

## PA07 Benign Subcutaneous Swellings Removal Prior Approval Policy

<b>Pathway</b>	
	Removal of Benign Subcutaneous Swellings.
<b>Exclusions</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>∅ Sub-mucosal swellings of the mouth, anal canal or lower genitourinary tract.</li> <li>∅ Subcutaneous swellings with features suggestive of sarcoma as defined by 2015 NICE guideline 12.</li> </ul>
<b>Commissioned</b>	
	<p><b>Asymptomatic Subcutaneous Swellings</b></p> <p>Removal will only be funded if <b>ALL</b> the following criteria apply:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The swelling is on the face but not on the scalp or neck.</li> <li>2. The swelling is over 1cm in diameter.</li> <li>3. The patient is over the age of 5 years.</li> </ol>
	<p><b>Symptomatic Subcutaneous Swellings</b></p> <p>Removal will only be funded for lipoma over 5cms or non-lipoma over 2cms plus one of the following indications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recurrent episodes of infection over at least a 3-month period.</li> <li>2. A single episode of infection requiring treatment in hospital.</li> <li>3. Recurrent minor bleeding over at least a 3-month period.</li> <li>4. A significant episode of bleeding requiring treatment by cautery or suturing.</li> <li>5. Significant functional impairment.</li> </ol>
<b>Not Funded</b>	
	Removal of benign subcutaneous swellings purely for cosmetic reasons.
<b>Notes</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Significant functional impairment</b> means severe restriction in most of the following activities of daily living:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Personal care (dressing, grooming, washing and toileting)</li> <li>b) Functional mobility (required to perform routine activities in the home or at work)</li> <li>c) Meeting nutritional needs (preparing and eating food)</li> </ol> </li> <li>▪ Recurrent trauma will only be accepted as a reason for removal if it results in one of the above criteria.</li> <li>▪ Please provide photographic evidence where possible to support the application for funding.</li> </ul>
<b>Rationale</b>	
	<p><b>Evidence-Based Interventions:</b> Response to the public consultation and next steps. Published by NHS England in partnership with NHS Clinical Commissioners, the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges, NHS Improvement and the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence November 2018.</p> <p>Subcutaneous swellings which causes significant facial disfigurement may impact on a person's psychological wellbeing and impair their social interactions.</p>
<b>Cohort</b>	
	Children and Adults.

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<b>Equality</b>																			
	Compliant with the Equality Act 2010.																		
<b>Status</b>																			
	RED as defined in the Prior Approval Scheme Policy.																		
<b>OPCS codes</b>																			
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<b>Version History</b>																			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Definition of significant functional impairment added.</li> <li>▪ Introduction of a 3-month period of conservative management in cases where infection or bleeding is minor.</li> <li>▪ Non-lipoma swellings on the body, neck or scalp must be at least 2 cm to justify removal.</li> <li>▪ Reason for removal in cases of recurrent trauma clarified.</li> </ul>																		
<b>Authorised</b>																			
	April 2019																		
<b>Review</b>																			
	<p>April 2024</p> <p>Earlier if new evidence published by NICE or other authoritative body.</p>																		