

Name of treatment or procedure

Rhyidectomy (face and brow lift)

Description of treatment or procedure

This is cosmetic surgery to lift up and pull back the skin to make the face tighter and smoother.

Current policy

This procedure is not available under the NHS on cosmetic grounds.

It is routinely commissioned in the following circumstances:

- **Congenital facial abnormalities**
- **Facial palsy** (paralysis)
- **Specific conditions affecting the facial skin, for example cutis laxa, pseudoxanthoma elasticum, neurofibromatosis**
- Damage caused by an accident
- **Deformity following surgery.**

Non-core procedure Interim Gender Dysphoria Protocol & Service Guidelines 2013/14:

Where the provision of “non-core” surgeries is appropriate, the Gender Identity Clinic should apply for treatment funding through the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG); the GIC should work in partnership with the CCG.

Proposed change(s)

There are some differences between the current and the proposed criteria. The criteria would be laid out more clearly and the following criteria would be removed:

- Damage caused by an accident
- Deformity following surgery.

In addition, reference to Non-core procedure Interim Gender Dysphoria Protocol & Service Guidelines 2013/14 has been removed for additional clarity.

The proposed policy would read:

Rhyidectomy (face and brow lift) is available for clinical reasons only and not cosmetic reasons. The CCG will fund this treatment in the circumstances below.

- Recognised diagnosis of congenital (present from birth) facial abnormalities
- Facial palsy (paralysis)
- As part of the treatment of specific conditions affecting the facial skin, for example cutis laxa, pseudoxanthoma elasticum, neurofibromatosis

Reason for proposed change(s)

To provide a clearer explanation of what is provided for patients as well as ensuring this procedure is available for clinical reasons only and not cosmetic reasons.

Reference to gender dysphoria would be removed as these patients will be treated via NHS England, if necessary.

Impact of proposed change(s)

This would impact patients who have facial damage caused by an accident and would like additional surgery at a later stage to their initial treatment of trauma, for cosmetic reasons.