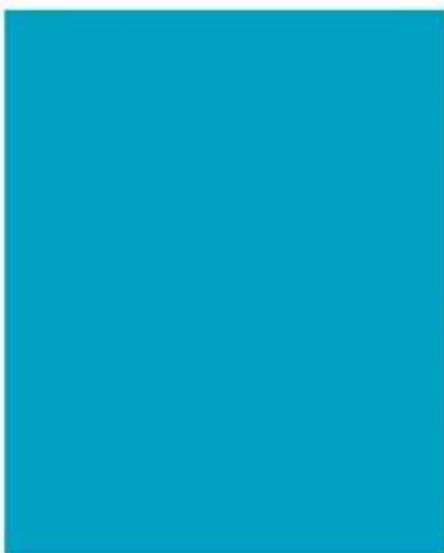


# Interim Clinical Commissioning Policy: Pinnaplasty/Otoplasty

Agreed: November 2013

Ref: N-SC/027



# Interim Clinical Commissioning Policy

## *Pinnaplasty/Otoplasty*

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## **Policy Statement**

NHS England will commission Pinnaplasty/Otoplasty in accordance with the criteria outlined in this document.

In creating this policy NHS England has reviewed this clinical condition and the options for its treatment. It has considered the place of this treatment in current clinical practice, whether scientific research has shown the treatment to be of benefit to patients, (including how any benefit is balanced against possible risks) and whether its use represents the best use of NHS resources.

This policy document outlines the arrangements for funding of this treatment for patients where NHS England directly commissions this service.

## **Equality Statement**

NHS England has a duty to have regard to the need to reduce health inequalities in access to health services and health outcomes achieved as enshrined in the Health and Social Care Act 2012. NHS England is committed to ensuring equality of access and non-discrimination, irrespective of age, gender, disability (including learning disability), gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (gender) or sexual orientation. In carrying out its functions, NHS England will have due regard to the different needs of protected equality groups, in line with the Equality Act 2010. This document is compliant with the NHS Constitution and the Human Rights Act 1998. This applies to all activities for which they are responsible, including policy development, review and implementation.

## **Plain Language Summary**

Ear reshaping is a type of cosmetic surgery used to treat protruding ears. The operation is also known as pinnaplasty or otoplasty. Surgery to reshape the ears involves remodelling the cartilage into a less protruding shape. Pinnaplasty or otoplasty (pinning back the ears) is where the cartilage is remodelled to create the missing folds and position the ear closer to the head

### **1. Introduction**

Pinnaplasty or Otoplasty are regarded as procedures of low clinical priority and therefore not routinely funded by the Commissioner.

## 2. Criteria for commissioning

NHS England will commission surgical “correction” of prominent ear(s) only when all of the following criteria are met:

1. Referral only for children aged 5 to 18 years at the time of referral

AND

2. With very significant ear deformity or asymmetry

Patients not meeting these criteria should not be routinely referred for surgery.

**The Clinician proposing this intervention is required to secure Prior Approval from the Armed Forces Commissioning or Health & Justice Commissioning Team in their area**

**(Application form and contact details can be found on NHS Internet <http://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/d-com/policies/ssp/>)**

## 3. Evidence Base

This procedure is considered to be of limited clinical value