

Excision of skin following massive weight loss

For this procedure it has been judged that the intervention is of sufficient value in terms of benefit and outcome when the patient meets the criteria, as outlined below. **Prior approval is required.**

Prior approval is requested via the referring clinician from the Commissioning Support Unit at southcsu.ifrs@nhs.net. All proforma and resources can be found at the CSU's website at www.fundingrequests.cscsu.nhs.uk/ (then click 'Hampshire').

The specialties listed below are a guide only and patients may be treated under different treatment function codes	Procedure	Guidance notes	The exclusion does not apply in the following circumstances and patients may be treated without prior approval
<p>General/ Plastic surgery</p>	<p>Excision of skin following massive weight loss (Removal of excess skin including abdominoplasty, mammoplasty and removal of skin folds from the inner thighs following significant weight loss)</p> <p>Purely cosmetic procedures, such as removal of surplus skin from the arms, will not be funded</p>	<p>Maybe considered if all the following criteria is met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The patient's starting BMI before weight loss must have been no less than 45kg/m² (the threshold for access to bariatric surgery in HIOW) • The patient's BMI must be less than 30kg/m². (In some patients a BMI of less than 30kg/m² may not be achievable, due the weight of excess skin. In these circumstances an exception to the policy may be considered, provided that the patient has lost at least 50% of their excess weight, and their clinician confirms that no further reduction in BMI will be possible without removal of excess skin) • The patient's weight must have been stable for a minimum of 2 years • There must be documented evidence of clinical pathology or disability due to the skin fold in question (e.g. recurrent infection, intertrigo, cellulites, restricted mobility, or inability to undertake physical exercise to maintain cardiovascular fitness). 	