

Pathway	
	Blepharoplasty and Brow Lift
Commissioned	
	<p>Blepharoplasty and Brow Lift will only be funded for the following indications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Functional visual impairment due to excess brow tissue and/or ptosis of the upper eyelid. 2. To repair defects predisposing to corneal or conjunctival irritation. 3. As part of a surgical procedure to correct an entropion or ectropion. 4. Management of periorbital sequelae of thyroid disease or facial nerve palsy. 5. Management of prosthesis problems in an anophthalmia socket. 6. Surgical treatment of painful blepharospasm not responding to conservative treatment. 7. Required in order to remove a lesion of the eyelid skin or lid margin. 8. Reconstruction following trauma or surgery. 9. Part of the management of a specific congenital abnormality to improve function. 10. Management of an iatrogenic condition arising from NHS treatment, but excluding recognized side effects or complications of a procedure which was undertaken with informed consent.
Not Funded	
	Surgery purely for cosmetic reasons where function is not affected.
Notes	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A visual field assessment should be arranged by the GP or consultant as supporting evidence. ▪ Where appropriate, photographs will be arranged by the Prior Approval Team.
Rationale	
	<p>Policy based on <i>East midlands commissioning policy for cosmetic procedures 2014 Version 2.0</i></p> <p>Many people acquire excess skin in the upper and lower eyelids as part of the normal ageing process. When there is no interference with vision or the function of the eyelid apparatus, these changes are considered cosmetic. To justify surgical correction on the NHS, evidence of functional impairment must be demonstrated, for example:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Impairment of visual fields in the relaxed, non-compensated state affecting ability to meet DVLA standards. b) Clinical observation of persistently poor eyelid function causing headache and/or evidence of secondary compensation through elevation of the brow.
Cohort	
	Children and Adults.
Equality	
	Compliant with the Equality Act 2010.
Status	
	RED as defined in the Prior Approval Scheme Policy.

**Blepharoplasty
and Brow Lift
Prior Approval Policy**

OPCS codes	
Blepharoplasty of both eyelids	C13.1
Blepharoplasty of upper eyelid	C13.2
Blepharoplasty of lower eyelid	C13.3
Correction of ptosis of eyelid using levator muscle technique	C18.1
Correction of ptosis of eyelid using frontalis muscle technique	C18.2
Correction of ptosis of eyelid using sling of fascia	C18.3
Correction of ptosis of eyelid using superior rectus muscle technique	C18.4
Tarsomullerectomy	C18.5
Correction of ptosis of eyelid using aponeurosis technique	C18.6
Browlift NEC	S01.4
Direct browlift	S01.5
Internal browlift	S01.6
Version History	
No material changes from previous version.	
Authorised	
April 2019	
Review	
April 2024 Earlier if new evidence published by NICE or other authoritative body.	