

## GROMMETS – ADULTS & CHILDREN ABOVE THE AGE OF 12

### CRITERIA BASED ACCESS

#### Grommets

Grommet insertion in adults is a procedure with limited or no evidence of effectiveness and/or only effective within a limited threshold range. NHS England's Sustainable Improvement Team uses Better Value, Better Care indicators to reduce excess surgical activity and inserting grommets is one of these procedures.

A discussion regarding the option of a hearing aid may be appropriate.

#### Criteria for grommets in adults and children above the age of 12

- The patient has Otitis Media with Effusion, causing measured conductive hearing loss

**AND**

- This has persisted for at least 6 months AND this is resistant to medical treatments AND the patient is experiencing disability due to deafness.

**OR**

- The patient has persistent Eustachian tube dysfunction AND this has persisted for at least 6 months AND this results in pain (e.g. when flying).

**There are other, more rare ENT conditions such as Ménière's Disease which fall outside of the above criteria and require exceptional funding.**

#### References

##### **Grommets**

<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Glue-ear/Pages/Treatment.aspx>

<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Glue-ear/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

##### **Criteria for grommets in adults**

<http://www.productivity.nhs.uk/>

Reference:	Policy Name	Review Date	Version
BSW-CP035	Grommets – Adults and children over 12 years	March 2021	4