

<b>Pathway</b>	
	Removal of Benign Skin Lesions.
<b>Exclusions</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>∅ Meibomian cyst (chalazion) – see prior specific approval policy.</li> <li>∅ Lesions which arise from the oral mucosa.</li> <li>∅ Lesions of the anal canal and perianal skin.</li> <li>∅ Lesions of the lower genitourinary tract.</li> <li>∅ Lesions with features suggestive of dysplasia or malignancy.</li> </ul>
<b>Commissioned</b>	
	<p><b>A. Asymptomatic Lesions</b></p> <p>The removal of asymptomatic discrete skin lesions will only be funded if <b>ALL</b> the following criteria apply:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The lesion is on the face but not on the scalp or neck;</li> <li>2. The lesion is over 1cm in diameter;</li> <li>3. The patient is over the age of 5 years.</li> </ol>
	<p><b>B. Symptomatic Lesions</b></p> <p>The removal of symptomatic discrete skin lesions will be funded for <b>ANY</b> of the following indications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recurrent episodes of infection over at least a 3-month period <u>or</u> a single episode of infection requiring treatment in hospital.</li> <li>2. Recurrent minor bleeding over at least a 3-month period <u>or</u> a significant episode of bleeding requiring treatment by cautery or suturing.</li> <li>3. Persistent pain <u>or</u> significant functional impairment as defined below.</li> </ol>
<b>Not Funded</b>	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Removal of benign lesions purely for cosmetic reasons.</li> <li>2. Removal of viral warts.</li> </ol>
<b>Notes</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recurrent trauma will only be accepted as a reason for removal if it results in one of the above criteria.</li> <li>▪ Removal will be by the most appropriate method, for example surgical excision, laser or cryocautery.</li> <li>▪ Please provide photographic evidence where possible to support the application for funding.</li> <li>▪ <b>Significant functional impairment</b> means severe restriction in most of the following activities of daily living:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Personal care (dressing, grooming, washing and toileting)</li> <li>b) Functional mobility (required to perform routine activities in the home or at work)</li> <li>c) Meeting nutritional needs (preparing and eating food)</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

<b>Rationale</b>	<p><b>Evidence-Based Interventions:</b> Response to the public consultation and next steps. Published by NHS England in partnership with NHS Clinical Commissioners, the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges, NHS Improvement and the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence November 2018.</p> <p>Skin lesions which result in significant facial disfigurement may impact on a person’s psychological wellbeing and impair their social interactions.</p>
<b>Cohort</b>	Children and Adults.
<b>Equality</b>	Compliant with the Equality Act 2010.
<b>Status</b>	RED as defined in the Prior Approval Scheme Policy.
<b>OPCS codes</b>	See appendix on page 3.
<b>Version History</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Definition of significant functional impairment added.</li> <li>▪ Introduction of a 3-month period of conservative management in cases where infection or bleeding is minor.</li> <li>▪ Reason for removal in cases of recurrent trauma clarified.</li> </ul>
<b>Authorised</b>	April 2019
<b>Review</b>	<p>April 2024</p> <p>Earlier if new evidence published by NICE or other authoritative body.</p>

Appendix	
Excision of lesion of eyebrow	C10.1
Excision of lesion of eyelid NEC	C12.1
Cauterisation of lesion of eyelid	C12.2
Cryotherapy to lesion of eyelid	C12.3
Curettage of lesion of eyelid	C12.4
Wedge excision of lesion of eyelid	C12.6
Excision of lesion of external ear	D02.1
Destruction of lesion of external ear	D02.2
Excision of lesion of external nose	E09.1
Shave of skin of nose	E09.4
Destruction of lesion of external nose NEC	E09.2
Microscopically controlled excision of lesion of skin of head or neck using fresh tissue technique	S05.1
Microscopically controlled excision of lesion of skin using fresh tissue technique NEC	S05.2
Microscopically controlled excision of lesion of skin of head or neck NEC	S05.5
Other specified microscopically controlled excision of lesion of skin	S05.8
Marsupialisation of lesion of skin of head or neck	S06.1
Marsupialisation of lesion of skin NEC	S06.2
Shave excision of lesion of skin of head or neck	S06.3
Shave excision of lesion of skin NEC	S06.4
Excision of lesion of skin of head or neck NEC	S06.5
Other specified other excision of lesion of skin	S06.8
Curettage and cauterisation of lesion of skin of head or neck	S08.1
Curettage and cauterisation of lesion of skin NEC	S08.2
Curettage of lesion of skin of head or neck NEC	S08.3
Other specified curettage of lesion of skin	S08.8
Infrared photocoagulation of lesion of skin of head or neck	S09.4
Infrared photocoagulation of lesion of skin NEC	S09.5
Cauterisation of lesion of skin of head or neck NEC	S10.1
Cryotherapy to lesion of skin of head or neck	S10.2
Electrodessication of lesion of skin of head or neck	S10.5
Cauterisation of lesion of skin NEC	S11.1
Cryotherapy to lesion of skin NEC	S11.2
Electrodessication of lesion of skin NEC	S11.5