

CLINICAL POLICY ADVISORY GROUP (CPAG)

Pinnaplasty Policy

Statement

Derby and Derbyshire CCG (DDCCG) has deemed that the surgical correction of prominent ears should not routinely be commissioned, unless the patient meets **all** of the following criteria:

- The child is aged 5 – 18 years at the time of referral
- Significant ear deformity or asymmetry is present
- Both the child and the parent/ carer express concern

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

1. Background

Pinnaplasty surgery is a cosmetic procedure that involves the surgical correction of prominent ears. Prominent ears are often inherited and occur due to the lack of usual cartilage folds of the ear. Most cases of prominent ears become a problem in early childhood due to psychological distress.

2. Recommendation

DDCCG will not routinely commission the surgical correction of prominent ears unless the patient meets all of the following criteria:

- The child is aged 5 – 18 years at the time of referral
- Significant ear deformity or asymmetry is present
- Both the child and the parent/ carer express concern

The referral should include the following information:

- Clinical photographs
- Age
- Details of condition

3. Rationale for Recommendation

- Surgery is only offered to children above 5 years of age because children under the age of 5 years are:
 - Less likely to tolerate the procedure well
 - Less likely to be compliant with dressings care
 - Psychological distress is unlikely to have developed prior to the age of five and surgery can therefore be delayed until later
 - Ear cartilage is often soft in the early years
- Surgery restriction for children aged 5 – 18 years at the time of referral is based on the [NHSE Interim Clinical Commissioning policy: Pinnaplasty/ Otoplasty \(November 2013\) guidance](#).

4. Useful Resources

- NHS, Ear correction surgery, including ear pinning, last reviewed 15/08/19, <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/cosmetic-procedures/ear-correction-surgery/>
- Cosmetic Surgery, Royal College of Surgeons of England, <https://www.rcseng.ac.uk/patient-care/cosmetic-surgery/>
- Ear Surgery, British Association of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons, <http://www.bapras.org.uk/public/patient-information/surgery-guides/ear-surgery>

5. References

- NHS England – Interim Clinical Commissioning policy: Pinnaplasty/ Otoplasty, (Nov 2013), <https://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2013/11/N-SC027.pdf>
- Pinnaplasty Commissioning Guide 2013, British Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons, May 2013,
- Prominent Ears, British Association of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons, accessed 02/07/20, <http://www.bapras.org.uk/public/patient-information/surgery-guides/ear-surgery/prominent-ears>

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
Clinical Director, Integrated Surgery Surgical Division, CRH	July 2020
Consultant ENT Surgeon, CRH	July 2020
Consultant ENT, Head & Neck surgeon, UHDB	July 2020
Clinical Policy Advisory Group	July 2020
Clinical and Lay Commissioning Committee	August 2020

Appendix 2- Document Update

Document Update	Date Updated
Version 1- policy reviewed	October 2018
Version 2- Policy reviewed and reformatted to reflect the new organisation's policy template. Policy updated to include background information, rationale for recommendation, useful resources, consultation and version control. Patient's smoking status has been removed from the policy.	July 2020

Appendix 3 - OPCS code(s)

D033 (Pinnaplasty)