

Procedure that requires prior approval

Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, West Essex and Milton Keynes Priorities Forum Statement

Number	97
Subject	Tubal Surgery for Infertility
Date of decision	September 2018
Date of review	September 2021

GUIDANCE

The Priorities Forum has considered the evidence for clinical and cost effectiveness of tubal surgery for infertility and recommends that for women with mild tubal damage, tubal surgery can be considered to reduce infertility.

This is in line with current NICE recommendations regarding the assessment and treatment of fertility problems¹ which state:

1.6.1.1 For women with mild tubal disease, tubal surgery may be more effective than no treatment. In centres where appropriate expertise is available it may be considered as a treatment option.

1.6.2.1 For women with proximal tubal obstruction, selective salpingography plus tubal catheterisation, or hysteroscopic tubal cannulation, may be treatment options because these treatments improve the chance of pregnancy.

For women with moderate or severe tubal damage, tubal surgery solely for the purpose of treating infertility is not recommended, although tubal surgery itself may be part of the management plan for the condition causing the tubal damage.

This forum statement is not expected to result in a change in current clinical practice within the areas which the Priorities Forum covers where the NICE guidelines are already being followed.

References:

1. NICE CG156 (2013) Fertility problems: assessment and treatment
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/CG156>

OPCS codes

Q312- drainage of fallopian tube

Q319- Unspecified incision of fallopian tube

Q341- Open freeing of adhesions of fallopian tube

Q371- Endoscopic removal of clip from fallopian tube

Q381- Endoscopic freeing of adhesions of fallopian tube

Q388- Other specified other therapeutic endoscopic operations of fallopian tube

Q415-Operations to ensure patency of fallopian tube NEC

Q417-Aspiration of fallopian tube

Q418- Other specified operations on fallopian tube

**Human Rights and Equalities Legislation has been considered in the
development of this guidance**