

Population Screening Outside of National Guidelines

Exceptional Funding Request

BNSSG ICB will fund population screening where the UK National Screening Committee (UKNSC) advises on policy for screening for a wide range of population health problems and the ICB commissions screening programmes in line with these recommendations. The Commissioner does not commission population screening for conditions where the UK NSC has said that it is not recommended.

A full list of the UK NSC policies and recommendations is available at UK National Screening Committee - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).

Bristol North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board (BNSSG ICB) is responsible for making the best use of the NHS funds allocated to us to meet the health needs of our local population. The demand for services is greater than the resources available and therefore we have to prioritise the use of funds carefully. Our approach is to prioritise commissioning treatments, operations or drugs that are most effective in meeting the health needs of the population. All operations carry significant risks and where symptoms are mild or moderate it is likely that the risks outweigh the benefits. Not all conditions progress and when symptoms can be managed conservatively, that is the safest option.

Population Screening Outside of National Guidelines – Plain Language Summary

Screening is the process of identifying healthy people who may have an increased chance of a disease or condition. The screening provider then offers information, further tests and treatment. This is to reduce associated problems or complications. Identification through this process can show that the patient may have the condition screened for. The patient may need further confirmatory diagnostic tests.

Screening can:

- save lives or improve quality of life through early identification of a condition
- reduce the chance of developing a serious condition or its complications

Screening does not guarantee protection. Receiving a low chance result does not prevent the patient from developing the condition at a later date.

This policy has been developed with the aid of the following:

1. <https://legacyscreening.phe.org.uk/screening>
2. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-population-screening-explained#illustration-of-the-screening-p>
3. Public Health England. (2018, February 5). NHS Population Screening explained. Retrieved October 24, 2018, from [www.gov.uk: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-population-screeningexplained#illustration-of-the-screening-proce](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-population-screeningexplained#illustration-of-the-screening-proce)
4. Thelwall, S. P. (2015). Impact of obesity on the risk of wound infection following surgery: results from a nationwide prospective multicentre cohort study in England. *Clinical microbiology and infection : the official publication of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases*, , vol. 21, no. 11, p. 1008.e1
- 5.

Due regard

In carrying out their functions, the Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Clinical Policy Review Group (CPRG) are committed to having due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED). This applies to all the activities for which the ICBs are responsible, including policy development and review.

Document Control

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Governance

Commissioning policies are assessed for their likely level of impact on BNSSG ICB and the population for which it is responsible. This determines the appropriate level of sign off. The below described the approval route for each score category.

Policy Category	Approval By
Level 1	Commissioning Policy Review Group.
Level 2	Chief Medical Officer, or Chief Nursing Officer, or System Executive Group Chair
Level 3	ICB Board

OPCS Procedure codes

N/A



**Bristol, North Somerset
and South Gloucestershire**
Integrated Care Board

Support

If you would like further copies of this policy or need it in another format, such as Braille or another language, please contact the Customer Services Team on: **0117 900 2655** or **0800 073 0907** or email them on BNSSG.customerservice@nhs.net.

