB.IFR@nhs.net)

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**Policy sign off:**

<b>Reviewing Body</b>	<b>Date of review</b>
Effective Clinical Commissioning Policy Group	30/11/2017
Integrated Governance and Quality Committee	7/12/2017

**Version Control:**

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2	Review date only	Jan 2020	Policy review date changed to Jan 2023.
3	Review date only	21.03.2023	Policy review date changed to March 2028