

Policy title	Gender reassignment: surgery and cosmetic interventions v1.1
Policy position	Cosmetic interventions: Not Normally Funded
Date of Priorities Forum recommendation	February 2018

NHS England funds gender identity disorder surgical services as part of specialised commissioning, with services provided by specialist gender identity surgical providers. This includes the complete gender reassignment process to completion of transition, from specialist assessment, preparation for gender reassignment procedures, surgery and immediate associated aftercare.

It is expected that patients undergoing gender reassignment will have all core procedures required as part of transition as detailed below. Non-core procedures e.g. cosmetic procedures that are not commissioned by NHS England are **not normally funded** by the NHS and will only be considered on an exceptional clinical case basis, following an application via the Individual Funding Request route and through consideration of the respective relevant policies (e.g. cosmetic procedures).

Corrective surgical procedures relating to complications for poor outcomes recognised within 18 months of previous surgery are funded through NHS England.

NHS England Specialised Commissioning funds the following surgical treatments and immediate associated aftercare:

1. Masculinising chest surgery - Including standard practice procedures:

- Double incision technique
- Peri-areolar technique
- Liposuction for the purpose of masculinising chest surgery
- Nipple re-positioning techniques including pedicled flaps
- Free, full-thickness nipple grafting
- Modification of the nipple-areolar complex
- Dermal implant and nipple tattoo

2. Masculinising and feminising genital reconstructive surgery:

Masculinising genital surgery: Standard practice procedures commissioned by NHS England are:

- Phalloplasty (various types)
- Metoidioplasty (with/without urethroplasty; with/without scrotoplasty)
- Post-operative training in penile prosthesis use

Commissioned only as components of the above procedures:

- Hysterectomy
- Bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy
- Vaginectomy
- Placement of penile prosthesis (various types)
- Placement of testicular prosthesis (various types)
- Glans sculpting

Hysterectomy (removal of uterus) and bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy (removal of ovaries and fallopian tubes) are interventions commissioned through NHS England when they are performed by a specialist gender identity surgical unit as part of the genital surgical intervention.

Feminising genital surgery: Standard practice procedures commissioned by NHS England are feminising reconstruction surgery consisting of some or all of the following:

- Penectomy
- Bilateral orchidectomy
- Vaginoplasty
- Clitoroplasty
- Vulvoplasty

Penectomy (removal of penis) and orchidectomy (removal of testes) are interventions commissioned through NHS England when they are performed by a specialist gender identity surgical unit as part of the genital surgical intervention.

**For further detail please see NHS England - Gender Dysphoria Clinical Programme:
Gender Identity Services for Adults (Surgical Interventions).**

NOTE:

- This policy will be reviewed in the light of new evidence or new national guidance e.g. from NICE
- Where a patient does not meet the policy criteria or the intervention is not normally funded by the NHS, an application for clinical exceptionality can be considered via the ICB's Individual Funding Request (IFR) Policy and Process

Clinical coding:

As per cosmetic procedures policy.

Key words: Gender dysphoria, transgender, gender reassignment