

Buckinghamshire Priorities Committee
Policy Statement: Cosmetic breast surgery
Policy No: 3a

PLEASE NOTE: This policy does not apply to breast reconstruction following surgery for breast cancer

Date of Issue: August 2009

The Buckinghamshire Priorities Committee has reviewed the evidence for surgery to alter breast size, The following general principles were adopted:

- *Health care aims to improve health status*
- *Need for a cosmetic procedure implies:*
 1. *That's there is an impairment of health status resulting from the patient's appearance*
 2. *"improvement" of appearance is likely to improve the patient's health status*
 3. *The cosmetic procedure is the most appropriate mechanism for achieving "improvement"*

*A list of **examples** of aesthetic interventions that are not commissioned is provided below. It should be noted, however, that this list is **not exhaustive**.*

If clinicians consider that their patient's case for the funding of aesthetic surgery is exceptional, then an application should be submitted in like with the PCT policy.

However, applicant should be made aware that:

- *Aesthetic surgery procedures will normally only be considered in patients with a BMI in the range 18 to 27, unless weight is not a relevant factor.*
- *Previous NHS funded breast surgery does not guarantee further NHS surgery*

Examples of aesthetic surgery not commissioned by Buckinghamshire PCT

Breast surgery

1. Breast lift (mastopexy)
2. Correction of inverted nipple
3. Removal of supernumerary nipple (polymastia)
4. Prosthesis for breast – except reconstruction following surgery for non-aesthetic reasons
5. Removal of breast prosthesis, except as indicated by (4) above
6. Revision of breast prosthesis, except as indicated by (4) above