

Name of treatment or procedure

Male Circumcision

Description of treatment or procedure

Male circumcision is the removal of the foreskin from the human penis. In the most common procedure, the foreskin is opened, adhesions are removed, and the foreskin is separated from the glans. After that, a circumcision device may be placed and then the foreskin is cut off.

Current policy

This is not offered for social, cultural or religious reasons * NOTE: Currently, Liverpool CCG does commission this service for cultural, religious and social reasons. All other CCGs already do not commission this procedure for cultural, social or religious reasons as a result of a previous review of this policy in 2014.

Indicated for the following conditions;

- Balantia xerotica obliterans
- Traumatic foreskin injury/scarring where it cannot be salvaged
- 3 or more episodes of balanitis/balanoposthitis
- Pathological phimosis
- Irreducible paraphimosis
- Recurrent proven Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) with an abnormal urinary tract

Proposed change(s)

The criteria now makes it clear that it will not be offered for social, cultural or religious reasons for ALL CCGs (including Liverpool CCG).

Congenital abnormalities are now provided for in the revised criteria. This means that the clinical criteria has now been extended further.

The new policy will read;

Circumcision will be funded in the following medical circumstances:

- Pathological phimosis - a condition where the foreskin gets trapped under the tip of the penis
- 3 documented episodes of balanoposthitis - an uncommon condition causing hardening and inflammation of the tip of the penis
- Relative indications for circumcision or other foreskin surgery include the following:
 - Prevention of urinary tract infection in patients with an abnormal urinary tract
 - Recurrent paraphimosis
 - Trauma (e.g. zipper injury)
 - Tight foreskin causing pain on arousal/ interfering with sexual function



- Congenital abnormalities

This procedure is not offered for social, cultural or religious reasons. This is because if the patient does not meet the medical indications above non-medical circumcisions do not confer any health gain but do carry health risk.

Reason for proposed change(s)

Addition of congenital abnormalities brings the policy in line with the latest clinical guidance.

The removal of the commissioning for social, cultural or religious reasons is because if the patient does not meet the medical indications above non-medical circumcisions do not confer any health gain but do carry health risk* NOTE: this change applied to Liverpool CCG only as all other CCGs already do not commission this procedure for cultural, social or religious reasons as a result of a previous review of this policy in 2014.

Impact of proposed change(s)

For Liverpool CCG – This would impact those who might want to undergo this procedure for a cultural or religious reason, however there are private providers who are [Care Quality Commission \(CQC\)](#) inspected who could carry out this procedure.

For all other CCGs, including Liverpool CCG, the clinical criteria has been added to and so the impact would be that more patients could qualify for this procedure, where they meet the clinical criteria.