

## NASAL SURGERY - SEPTOPLASTY

### CRITERIA BASED ACCESS

**Nasal surgery to correct deformity and the cosmetic appearance of the nose, including septoplasty is not routinely funded by the commissioner.**

**Septoplasty is funded via criteria based access as per the criteria stated below:**

Previous septoplasty surgery is an exception to the following criteria and would require Prior Approval

- Asymptomatic septal deformity that prevents access to other intranasal areas when such access is required to perform medical necessary surgical procedures (e.g. ethmoidectomy)
- Documented recurrent sinusitis, causing moderate to severe facial pain, felt to be due to a deviated septum not relieved by appropriate medical and antibiotic therapy after at least 6 months of medical therapy to include budesonide, mometasone, fluticasone and nasal douching (see patient information sheet).
- Recurrent epistaxis (nosebleeds) related to a septal deformity which have not responded to 3 attempts at cauterisation
- Significant septal deviation causing continuous nasal airway obstruction resulting in nasal breathing difficulty not responding to 6 or more months of documented appropriate medical therapy with a VAS score of > 5.

Details of adherence to above criteria must be included in the secondary care patients' notes to aid audit.

**NB:** This policy does not apply to immediate post trauma nasal manipulation which normally occurs two to three weeks after the trauma and does not require prior approval from the Commissioner.

CCG will not normally approve funding for patients who are unhappy with the outcome of previous surgeries including immediate post-trauma corrections (whether provided by the NHS or private providers) or for snoring.

**Smoking cessation is recommended for all patients considering the possibility of surgery.**