

**NASAL SURGERY
SEPTOPLASTY/SEPTORHINOPLASTY/ RHINOPLASTY**

SEPTOPLASTY - CRITERIA BASED ACCESS

Septoplasty is funded via criteria-based access as per the following criteria:

- The patient has a septal deformity that prevents access to other intranasal areas when such access is required to perform medically necessary surgical procedures.

OR

- The patient has symptomatic nasal airway obstruction significantly affecting daily activities (for example severe difficulty in sleeping or during exercise/ exertion) caused by cartilaginous or bony deviation of the septum towards the affected nostril(s)

AND

- The patient has received adequate treatment for co-existing pathologies prior to consideration of surgery. Patients presenting with symptoms of chronic rhinosinusitis should be treated as per the BSW ‘Chronic Rhinosinusitis (Adults & Children)’ policy which includes a 3-month trial of intranasal steroids and nasal saline irrigation once a clinical diagnosis of CRS has been made prior to any secondary care referral.

Manipulation of the Nasal bones following acute trauma

- Manipulation under anaesthetic within 4 weeks of a new nasal bone fracture is supported without applying for funding. There is an intention that the majority of the cases are done under local anaesthetic in the outpatient setting.
- Surgery for children following nasal bone fracture is often delayed whilst cartilage is still developing. Patients who were advised to delay treatment following fracture are not subject to the 4-week window noted above.

Details of adherence to above criteria must be included in the secondary care patients’ notes to aid audit.

Reference:	Policy Name	Review Date	Version
BSW-CP033	Nasal surgery	November 2024	V0.4 November2021

EXCEPTIONAL FUNDING REQUIRED
SEPTORHINOPLASTY/RHINOPLASTY

Nasal surgery (rhinoplasty, septorhinoplasty) solely to correct deformity and the cosmetic appearance of the nose are not normally funded. In the following cases Exceptional Funding Request approval must be applied for before surgery:

- Post-traumatic nasal injury causing continuous **bilateral** nasal airway obstruction associated with significant bony deviation of the nose which is causing functional impairment.
- Nasal deformity secondary to a cleft lip/palate or other congenital craniofacial deformity causing significant functional impairment.
- Symptomatic nasal deformity caused by collapse of the nasal bony structure secondary to vasculitis or auto-immune disease

The CCG will not normally approve funding for patients who are unhappy with the outcome of previous surgeries including immediate post-trauma corrections (whether provided by the NHS or private providers) or for snoring.

Smoking cessation is recommended for all patients considering the possibility of surgery.

Patients who are not eligible for treatment under this policy may be considered on an individual basis, if their consultant believes there are exceptional circumstances that warrant deviation from the rule of this policy. Applications are to be made via the exceptional funding route and must include details to show why alternative treatments cannot be sought and what treatment has already been tried.

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