

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:	CosmeticPlastics - Earlobes Repair Version: v1.0
Commissioning position:	This intervention is NOT NORMALLY FUNDED by the ICB
Scope:	<p>Covers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-emergency repair of earlobes (external ear), typically for split/elongated lobes where the primary aim is cosmetic improvement. <p>Out of scope:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary suture/repair in A&E at the time of acute trauma (managed as urgent care).
Cohort:	People requesting non-emergency earlobe repair where the primary objective is to improve appearance.
Other relevant Clinical Policy	None Identified.

Treatments routinely funded:	None under this policy.
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Treatments not funded:	The ICB will not normally fund non-emergency repair of earlobes (external ear).
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Rationale:	Non-emergency earlobe repair is generally a cosmetic procedure and is a low clinical priority. NHS commissioning prioritises clinically necessary care; therefore, cosmetic earlobe repair is not normally funded.
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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:

Policy document record:	CosmeticPlastics - Earlobes Repair 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.