

Pathway	Pinnaplasty and Repair of Ear Lobes.					
Exclusions	Ear cosmetic surgery other than specified under pathway.					
Commissioned	<p>Surgical correction of prominent ears (pinnaplasty) will only be funded when BOTH the following criteria apply:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The child is aged 5 to 18 years at the time of referral. 2. There is very significant ear deformity or asymmetry. <p>Repair of ear lobes will only be funded when BOTH the following criteria apply:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a complete tear of the ear lobe i.e. up to the cartilage. 2. The tear has resulted from a single episode of direct trauma. 					
Not Funded	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Repair of earlobes damaged gradually through the wearing of earrings. 2. Revision pinnaplasty. 					
Rationale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policy based on East midlands commissioning policy for cosmetic procedures 2014 Version 2.0 ▪ Prominent ears may lead to teasing and significant psychosocial dysfunction in school-age children, impacting on their education and in some cases resulting in truancy. ▪ Teasing under the age of five is rare and concerns are usually only expressed by the parents. ▪ Many split earlobes follow the wearing of excessively heavy earrings, because there is insufficient tissue to support the earring which slowly “cheese-wires” through the lobule. ▪ Correction of split earlobes is not always successful and keloid scars are common. 					
Cohort	Adults and Children.					
Equality	Compliant with the Equality Act 2010.					
Status	RED as defined in the Prior Approval Scheme Policy.					
OPCS codes	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Pinnaplasty</td> <td>D03.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Repair of lobe of external ear</td> <td>D06.2</td> </tr> </table>		Pinnaplasty	D03.3	Repair of lobe of external ear	D06.2
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Repair of lobe of external ear	D06.2					

Version History	
	No material changes from previous policy.
Authorised	
	April 2019
Review	
	April 2024 Earlier if new evidence published by NICE or other authoritative body.