

## AESTHETIC SURGERY

### EXCEPTIONAL FUNDING REQUIRED

#### **Aesthetic Surgeries are considered to be cosmetic procedures and will not normally be funded by the CCG.**

This guideline is not exhaustive but aims to cover the major aesthetic procedures referred for treatment.

The CCG does not normally fund cosmetic procedures solely to improve appearance in the absence of disease or significant congenital deformity and limitation of function and/or impaired ability to perform activities of daily living.

- GPs wishing to seek a consultant opinion on the potential benefit of a cosmetic surgery procedure for their patient must first have the agreement of the Individual Funding Request Panel, with well-documented supporting evidence for exceptional clinical circumstances.
- No referral must be sent directly to a consultant prior to this approval.
- Psychological distress alone will normally not be accepted as a reason to fund surgery. Clinicians are requested to refer to NICE guideline 31 on Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) and Body Dysmorphic Syndrome (BDS) prior to referring on psychological grounds. <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/CG31>
- Referrals within the NHS for the revision of treatments originally performed outside the NHS will not usually be funded. Referrers are encouraged to re-refer to the practitioner who carried out the original treatment.
- Assessment of patients being considered for referral to cosmetic surgery who may have an underlying genetic, endocrine or psychosocial condition should have had this fully investigated by a relevant specialist prior to the referral to plastic surgery being made.

However, in exceptional clinical circumstances funding can be considered by submitting an application through the Individual Funding Request process as outlined in the Individual Funding Request policy and procedure.

Smoking cessation is recommended for all patients considering the possibility of surgery. For help to quit smoking please contact your local Stop Smoking Service or contact your GP Surgery.