

Lancashire and South Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG)

Level of change document, September 2018

Policy	CCG	Current CCG policy	Level of change
<p>Policy for the treatment of Varicose Veins</p>	<p>NHS Morecambe Bay, East Lancashire and Blackburn with Darwen CCGs</p>	<p>There is no existing CCG policy for these procedures</p>	<p>If agreed this proposal will introduce a new policy with eligibility criteria that must be met before patients can access treatment for varicose veins.</p> <p>This will make some restrictions on current patient access with symptomatic varicose veins (veins found in association with troublesome lower limb symptoms such as pain, aching, discomfort, swelling, heaviness and itching) no longer supported</p>
	<p>NHS Fylde and Wyre, Chorley and South Ribble, Greater Preston, West Lancashire and Blackpool CCGs</p>	<p>Treatment of Varicose Veins Policy</p> <p>8 eligibility criteria relating to the treatment of 'severe' varicose veins.</p>	<p>More detailed policy document with some changes to the eligibility criteria, which no longer refers to 'severe' and now has 5 criteria, some of which eliminates duplication. Criteria relating to previous varicose vein surgery, to a history of DVT or to surgery to prevent imminent skin ulceration no longer included. Criteria regarding bleeding of varicosity now simplified and access made easier, with no</p>

			<p>additional reference to erosion of skin or risk of bleeding.</p> <p>Criterion relating to progressive and/or painful ulcers despite treatment has been removed and now simply refers to having an ulcer.</p> <p>New criterion added that duplex ultrasound has confirmed the diagnosis of varicose veins, which must be met in addition to one of the other criteria (previously only one of the 8 needed to be met).</p> <p>Warning against the use of compression hosiery.</p>
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