

## DUPUYTRENS SURGERY

### PRIOR APPROVAL REQUIRED

Treatment is not indicated in cases where there is no contracture and in patients with mild (less than 30 degree) contractures, or one which is not progressing and does not impair function.

Funding will be available for treatment when:

- The patient has a  $\geq 30$  degree fixed flexion deformity at either the metacarpophalangeal joint or proximal interphalangeal joint or a severe thumb contracture.

**AND**

- The patient has significant functional impairment\*.

**OR**

- There has been rapid progression over a few months.

*\*Significant functional impairment is defined as:*

- *Symptoms preventing the patient fulfilling activities of daily living **or** Carrying out vital domestic or carer activities*

All treatments aim to straighten the finger(s) to restore and retain hand function for the rest of the patient's life. However none cure the condition which can recur in operated digits or in previously uninvolved areas of the hand. Recurrence is more likely in younger patients; if the original contracture was severe; or if there is a strong family history of the condition.

After surgery, the hand may be fitted with a splint to be worn at night. Hand therapy is important in recovering movement and function, especially for more extensive surgery and skin grafts.

(The British Society for Surgery of the Hand)

Radiation therapy for early Dupuytren's disease is not normally funded due to limited evidence.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/IPG368>

Reference:	Policy Name	Review Date	Version
BSW-CP015	Dupuytren's Surgery	October 2023	1