

Reference: FOI.ICB-2324/310

Subject: Funding Policies for thyroid eye disease (TED) or facial nerve palsies (FNP)

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<p>I am writing to submit a formal Freedom of Information (FOI) request regarding periorbital and facial surgical funding policies for patients with thyroid eye disease (TED) or facial nerve palsies (FNP) within your organisation.</p> <p>I kindly request access to any available information related to the funding policies concerning periorbital surgical procedures such as brow lift, blepharoplasty, upper eyelid weights and botulinum toxin injections for the aforementioned medical conditions.</p> <p>Specifically, I am interested in understanding whether you have specific funding policies for patients with TED or FNP, and/or whether they are exempt from needing to meet criteria or follow the individual funding requests in place for patients without these conditions. Although I recognise that such patients may also undergo other surgical procedures such as facial suspension/re-animation and thyroidectomy, I am only requesting information on procedures that fall under the remit of oculoplastic</p>	<p>All commissioning policies can be found at Commissioning Policy Directory - NHS BNSSG ICB</p> <p>Alongside the policies listed in the attached form, BNSSG ICB has a commissioning policy for Cosmetic Surgery. BNSSG ICB will fund interventions for the assessment and treatment of functional eye disease, where an individual meets relevant criterion, but not for purely cosmetic purposes.</p>

procedures (though these may sometimes be carried out by plastic surgeons).

I would be grateful if you could complete the attached tables to ensure complete clarity of understanding, though I would also like to receive copies of any relevant policies in full if available, please.

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 6 December 2023 and has been approved for release by Dr Joanne Medhurst, Chief Medical Officer for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.

Facial Nerve Palsy Please mark the relevant answer with a X in the column

Please add additional columns for any extra procedures you feel fall within this remit.

		Blepharoplasty	Brow lift	Upper eyelid weight	Ptosis repair	Periocular botulinum toxin	Other – please stipulate
Policy in place	None					X	
	FNP-exclusions from policy	X	X	X	X		
	Specific FNP policy						
	Comments						
Access to funding	Unrestricted						
	Criterion-based access						
	Prior approval	X	X	X	X		
	Exceptionality funding request						X
	Comments	Not a specific FNP policy. However FNP is not an exclusion for funding under this policy.	Not a specific FNP policy. However FNP is not an exclusion for funding under this policy.	Not a specific FNP policy. However FNP is not an exclusion for funding under this policy.	Not a specific FNP policy. However FNP is not an exclusion for funding under this policy.	Not a specific FNP policy. However FNP is not an exclusion for funding under this policy.	There is no commissioning policy in place for this intervention. Please refer to the guidance given by BNSSG ICB's Joint Formulary.

Thyroid Eye Disease Please mark the relevant answer with a X in the column

Please add additional columns for any extra procedures you feel fall within this remit.

		Orbital decompression	Blepharoplasty	Brow lift	Upper eyelid weight	Ptosis repair	Eyelid retraction repair (e.g. upper eyelid lowering/lower lid elevation)	Other – please stipulate
Policy in place	None							
	FNP-exclusions from policy	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	Specific FNP policy							
	Comments							
Access to funding	Unrestricted							
	Criterion-based access							
	Prior approval	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	Exceptionality funding request							X
	Comments	Not a specific FNP policy. However FNP is not an exclusion for funding under this policy.	Not a specific FNP policy. However FNP is not an exclusion for funding under this policy.	Not a specific FNP policy. However FNP is not an exclusion for funding under this policy.	Not a specific FNP policy. However FNP is not an exclusion for funding under this policy.	Not a specific FNP policy. However FNP is not an exclusion for funding under this policy.	Not a specific FNP policy. However FNP is not an exclusion for funding under this policy.	Not a specific FNP policy. However FNP is not an exclusion for funding under this policy.

								relevant criterion, but not for purely cosmetic purposes.
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