

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group  
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Tel: 0151 651 0011

## 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 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

### You Asked for:

I am a London Surgical Trainee, currently working on a project to compare the commissioning policies for all CCGs, in regards to specific procedures of low clinical value.

I have been able to find many of the thresholds through the internet, but am unable to find information on a few of them in your CCG.

May I request the information for the following procedures in line with the freedom of information act so I can complete the project and ensure I represent your CCGs policies accurately.

I will be aiming to publish the project and with this aim to improve patient access to healthcare across the country.

The specific policies I would be grateful for are in regards to the following procedures:

- Inguinal Hernia Repair
- Umbilical Hernia

### Our Response:

Thank you for your enquiry. NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group have a policy in place for Procedures of Low Clinical Priority, this can be found at:

<https://www.wirralccg.nhs.uk/about-us/policies/procedures-of-low-clinical-priority/>

Section 7.2 covers restrictions in terms of hernia surgery

7.2	Surgery for Treatment of Asymptomatic Incisional and Ventral Hernias  Surgical correction of Diastasis of the Recti	Surgery: not commissioned if no symptoms, easily reducible (i.e. can be 'pushed back in') and not at significant risk of complications.  Surgical repair is not routinely commissioned.	Royal College of Surgeons (RCS), <a href="#">A systematic review on the outcomes of correction of diastasis of the recti</a> Hernia, December 2011, Volume 15, Issue 6, pages 607-614, Hickey et al.	Diastasis of the recti are unsightly but do not carry a risk of complications and surgical results can be imperfect.
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Hernia procedures including Inguinal Hernia Repair and Umbilical Hernias are carried out in line with NICE guidance.

We hope this information is useful, however if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Corporate Affairs Team (contact details at the top of this letter)