

Your Ref: NEL 299

17 July 2014

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Dear Alan

## **Your Request for Information**

I am writing in response to your recent request that we received on 7 July 2014, in which you requested the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

## **Information Requested**

Please provide a list of all operations, surgical procedures, medications and other health care services that are denied to patients by North East Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group since April 2013, but should otherwise be available to those patients through the NHS.

Additionally, please indicate the age groups relating to the list items, for example:

Breast cancer operations (denied to patients over 75 years and over)

## Response

Operations, surgical procedures, medications and other health care services are not routinely denied to patients by NHS North East Lincolnshire CCG, however some treatments do require "Prior Approval".

The CCG operates a prior approval framework which sets out criteria that follows evidence and national guidance to ensure clinical effectiveness. The framework must be met before the procedure or treatment will be commissioned by the CCG. Please find attached the Prior Approval Policy Treatment Schedule for your information. I can confirm that there have not been any significant changes to the schedule post April 2013.

In terms of criteria for specific age groups the following conditions apply:

- Circumcision: "Paediatric Surgical opinion is required prior to the Panel considering circumcision for all patients under 12 years old."
- Lithotripsy for gallstones: "Prior approval is not required for patients who are 75 years and over"
- Pinnaplasty: "All cases require prior approval. Consideration will be given to cases where the patient is between the age of 5 and 19 years (preferably below 14 years)."
- Specialised Fertility Services (inc IVF): "The female patient must be between the age of 23-39 years unless there is an absolute indication to start fertility treatment younger. No new cycle should start after the patient's 40th birthday."
- Cranial banding: "The overall conclusion was that, though the evidence is limited, the literature supports the use of cranial orthoses in infants before the age of 12 months."
- Spinal cord stimulation (neuromodulation): Treatment is for adults.
- Sacral nerve stimulation (neuromodulation); Treatment is for adults.
- Geriatric Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Units: Geriatric patients.
- Apicoectomy: Prior approval needed for adults only.
- Orthodontic treatment: Adults need funding approval "Hospital orthodontic treatment is only funded for patients under 18 with an IOTN score of 4.8 or above no prior approval is required for these patients. All other cases require prior approval.

Please note that the above does not include any restrictions that the CCG may adhere to within NICE guidelines, or restrictions that may be applied by clinicians or providers, or those treatments commissioned by NHS England.

The information we have provided to you is copyrighted to NHS North East Lincolnshire CCG and provided to you free of charge for your personal use or for other specific uses permitted in the Copyright Act. If however you wish to use the information we have provided for any commercial purposes including the sale of the information to a third party then, under the Regulations on the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005, you must ask us for permission to do so in respect of each specific piece of such information. If we do grant such permission this may involve a licensing arrangement which may attract a fee. Should you wish to apply for permission for commercial re-use under the Regulations you should write to the Freedom of Information Manager to the address above.

If you have any concerns about the way your request has been handled; the operation of the Publication Schemes; the response received, or the 'exemption' decision, you should, in the first instance contact me to try to resolve them. If you are not happy with the outcome, you can write to our Chief Clinical Officer at the address above to make a request for an internal review.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can then write to the Information Commissioner:

FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

Helpline telephone: 01625 545 745

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need any further assistance. You can find out more information about our Clinical Commissioning Group by visiting our website <a href="http://www.northeastlincolnshireccg.nhs.uk/">http://www.northeastlincolnshireccg.nhs.uk/</a>

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Administrator (North Yorkshire and Humber CSU)
On Behalf of NHS North East Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group