

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

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| Title of policy and version: | CosmeticPlastics - Liposuction for Lipoedema Version: v1.0 |
| Commissioning position: | This intervention is NOT NORMALLY FUNDED by the ICB |
| Scope: | <p>Covers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All surgical liposuction procedures undertaken for the treatment of lipoedema <p>Out of Scope:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liposuction for any other indication that is not lipoedema |
| Cohort: | Individuals diagnosed with lipoedema seeking surgical management with liposuction |
| Other relevant Clinical Policy | Liposuction for other indications (not lipoedema or lymphoedema) |

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| Treatments routinely funded: | None under this policy |
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| Treatments not funded: | Liposuction for Lipoedema |
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| Rationale: | NICE Interventional Procedures Guidance IPG723 concludes that evidence for the safety and efficacy of liposuction for lipoedema is insufficient, and the procedure is not recommended for routine commissioning. Conservative management (e.g., compression therapy, manual lymphatic drainage, mobility support, psychosocial care) remains the recommended approach for lipoedema across the NHS. |
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IFR Statement Clinical Exceptionality:

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:

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| Policy document record: | CosmeticPlastics - Liposuction for Lipoedema Version: v1.0 |
| Ratification date: | 1 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.