



Derby and Derbyshire
Clinical Commissioning Group

Procedures of Limited Clinical Value (PLCV)

Information for patients registered with
**NHS Derby & Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning
Group/Integrated Care System (CCG/ICS)**

What's in this leaflet...

- What these policies mean for you
- How referrals are managed
- Why your doctor has to observe these policies

What is PLCV?

Some routine treatments are now described as 'Procedures of Limited Clinical Value' (PLCV). These are procedures which national experts suggest have only limited or temporary benefit and which are not felt to be necessary to maintain good health and are only of value in certain circumstances. The main reason for having a PLCV policy is to ensure that:

- You receive the right treatment, in the right place at the right time.
- Procedures with minimal benefits to health are restricted.
- Procedures which might have been undertaken in the past are now reviewed more thoroughly for each individual patient because clinical evidence about potential benefits or negative effects has improved.
- Procedures with no or very limited clinical evidence are not used.

This means that these procedures will need to be considered on a case-by-case basis to ensure they meet the criteria before they can be provided on the NHS.



Which treatments are affected?

The following are some examples of treatment that are classed as PLCV and are currently funded or restricted:

- Acupuncture
- Grommets
- Cataracts

A full list of all treatments, applicable exclusions and criteria is available at:

- <http://www.derbyshiremedicinesmanagement.nhs.uk/clinical-policies-home/clinical-policies>

What this means for you

The PLCV Policies apply to everyone who is registered with a GP practice across the whole of Derbyshire, regardless of which GP you see or which hospital you attend. Your treating clinician will assess your condition and whether they think you have met the criteria for treatment.

There may be circumstances where a patient will no longer be able to receive a treatment, which they would previously have been able to receive. In these cases, you will be supported by your treating clinician to consider other treatments which may be available to you, which may be of greater benefit.


Your treating clinician will provide your local Derbyshire PLCV Prior Approval Team with necessary medical information. A decision will be made within a week and you will be notified by letter.

By agreeing to this process, you will be giving consent for your treating clinician to share your personal information with the Derbyshire PLCV Prior Approval Team to enable a decision to be made.



NICE Guidance

- The role of the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) is to improve outcomes for people using the NHS and other public health and social care services by producing several different types of guidance documents.
- Some of the NICE recommendations are made with more certainty than others. Where there is clear and strong evidence of benefit, NICE will use the word '**offer**'. Where the benefit is less certain NICE will use the word '**consider**'.
- The CCG/ICS is allowed to take decisions which do not follow guidance (other than Technology Appraisal Guidance) if they have a good reason to do so and have considered the consequences of the decision e.g. quality of the evidence, availability of resources and competing priorities. All are valid reasons for not following published NICE guidance.
- For more information, about NICE Guidance, please click on the following link: [developing NICE guidelines: the manual.](#)



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Does this mean that these procedures won't be carried out anymore?

All the procedures covered by the PLCV policies will still be available to any patient who meets the criteria for treatment. If a patient does not meet the criteria in the policy, but the patient's treating clinician believes that their circumstances are exceptional, then an Individual Funding Request (IFR) can be submitted.

Please click on the link below to access the policy.

http://www.derbyshiremedicinesmanagement.nhs.uk/assets/Clinical-Policies/Governance_Policies/ifr_interim_policy.pdf

Is this about saving money?

No, this is not about saving money. It is about effective use of resources from a limited budget. As demand for healthcare is greater than can be funded from the fixed budget that the CCG/ICS receives, the development of these policies will ensure that money is used more effectively on high quality care and treatment in-line with the latest available evidence.

Whilst we believe that putting these policies in place will help the CCG/ICS to deliver a more effective service, our main priority is for PLCV to be offered fairly and consistently across the whole of Derbyshire, promoting best and safe practice.

What can I do if the request is not funded?

Your Rights...

In the first instance you should speak to your GP or Consultant.

The CCG/ICS recognises that there will be exceptional, individual or clinical circumstances when funding for PLCV procedures may be appropriate. Please refer to the CCG/ICS's IFR Policy, further details of which can be found via the following website link:

<http://www.derbyshiremedicinesmanagement.nhs.uk/clinical-policies-home/governance-policies>

Applications for individual funding can only be made through your treating clinician who will be informed of the outcome and, if approved, they will refer you for treatment on the appropriate pathway.

If funding is not granted, the reasons will be explained to you.

- You have the right to know how we will use the information about you.
- You have the right to access your medical record (subject access right).
- You have the right to object to us making use of your information.
- You have the right to restrict the way we use your information and we are obliged to agree if it is possible to do so.
- You have the right to correct information if what we are holding is incorrect.

What can I do if I am not happy with the final decision not to approve my request?

You may make a complaint about the handling of your request at any time.

To whom should I address my complaint?

Complaints Manager
NHS Derby & Derbyshire CCG
1st Floor North
Cardinal Square
10 Nottingham Road
Derby
DE1 3QT

Email: DDCCG.complaints@nhs.net

For further information please visit:

www.derbyandderbyshireccg.nhs.uk/contact-us-useful-links/how-to-make-a-complaint/

For any queries email us at DDCCG.complaints@nhs.net

Where can I get further advice and support?

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) can offer help and support.

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

If you are a relative or carer and would like to get help on the spot, PALS provides a confidential advice and support service that will help you sort out any concerns you may have about the care provided by the NHS and guide you through the different services available.

Telephone: 0800 032 32 35

Text mobile facility no: 07919 466 212

Email: DDCCG.PALS@nhs.net

If you need help accessing this document in any other format i.e. printed or braille, please call the Patient Advice & Liaison Service on 0800 032 32 35 or email DDCCG.Enquiries@nhs.net

- W celu uzyskania innych wersji lub tłumaczenia niniejszego dokumentu prosimy o kontakt z działem Patient Advice & Liaison Service pod numerem 0800 032 35 35 lub adresem e-mail ddccg.enquiries@nhs.net
- ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੇ ਨੇ ਏ ਇਸ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਤੇ ਕੋਈ ਪ੍ਰੋਬਲਮ ਹੈ ਜਾਂ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕੋਈ ਸ਼ੱਕ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਵਕਰਏ ਕਰਕ ਮਰੀਜ਼ ਸਲੇ ਹ ਅਤ ਸੇ ਪਰਕ ਸੇ ਵੇ (Patient Advice & Liaison Service) ਨੇ ਏ 0800 032 35 35 ਤ ਸੇ ਏ ਪਰਕ ਕਰੇ ਜਾਂ ddccg.enquiries@nhs.net ਤ ਈਮੇ ਲ ਕਰੇ
- Ak potrzebujecie pomoc s pristupom k dokumentu, zatelefonujcie na Patient Advice & Liaison Service (Rady pacientom a sprostredkovateľske služby) na islo 0800 032 35 35 alebo pošlite e-mail na ddccg.enquiries@nhs.net
- اگر آپ کو اس دستاویز تک رسائی پانے میں مدد درکار ہو، تو برائے مہربانی پیشینٹ ایڈوائس اینڈ لائٹن سروس سے اس

DDCCG.Communications@nhs.net 0800 35 فون نمبر 032 32 یا اس ای میل پر رابطہ کریں