

Greater Manchester Shared Services Effective Use of Resources Team
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| Policy: | Surgical Revision of Scarring | | GM Ref: | GM066 | |
| First issue date: | June 2015 | Current version: | 2.0 | Last reviewed: | N/A |

Policy inclusion criteria

Surgical revision of scarring is only commissioned where the scar is causing a demonstrable functional problem that is likely to be resolved with surgery e.g. difficulty closing their eyes or inability to close the mouth properly when eating, and has been present for a minimum of 18 months post injury/surgery.

Requests made by clinicians will be considered under clinical exceptionality. Where exceptionality is claimed the following standard set of information will need to be provided in addition to the individual clinical exceptional circumstances:

- Date of the original injury
- Exact anatomical location of the scar
- A detailed description of the functional impairment caused to the patient
- A list of all treatments used to minimise the scarring, including:
 - Date each treatment used
 - Details of whether or not there was any improvement
- Expectations of the outcome of the revision (e.g. full restoration of functionality or the degree of improvement expected)
- Non-identifiable photographs, if possible showing the functional issues and preferably medical illustrations if available, will be requested, to support the decision making process, but will not form the sole basis of the decision. It is not mandatory for photographs to be provided by a patient

Funding mechanism:

Individual funding request (exceptional case) approval provided they have a demonstrable functional problem: Requests should be submitted with all relevant supporting evidence, which must be provided with the request.

Policy exclusions

Treatment of burn scars and surgical revision of scars post operatively for clinical reasons are not covered by this policy.

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).