

**Name of treatment or procedure**

Augmentation mammoplasty (breast enlargement)

**Description of treatment or procedure**

This is surgery to increase the breast size using implants. Patients are given general anaesthetic to send them to sleep for this procedure.

**Current policy**

Breast enlargement is commissioned only when:

- The patient's body mass index (BMI – a measurement that uses a person's height and weight to see if their weight is healthy) is less than 25 and stable for at least twelve months

AND

- One breast is naturally smaller than the other by at least three cup sizes as measured by a specialist

OR

- There is congenital absence, in other words a woman was born with a condition leading to her having no obvious breast tissue.
- In special circumstances reconstructive surgery may be appropriate for tubular breast abnormality (when one or both breasts are tube-shaped).
- All non-surgical options must have been explored, for example use of a padded bra.
- Non-core Procedure Interim Gender Dysphoria Protocol & Service Guidelines 2013/14.

**Proposed change(s)**

There is a proposed change in this policy to include the age criteria (21 years and over) to provide consistency with the breast reduction policy.

The statement saying that 'There is congenital absence, in other words a woman was born with a condition leading to her having no obvious breast tissue' would be removed. This means that patients who have been diagnosed with congenital absence in both breasts and the breasts are of equal size would not qualify for this procedure. However, the new policy would cover patients who have congenital absence where they have one breast three or more sizes larger than the other.

In addition, reference to Non-core Procedure Interim Gender Dysphoria Protocol & Service Guidelines 2013/14 would be removed, as these patients will be treated via NHS England, if necessary.

The proposed new policy would read:

Augmentation mammoplasty (breast enlargement surgery) will be funded if **ALL** of the following criteria are met:

- One breast is naturally smaller than the other by at least three cup sizes as measured by a specialist
- The patient's body mass index (BMI – a measurement that uses a person's height and weight to see if their weight is healthy) is less than 25 and stable for at least twelve months
- The patient is at least 21 years old.

**Reason for proposed change(s)**

There is no clinical evidence for any physical clinical benefit from breast enlargement surgery where both breasts are currently the same size.

**Impact of proposed change(s)**

Those who have been diagnosed with congenital absence in both breasts and the breasts are of equal size would no longer qualify for this procedure.

NOTE: Patients who have psychological issues due to congenital absence (where both breasts are the same size) would be given appropriate psychological treatment.

NOTE: This does not affect breast cancer patients. They will remain eligible for breast reconstruction as part of their cancer treatment under the NHS England pathway.