

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group
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Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which was received into this office on 19th October 2016.

You asked for information on Arthroplasty:

HIP ARTHROPLASTY QUESTIONS

As of the 18th of October 2016, for your referral for Total HIP Replacement –

NICE states in TAG 304 that THA is appropriate for end stage arthritis – BUT that prior to this, conservative management must be tried –

1. MUST PATIENTS HAVE TO GO THROUGH A STRUCTURED PHYSIO PATHWAY BEFORE REFERRAL?

YES/ NO?

2. IS THERE A CRITERIA BASED REFERRAL SYSTEM BEFORE REFERRAL?

YES/ NO?

3. IF SO, IS THERE A MINIMUM AMOUNT OF TIME THEY MUST ATTEND THE PATHWAY?

YES/ NO?

4. HOW MUCH TIME.....

5. IS THERE A BMI LIMIT UNDER WHICH PATIENTS MUST LIE BEFORE YOU REFER TO A SPECIALIST –

YES/ NO?

IF SO, WHAT IS THAT BMI LIMIT?

For questions 1 – 5: GPs are encouraged to use a hip and knee referral form, a copy of which I enclosed for your information.

6. MUST A WEIGHT LOSS PROGRAMME BE COMPLETED BEFORE FUNDING CAN BE COMMISSIONED FOR THOSE WHO FALL OUTSIDE OF THE BMI LIMIT?

YES/ **NO?**

7. DOES COMPLETION OF THE WEIGHT LOSS PROGRAMME ALLOW THE PATIENT TO BE COMMISSIONED FOR FUNDING (irrespective of SUCCESSFUL weight loss)?

YES/ NO? **Not Applicable**

8. IS THERE A MECHNAISM TO BYPASS THE BMI LIMIT/ PHYSIO PATHWAY REFERRAL FOR THE REFERRING GP/ ACCEPTING ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEON TO GAIN FUNDING IF IT IS NECESSARY TO OPERATE ON A PATIENT WHO MAY LOSE THEIR INDEPENDENCE?

YES/ NO? **Not Applicable**

9. IS EVIDENCE SMOKING A RESTRICTION TO FUNDING OF AN ARTHROPLASTY?

No

10. DOES THE PATIENT HAVE TO HAVE A SUBJECTIVE PAIN HIP SCORE (OR ALTERNATIVE eg OXFORD) BELOW A THRESHOLD BEFORE REFERRAL CAN BE MADE?

YES/ **NO**

SCORING MECHANISM..... MINIMUM SCORE.....

KNEE ARTHROPLASTY REFERRALS

As of the 18th of October 2016, for your referral for Total KNEE Replacement –

NICE states in TAG 304 that TKA is appropriate for end stage arthritis – BUT that prior to this, conservative management must be tried.

11. MUST PATIENTS HAVE TO GO THROUGH A STRUCTURED PHYSIO PATHWAY BEFORE REFERRAL?

YES/ **NO?**

12. IS THERE A CRITERIA BASED REFERRAL SYSTEM BEFORE REFERRAL?

YES/ **NO?**

IF SO, IS THERE A MINIMUM AMOUNT OF TIME THEY MUST ATTEND THE PATHWAY?

YES/ NO?

13. HOW MUCH TIME.....

14. IS THERE A BMI LIMIT UNDER WHICH PATIENTS MUST LIE BEFORE YOU REFER TO A SPECIALIST?

YES/ NO? **Not Applicable**
IF SO, WHAT IS THAT BMI LIMIT?

15. MUST A WEIGHT LOSS PROGRAMME BE COMPLETED BEFORE FUNDING CAN BE COMMISSIONED FOR THOSE WHO FALL OUTSIDE OF THE BMI LIMIT?

YES/ NO? **Not Applicable**

16. DOES COMPLETION OF THE WEIGHT LOSS PROGRAMME ALLOW THE PATIENT TO BE COMMISSIONED FOR FUNDING (irrespective of SUCCESSFUL weight loss)?

YES/ NO? **Not Applicable**

17. IS THERE A MECHNAISM TO BYPASS THE BMI LIMIT/ PHYSIO PATHWAY REFERRAL FOR THE REFERRING GP/ ACCEPTING ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEON TO GAIN FUNDING IF IT IS NECESSARY TO OPERATE ON A PATIENT WHO MAY LOSE THEIR INDEPENDENCE?

YES/ NO? **Not Applicable**

18. IS EVIDENCE SMOKING A RESTRICTION TO FUNDING OF AN ARTHROPLASTY?

No

19. DOES THE PATIENT HAVE TO HAVE A SUBJECTIVE PAIN KNEE SCORE (OR ALTERNATIVE eg OXFORD) BELOW A THRESHOLD BEFORE REFERRAL CAN BE MADE?

YES/ **NO**
SCORING MECHANISM..... MINIMUM SCORE.....

Also, a copy of the Procedures of Low Clinical Priority policy is available on NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group's (CCG) website and I have included the link below to the relevant section below for your information:

<https://www.wirralccg.nhs.uk/About%20Us/PLCP.htm>

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