

Surgical removal of skin lesions – Portsmouth, Fareham & Gosport, South East Hants CCGs

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
Dermatology/ general surgery	Surgical removal of skin lesions.	<p>Referrals to secondary care for skin lesions should only be made where there is suspicion of malignancy. All other referrals for benign lesions including lipomas are not routinely funded.</p> <p>Removal should not be offered except via prior approval where there is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obstruction of an orifice or vision • Functional limitation to movement or activity • Moderate to large facial lesions causing disfigurement <p>Significant symptoms such as recurrent bleeding, infection or inflammation; marked itching or severe pain failing to respond to medical or conservative management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located in an area of recurrent trauma <p>Applications in cases which are asymptomatic but considered severely disfiguring may be made with appropriate photography to demonstrate the level of disfigurement.</p> <p>Please include a summary of how the patients daily function is affected against the criteria listed above.</p>	Where there is a valid suspicion of malignancy, e.g. the patient is referred using a two-week wait referral form for suspected cancer, or the patient's consultant upgrades the referral to reflect the suspected cancer