

Policy title	Lycra garments for children with neurological impairment V3.0
Policy position	Intervention Not Normally Funded
Date of Forum recommendation	October 2021
Date of ICB recommendation	February 2025

Lycra garments or Lycra suit therapy aims to treat functional/movement impairments associated with cerebral palsy or other neurological impairment in children either as an alternative or an addition to conventional physiotherapy.

Due to the lack of robust supporting clinical and cost effectiveness evidence for this intervention, Lycra garments are **not normally funded**.

Rationale

Lycra splints are made-to-measure and consist of sections of Lycra stitched together using specific tension, direction of pull, type of material (e.g. water absorbent for under the arms) and thickness. Boning can be included to give extra support. Splints range from hand splints to full body garments.

There are currently no NICE guidelines on the use of Lycra dynamic splinting. Very few studies have been published to assess the effectiveness and no studies have investigated the benefit of continuation in the long term.

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: No coding available.

Policy update record	
October 2021	Literature searched for new evidence; no changes recommended
February 2025 BLMK ICB Executive Team	Literature searched for new evidence; no change was made to policy position. Changes made to policy wording to improve clarity only.

Key words: **Lycra, Dynamic Splinting, Neurological Impairment**