

## Placename CCG

### Policies for the Commissioning of Healthcare

#### Policy for commissioning photorefractive surgery for the correction of refractive error

	This document is part of a suite of policies that the CCG uses to drive its commissioning of healthcare. Each policy in that suite is a separate public document in its own right but will be applied with reference to other policies in that suite.
<b>1</b>	<b>Policy Criteria</b>
<b>1.1</b>	The CCG considers that surgery for the correction of refractive error does not accord with the Principle of Appropriateness, therefore the CCG will not routinely commission this intervention.
<b>2</b>	<b>Scope and definitions</b>
<b>2.1</b>	This policy is based on the CCG's Statement of Principles for Commissioning of Healthcare (version in force on the date on which this policy is adopted).
<b>2.2</b>	Photorefractive surgery is a procedure to correct visual refractive error.
<b>2.3</b>	The scope of this policy includes but is not limited to requests for surgery to correct myopia, hyperopia, astigmatism and presbyopia including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Photorefractive keratectomy (PRK)</li><li>• Laser in-situ keratomileusis (LASIK)</li><li>• Laser assisted subepithelial keratomileusis (LASEK)</li><li>• Laser assisted subepithelial keratomileusis with corneal collagen cross linking (LASEK-CXL)</li><li>• Small incision lenticule extraction (SMILE)</li></ul>
<b>2.4</b>	The CCG recognises that a patient may have certain features, such as; <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• having a refractive error due to myopia, hyperopia, astigmatism or presbyopia;</li><li>• wishing to have a service provided for their refractive error</li><li>• being advised that they are clinically suitable photorefractive surgery and</li><li>• be distressed by their refractive error and by the fact that that they may not meet the criteria specified in this commissioning policy.</li></ul>

	Such features place the patient within the group to whom this policy applies and do not make them exceptions to it.
<b>3</b>	<b>Appropriate Healthcare</b>
<b>3.1</b>	The purpose of photorefractive surgery is normally to correct a patient's refractive error, removing or reducing the requirement for glasses or contact lenses. However corrective surgery is considered a cosmetic treatment and compared to the use of spectacles or contact lenses, not an efficient use of NHS resources.
<b>3.2</b>	This policy relies on the criterion of appropriateness in that the CCG considers that other services competing for the same CCG resource more clearly have a purpose of preserving life or of preventing grave health consequences.
<b>4</b>	<b>Effective Healthcare</b>
<b>4.1</b>	As the CCG does not consider photorefractive surgery to be appropriate for commissioning it is unnecessary to consider effectiveness.
<b>5</b>	<b>Cost Effectiveness</b>
<b>5.1</b>	As the CCG does not consider photorefractive surgery to be appropriate for commissioning it is unnecessary to consider cost-effectiveness.
<b>6</b>	<b>Ethics</b>
<b>6.1</b>	As the CCG does not consider photorefractive surgery to be appropriate for commissioning it is unnecessary to consider the criterion of ethical delivery.
<b>7</b>	<b>Affordability</b>
<b>7.1</b>	As the CCG does not consider photorefractive surgery to be appropriate for commissioning it is unnecessary to consider affordability.
<b>8</b>	<b>Exceptions</b>
<b>8.1</b>	The CCG will consider exceptions to this policy in accordance with the Policy for Considering Applications for Exceptionality to Commissioning Policies.
<b>8.2</b>	In the event of inconsistency, this policy will take precedence over any non-mandatory NICE guidance in driving decisions of this CCG. A circumstance in which a patient satisfies NICE guidance but does not satisfy the criteria in this policy does not amount to exceptionality.
<b>9</b>	<b>Force</b>
<b>9.1</b>	This policy remains in force until it is superseded by a revised policy or by mandatory NICE guidance relating to this intervention, or to alternative treatments for the same condition.

<b>9.2</b>	<p>In the event of NICE guidance referenced in this policy being superseded by new NICE guidance, then:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If the new NICE guidance has mandatory status, then that NICE guidance will supersede this policy with effect from the date on which it becomes mandatory.</li><li>• If the new NICE guidance does not have mandatory status, then the CCG will aspire to review and update this policy accordingly. However, until the CCG adopts a revised policy, this policy will remain in force and any references in it to NICE guidance will remain valid as far as the decisions of this CCG are concerned.</li></ul>
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*Date of adoption*

*Date for review*