

Oculoplastic Eye Problems Commissioning Statement

Commissioning Statement: 32

Treatment	Oculoplasty (eyelid surgery)
For the treatment of	Oculoplastic Eye Problems: Watery Eyes
Background	<p>Oculoplasty is a branch of ophthalmology that focuses on plastic surgery procedures relating to the eyes, as well as the structures that surround it. This pertains to cosmetic or reconstructive surgery on areas around the eyes, such as the eyelids and orbit (eye socket). Droopy upper eyelids, tumors around the orbit, and thyroid disease, are some of the conditions that may require oculoplastic surgery eyelid surgery</p> <p>Epiphora is a symptom, which may represent an underlying eye problem, which should be addressed. The commonest cause is blepharitis and blocked naso-lacrimal ducts</p>
Commissioning position	<p>Oculoplastic procedures are not routinely commissioned as many are for cosmetic reasons. However there are a number of conditions which affect vision and functionality affecting activities of daily living and quality of life which may be considered via IFR for surgical correction.</p> <p>The following eyelid surgery procedures will NOT be commissioned unless there is any diagnostic uncertainty:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of eyelid papilloma's or skin tags • Surgery for cyst of moll • Surgery for cyst of zeis • Surgery for pingueculum • Excision of other lid lumps • Excision of other lid lumps • Surgery for cosmetic reasons <p>The following conditions are NOT routinely commissioned but there are specified criteria which may be considered by IFR for referral and treatment in secondary care:</p> <p>Ectropion</p> <p>Background: Ectropion is a condition, typically a consequence of advanced age, in which the eyelid is turned outwards away from the eyeball.</p> <p>Policy: Ectropion is not routinely commissioned unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservative management has been exhausted and there is evidence of significant impairment of the punctum • There is recurrent infection in surrounding skin. <p>Epiphora</p> <p>Background: Epiphora is an overflow of tears onto the face. A clinical sign or condition that constitutes insufficient tear film drainage from the eyes in that tears will drain down the face rather than through the nasolacrimal system.</p> <p>Policy: Refer to the IFR Panel for watery eyes surgery when, despite undergoing</p>

	<p>conservative management, the patient is experiencing a daily impact of significant watering of the eyes indoors and outdoors affecting visual function and / or interfering markedly with quality of life.</p> <p>Chalazion/Meibomian cyst</p> <p>Background: A chalazion is a slowly developing lump that forms due to blockage and swelling of an oil gland in the eyelid.</p> <p>Policy: Removal of chalazion is not routinely commissioned. Cases may be considered by the IFR if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the chalazion has been present for 6 months and conservative management has been exhausted <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the chalazion is symptomatic - painful and has recurrent infection treated with antibiotics • there is significant impact on vision affecting functionality <p>N.B. for diagnostic uncertainty or suspicious symptoms to be referred under the 2 week wait.</p> <p>Blepharitis</p> <p>Background: Blepharitis is a common condition where the edges of the eyelids (eyelid margins) become red and swollen (inflamed).</p> <p>Policy: Referral to secondary care for Blepharitis is NOT routinely commissioned. Refer to IFR if symptoms are persistent and have exhausted antibiotic therapy. If lids persistently swollen consider alternative diagnosis e.g. malignancy and refer under the 2 week referral wait.</p>
Summary of evidence / rationale	<p>Patient information: http://patient.info/health/watering-eyes-epiphora</p>
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Date published	
Review date	
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References:

1. [http://www.patient.co.uk/doctor/Epiphoria-\(Watering-Eyes\).htm](http://www.patient.co.uk/doctor/Epiphoria-(Watering-Eyes).htm)