

Programme Title: Clinical Policies

Clinical Policies aim to prevent avoidable harm to patients by only offering treatments on the NHS that are evidence-based, clinically safe and effective, as well as cost effective and a good use of resources.

Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, Bedfordshire, Luton, Milton Keynes and Hertfordshire

Title of policy and version:	Breast – Removal of Accessory Nipple (supernumerary nipple) Version: v1.0
Commissioning position:	This intervention is NOT NORMALLY FUNDED by the ICB
Scope:	Covers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surgical removal of accessory (supernumerary) nipple(s), with or without minor associated accessory breast tissue, where the primary aim is cosmetic/aesthetic improvement.
Cohort:	People with supernumerary (accessory) nipple(s) (also known as accessory nipple / third nipple / ectopic nipple / polythelia), requesting removal where the primary purpose is cosmetic/aesthetic improvement.
Other relevant Clinical Policy	TBC

Treatments routinely funded:	None under this policy
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Treatments not funded:	The ICB will not normally fund surgical removal of accessory (supernumerary) nipple(s) (and any minor associated accessory breast tissue) where requested primarily for cosmetic reasons.
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Rationale:	Accessory (supernumerary) nipples are generally not considered a health issue, and removal for cosmetic reasons is a low clinical priority. NHS commissioning prioritises clinically necessary care; therefore cosmetic removal is not normally funded.
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IFR Statement Clinical Exceptionality:	
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Where a patient does not meet the policy criteria or the intervention is not normally funded by the NHS, an application for clinical exceptionality can be considered via the ICB's Individual Funding Request (IFR) Policy and Process.

Coding list:

OPCS: B35 (Operations on nipple)

OPCS: B28.6 (Excision of accessory breast tissue)

Policy document record:	Breast – Removal of Accessory Nipple (supernumerary nipple) Version: v1.0
Ratification date:	1st April 2026
Record of significant change:	v1.0 – New harmonised policy for Central East ICB, based on predecessor ICB policies (C&P, HWE, BLMK).
Planned review date:	TBC

Document Environmental Impact statement:

Neutral environmental impact. Policy to be shared and stored electronically where possible; if printed, use double-sided printing and minimal copies.