

Policy:	Ganglion Cyst Removal		GM Ref:	GM025	
First issue date:	December 2014	Current version:	2.1	Last reviewed:	January 2016

Policy inclusion criteria

Mild

Surgical intervention is not commissioned for ganglion presenting as an asymptomatic lump. Treatment is reassurance and observation.

Funding mechanism: An individual funding request can be made if there is a good case for clinical exceptionality. Requests should be submitted with all relevant supporting evidence, which must be provided with the request.

Moderate

Surgical intervention is not commissioned for ganglion presenting as a symptomatic lump with a long duration of symptoms or for occult ganglion. Treatment is reassurance and observation, with aspiration in primary care for reassurance. Refer for ultrasound / MRI if there are concerns about the diagnosis.

Funding mechanism: An individual funding request can be made if there is a good case for clinical exceptionality. Requests should be submitted with all relevant supporting evidence, which must be provided with the request.

Severe

Surgical intervention is commissioned for ganglion presenting with severe pain **OR** restriction of activities of daily living **OR** where there is concern over the diagnosis.

Funding mechanism: Monitored approval: Referrals may be made in line with the criteria without seeking funding. **NOTE:** May be the subject of contract challenges and/or audit of cases against commissioned criteria.

If the patient does not meet the criteria: an individual funding request can be made if there is a good case for clinical exceptionality. Requests should be submitted with all relevant supporting evidence, which must be provided with the request.

Policy exclusions

Treatment/procedures undertaken as part of an externally funded trial or as a part of locally agreed contracts / or pathways of care are excluded from this policy, i.e. locally agreed pathways take precedent over this policy (the EUR Team should be informed of any local pathway for this exclusion to take effect).