

Commissioning Policy

Sterilisation reversal

Interventions Not Normally Funded (INNF)

Date adopted: 10.06.2025

Version: v4

Authorisation and document control

Name of policy:	Sterilisation reversal
Job title of author:	Commissioning Manager – Elective Care
Name of sign off group:	Commissioning Policy Review Group

Equality and Engagement Impact Assessment	
Date Equality and Engagement Impact Assessment was completed:	30.05.2025

Consultation	
Name of group	Date considered
<i>Insert relevant individuals/forums consulted during policy development</i>	

Authorisation	
Name of group	Date approved
Commissioning Policy Review Group	10.06.2025
System Quality Committee	

Date of adoption	10.06.2025
Date of publication	June 2025
Review date	June 2028
To be reviewed by (job title)	Commissioning Manager

Version control				
Version number	Date	Summary of changes	Author/Editor	Approved by
2	03.05.2018	Evidence base wording removed, and policy review date changed to May 2022		ECCP

3	09.06.2022	Review date changed to June 2025. No changes to policy.	Commissioning Manager	ECCP
4	10.06.2025	New policy template adopted. Review date agreed of June 2028. No changes to policy.	Commissioning Manager – Elective Care.	ECCP

1.0 Background

Sterilisation is provided under the NHS on the understanding that is an irreversible procedure. Patients are informed of this and written consent including this understanding is sought before the operation is carried out. The reversal of vasectomy or female sterilisation is therefore not routinely funded in Gloucestershire.

2.0 Policy statement

Policy category	Policy details
INNf	<p>Male and female sterilisation is provided on the NHS on the understanding that the NHS does not normally fund reversal at a later stage. In Gloucestershire sterilisation reversal is only funded in exceptional circumstances.</p> <p>If your doctor believes you should be considered for sterilisation reversal your doctor will need to complete an Individual Funding Request application form to request funding from the ICB, and within this application will need to demonstrate why your circumstances are exceptional. The ICB will consider such applications on a case-by-case basis in order to determine whether or not the procedure would be funded on the NHS.</p>

3.0 Patients who are not eligible for treatment under this policy

Patients who are not eligible for treatment under this policy may be considered on an individual basis where their GP or consultant believes exceptional circumstances exist that warrant deviation from the rule of this policy.

Individual cases will be reviewed at the ICB's Individual Funding Request Panel upon receipt of a completed application form from the patient's GP, Consultant or Clinician. Applications cannot be considered from patients personally.

4.0 Connected policies

<https://www.nhsglos.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Female-Sterilisation.pdf>

5.0 References

Female Sterilisation Reversal. (n.d.). Complications of Female Sterilisation Reversal Surgery. Retrieved October 12th, 2015, from Female Sterilisation Reversal: [Risks of Female Sterilisation Reversal Surgery - Female Sterilization Reversals](#)

For more detailed policy guidance, the **NHS England Interim Clinical Commissioning Policy** also confirms this stance for Armed Forces: [🔗 Interim Clinical Commissioning Policy: Reversal of Vasectomy or Female Sterilisation \(2013\)](#)