

Breast augmentation and insertion of breast implants

EXCEPTIONAL FUNDING REQUIRED

This policy does not apply to gender reassignment or surgery following breast cancer.

Insertion of breast implants, unilaterally or bilaterally, is commissioned if one of the following indications applies:

- Reconstructive surgery following major trauma to the breast before or after development
- Congenital amastia (total absence of breast tissue)

Insertion of breast implants is not otherwise commissioned.

Specific instances that will **not** be commissioned include:

- 'Small' but normal breasts,
- Breast tissue involution (breast changes occurring post-pregnancy or as part of ageing)

Note regarding reconstruction following breast cancer treatment:

Breast reconstruction surgery on the contra lateral side to the breast cancer is considered appropriate in the following circumstances:

- For patients where immediate reconstruction is not appropriate and there is a plan for future contra lateral reconstruction as part of the reconstructive surgery, within 5 years of the original surgery.
- For patients who have had no plan for contra lateral reconstruction or are past 5 years after active treatment but who cannot wear prosthetic shell due to physical symptoms.

All other requests for contra lateral breast reconstruction surgery post breast cancer will be considered as per the normal route as exceptionality requests to this policy through the Individual Funding Request Process.