

CLINICAL POLICY ADVISORY GROUP (CPAG)

Blepharoplasty Policy

Statement

Derby and Derbyshire CCG has deemed that blepharoplasty should not routinely be commissioned unless both criteria 1 and criteria 2 are met:

- Criteria 1:
 - A defect is present predisposing to recurrent corneal or conjunctival irritation,OR,
 - Visual field tests confirm vision is reduced to 120° laterally, and 40° vertically caused by any one of the following:
- Criteria 2: the defect is due to any one of the following causes:
 - entropion/ectropion
 - complications of a prosthetic in anophthalmia socket
 - Periorbital sequelae of nerve palsy or trauma

These commissioning intentions will be reviewed periodically. This is to ensure affordability against other services commissioned by the CCG.

1. Background

Blepharoplasty is a surgical procedure that involves the removal of excess skin, fat or muscle from the eyelids. The aim of the procedure is to improve hooded or drooping eyelids.

The procedure usually involves an incision along the natural creases of the upper lids or just below the lashes in the lower lids, which are extended into the crow's feet at the corner of the eyes. Excess fat, skin and sagging muscle is then removed and the incision is stitched up. The procedure can be carried out under local or general anesthetic.

2. Recommendation

Derby and Derbyshire CCG (DDCCG) has deemed that blepharoplasty should not routinely be commissioned unless criteria 1 and criteria 2 are met:

- Criteria 1:
 - A defect is present predisposing to recurrent corneal or conjunctival irritation, OR,
 - Visual field tests confirm vision is reduced to 120° laterally, and 40° vertically caused by any one of the following:
- Criteria 2: the defect is due to any one of the following causes:
 - entropion/ectropion
 - complications of a prosthetic in anophthalmia socket
 - Periorbital sequelae of nerve palsy or trauma

Information to be Included with Referral

- Confirmation of visual field defect
- Details of condition
- Clinical Photographs

For meibomian cyst (chalazion) removal, please refer to the PLCV policy.

3. Rationale for Recommendation

Blepharoplasty is not commissioned for purely cosmetic reasons as:

- Many people will acquire excess skin in the upper eyelids as part of the natural process of aging that may not cause any visual or functional impairment.
- Excessive skin within the lower lid may cause "eyebags". However this does not affect the function of the eyelid or vision and therefore does not need correction.

4. Useful Resources

- Eyelid Surgery, NHS, <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/cosmetic-procedures/eyelid-surgery/>
- Eyelid Surgery (Blepharoplasty), British Association of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons, https://baaps.org.uk/patients/procedures/9/eyelid_surgery_blepharoplasty

5. References

- Eyelid Surgery, NHS, last reviewed 30/08/2019, accessed 02/10/20, <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/cosmetic-procedures/eyelid-surgery/>
- Information for commissioners of plastic surgery services: referrals and guidelines in plastic surgery, British Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (BAPRAS), March 2012, accessed 02/10/20, <http://www.bapras.org.uk/docs/default-source/commissioning-and-policy/information-for-commissioners-of-plastic-surgery-services.pdf?sfvrsn=2>
- Eyelid Surgery (Blepharoplasty), British Association of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons, accessed 02/10/20 https://baaps.org.uk/patients/procedures/9/eyelid_surgery_blepharoplasty

6. Appendices

Appendix 1- Consultation

All relevant providers/stakeholders will be consulted via a named link consultant/specialist. Views expressed should be representative of the provider/stakeholder organisation. CPAG will consider all views to inform a consensus decision, noting that sometimes individual views and opinions will differ.

| Consultee | Date |
|--|---------------|
| Consultant Plastic Surgeon Specialising in Ophthalmology, UHDB | July 2020 |
| Consultant Ophthalmologist, CRH | August 2020 |
| Clinical Policy Advisory Group | October 2020 |
| Clinical and Lay Commissioning Committee | November 2020 |

Appendix 2- Document Update

| Document Update | Date Updated |
|--|----------------|
| Version 1 - Expansion of criteria to include visual field tests required to define degree of visual impairment. Brow lift and blepharoplasty interventions separated into two policies | September 2018 |
| Version 2 - Policy has been re-worded and reformatted to reflect the new organisation's clinical policy format. This includes the addition of background information, rationale for | October 2020 |

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| recommendation, useful resources, references and consultation. | |
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Appendix 3 - OPCS code(s)

- C131 Blepharoplasty of both eyelids
- C132 Blepharoplasty of upper eyelid
- C133 Blepharoplasty of lower eyelid
- C134 Blepharoplasty NEC