

SPECIALIST REFERRAL RESTRICTIONS

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ACCESS TO TREATMENT

- There may be occasions when you have seen your GP in order to be referred for a procedure and may have been told one of the following statements:
- “Sorry that procedure is not funded by the NHS.”
- or
- “I can refer you but we have to apply for funding.”

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

- A policy was written that covers the whole of North Central London which states that referrals for certain procedures are restricted or funding has to be applied for.
- This is a blanket policy that affects all local Practices and is fast becoming a National Directive.
- The procedures are on the next slide and were selected due to lack of adequate evidence that intervention makes a clinical difference.

LIST OF POLCE PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA

Procedure
BACK PAIN/ BACK SURGERY
Spinal cord stimulation for neuropathic pain
Interlaminar, Transforaminal and Caudal Epidural injections for patients with Radicular Pain
Therapeutic Facet Joint Injections
Thermal Radiofrequency Denervation (lumbar and cervical facet joints)
COSMETIC - Surgery (Aesthetic)
COSMETIC – Breast procedures
Breast enlargement
Breast Asymmetry
Male breast reduction (gynaecomastia)
Mastopexy
Female breast reduction
Revision of breast augmentation
Surgical nipple correction
COSMETIC – Ear procedures Pinnaplasty/ Repair of ear lobe
COSMETIC – Facial procedures
Blepharoplasty
Brow lift
Injection of botulinum toxin (cosmetic)
Rhinoplasty (cosmetic reshape of nose)
Rhytidectomy (face lift)
GENITAL PROCEDURES
Cosmetic genital surgery
Gender reassignment
COSMETIC HAIR PROCEDURES (Hair loss and hair removal)
COSMETIC SKIN PROCEDURES
Apronectomy/ abdominoplasty
Other body contouring (e.g. brachioplasty, thigh lift, arm lift)
Keloidectomy
Liposuction
Skin resurfacing
Tattoo removal
Treatment of skin hyperpigmentation

Treatment of vascular lesions (port wine stains of head and neck and other vascular lesions)
Minor skin lesions
COSMETIC - Varicose Veins
DENTAL - Temporo-Mandibular Joint (TMJ) Surgery
ENT procedures
Tonsillectomy/ Adenoidectomy
Surgery for sleep related breathing disorder (SRDB)
Surgical Treatment of Chronic Rhinosinusitis
GENITOURINARY MEDICINE
Circumcision
Reversal of sterilization
Varicocele
GYNAECOLOGY
Bartholin's Cysts
Dilatation and Curettage for Heavy Menstrual Bleeding
Hysterectomy for Heavy Menstrual Bleeding (HMB)
JOINT
Autologous Chondrocyte Implantation (ACI)
Carpal Tunnel Syndrome (Surgical Treatment of)
Ganglia excisions
Dupuytren's Contracture (Fasciotomy/Fasciectomy) (Surgical Treatment)
Knee washout (in Patients with Knee Osteoarthritis)
Trigger Finger
LYMPHOEDEMA Manual Lymphatic Drainage (MLD)
Myalgic Encephalopathy/ Chronic Fatigue Syndrome
SKIN - Hyperhidrosis
OPEN MRI/ BARIATRIC MRI
COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE THERAPIES

BUT I PAY MY TAXES!

- Just because the procedure that you feel you need is on the list on the previous page, it doesn't mean that it cannot be done on the NHS.
- Discuss your concerns with your GP.
- If there is a clinical need then we will support your application for funding.

CONCLUSION

- If you would like to discuss the information in this presentation please don't hesitate to contact our PPG or attend a meeting.