

## **PORT WINE STAINS & BIRTHMARKS - REMOVAL OF EVIDENCE BASED INTERVENTIONS (EBI) POLICY**

Version:	2122.v5
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Application Form	Generic EBI Application

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EVIDENCE BASED INTERVENTIONS (EBI) POLICY**

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**VERSION CONTROL**

<b>Document Status:</b>	Current policy
<b>Version:</b>	2122.v5

**DOCUMENT CHANGE HISTORY**

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Oct15 V8e	2015	Removed from Guidance for Clinicians Policy Document to separate policy
1516.v2	2016	Include background data
1516.v3	July 2017	Change CSU template to CCG template update General Principles wording
1819.v4	September 2018	3 year policy review , change layout
1819.v4	June 2021	3 year policy review (inc rebranding from IFR to EBI) with no clinical amendments

<b>Equality Impact Assessment EIA</b>	N / A
<b>Quality Impact Assessment QIA</b>	March 2018
<b>Sponsoring Director:</b>	Dr A Murray
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## **1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES (EBI)**

- 1.1 Funding approval must be secured prior to a referral for an assessment and/or surgery. Referring patients to secondary care without funding approval having been secured not only incurs significant costs in out-patient appointments for patients that may not qualify for surgery, but inappropriately raises the patient's expectation of treatment
- 1.2 On limited occasions, we may approve funding for an assessment only in order to confirm or obtain evidence demonstrating whether a patient meets the criteria for funding. In such cases, patients should be made aware that the assessment does not mean that they will be provided with surgery and surgery will only be provided where it can be demonstrated that the patients meets the criteria to access treatment in this policy
- 1.3 Funding approval will only be given where there is evidence that the treatment requested is effective and the patient has the potential to benefit from the proposed treatment. Where it is demonstrated that patients have previously been provided with the treatment with limited or diminishing benefit, funding approval is unlikely to be agreed
- 1.4 Receiving funding approval does not confirm that they will receive treatment or surgery for a condition as a consent discussion will need to be undertaken with a clinician prior to treatment
- 1.5 The policy does not apply to patients with suspected malignancy who should continue to be referred under 2 week wait pathway rules for assessment and testing as appropriate
- 1.6 Patients with an elevated BMI of 30 or more may experience more post-surgical complications including post-surgical wound infection so should be encouraged to lose weight further prior to seeking surgery.  
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1198743X15007193>  
(Thelwall, 2015)
- 1.7 Patients who are smokers should be referred to smoking cessation services in order to reduce the risk of surgery and improve healing

## **2 POLICY CRITERIA NOT COMMISSIONED**

- 2.1 Removal of Port Wine Stains and other birthmark surgery / treatment is not routinely commissioned
- 2.2 Applications may be considered where:
  - There is a significant port wine stain/birthmark on the face, which is unusually prominent or getting larger

- For other haemangiomas / vascular lesions, if there are physical problems such as bleeding or ulceration
  - Where there is evidence of some unusual or unique clinical factor about the patient that suggests they are exceptional:
    - Significantly different to others with the same condition or
    - That they are likely to gain significantly more benefit from the intervention, than the average person with the same condition
- 2.3 Applications should be accompanied by:
- Photographs
  - The size of the Portwine-birth mark
  - And a statement confirming that the patient is aware the effect of any treatment may only be modest

### 3 EVIDENCE BASED INTERVENTIONS APPLICATION PROCESS

- 3.1 Patients who are not eligible for treatment under this policy may be considered on an individual basis where their GP or Consultant believes exceptional circumstances exist that warrant deviation from the rule of this policy
- 3.2 Completion of a **Generic EBI Application Form** by a patient's GP or Consultant is required
- 3.3 Applications cannot be considered from patients personally
- 3.4 Only electronically completed EBI applications will be accepted to the EBI Service
- 3.5 It is expected that clinicians will have ensured that the patient, on behalf of who they are forwarding the application for, is appropriately informed about the existing policies prior to an application to the EBI service. This will reassure the service that the patient has a reasonable expectation of the outcome of the application and its context
- 3.6 EBI applications are reviewed and considered against clinical exceptionality

For further information on 'clinical exceptionality' please refer to the NHS England information using the link below page 9-13;  
<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/comm-policy-individual-funding-requests.pdf>

- 3.7 Social, Emotional and Environmental factors *i.e. income, housing, environmental pollution, access to services, family, friends, ethnicity, life experiences etc.* CANNOT be considered with an application

3.8 Where appropriate photographic supporting evidence can be forwarded with the application form

3.9 An application put forward for consideration must demonstrate some unusual or unique clinical factor about the patient that suggests they are exceptional as defined below:

- Significantly different to the general population of patients with the condition in question
- Likely to gain significantly more benefit from the intervention than might be expected from the average patient with the condition

#### **4 ACCESS TO POLICY**

4.1 If you would like further copies of this policy or need it in another format, such as Braille or another language, please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service on Telephone number: 08000 851067

4.2 **Or write to us:** NHS Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group, Freepost RRKL-XKSC-ACSG, Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 8HR or **Email us:** [somccg.pals@nhs.net](mailto:somccg.pals@nhs.net)

#### **5 REFERENCES**

The following sources have been considered when drafting this policy:

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5.1 <http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/birthmarks/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

5.2 <https://www.dermnetnz.org/topics/capillary-vascular-malformation/>

5.3 <https://www.pcids.org.uk/clinical-guidance/port-wine-stain-syn-naevus-flammeus>

5.4 [NHS England - Wave 2 EBI document](#)