

**Blepharoplasty**

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| **Commissioning decision** | **The CCG will provide funding for blepharoplasty for patients who meet the criteria defined within this policy. Funding approval for eligible patients must be sought from the CCG via the Prior Approval process prior to treatment.** |

**Policy Statement:**

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| A referral to secondary care for the treatment of dermatochalasis will only be funded if:   * The patient’s temporal hooding is causing such visual field loss that they are at risk of failing the DVLA driving test requirements, as confirmed by the DVLA visual field test.   The contract for this test is currently held by Specsavers. |

**Rationale:**

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| Dermatochalasis is a normal aspect of ageing. The treatment, blepharoplasty, is the second most common cosmetic procedure in the UK. For the majority of patients the request for a blepharoplasty is cosmetic rather than functional. When there is functional deficit this can be demonstrated by formal visual field testing. The official DVLA visual field test, done with both eyes open is the preferred test. |

**Plain English Summary:**

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| The NHS will only offer treatment for excess upper eyelid skin when the excess skin is causing disruption to the visual field such that it threatens the legal requirement for driving. |

**Evidence base:**

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| NHS Modernisation Agency - Information for commissioners of plastic surgery  Other CCG policies – including Bristol, South Gloucestershire, Bath and North East Somerset, Solihull, West Suffolk. |

Link to application form – Blepharoplasty Prior Approval Form

For further information please contact [GLCCG.IFR@nhs.net](mailto:GLCCG.IFR@nhs.net)

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| **Date of publication** | **11/04/2016** |
| **Policy review date** | **June 2024** |

**Policy sign off**

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| **Reviewing Body** | **Date of review** |
| Effective Clinical Commissioning Policy Group | 22/12/2015 |

**Version Control**

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| **Version No** | **Type of Change** | **Date** | **Description of Change** |
| V2 | Policy review date | 4.4.19 | Policy review date changed to April 2021 |
| V3 | Policy review date | 10.6.21 | Policy reviewed by G Mennie, Ophthalmic Lead – no changed required. Policy date changed to June 2024 |
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