

Excluded: Procedure not routinely funded

Thames Valley Priorities Committee Commissioning Policy Statement

Policy No. TVPC85

Corticosteroid injections for pre patellar (in the front of the kneecap) and olecranon (elbow) bursitis

Recommendation made by the Priorities Committee:

November 2018

Date of issue:

February 2019

In addition to the Thames Valley Priorities Committee statement below, the following requirement also needs to be met for all patients of Berkshire West CCG. From January 2020, all Berkshire West patients with a knee related condition need to be seen by the Berkshire West Triage service prior to referral to secondary care and therefore any referrals directly from GPs for Berkshire West patients should be rejected by secondary care.

Bursitis occurs when the bursa (a fluid-filled sac or sac-like cavity countering friction at a joint) becomes inflamed, causing increased fluid production and swelling of the bursal sac. Bursitis can be categorised into:

- Aseptic or non-septic bursitis (sterile inflammation of the bursa)
- Septic bursitis (infection of the bursal sac with micro-organisms)

Thames Valley Priorities Committee has considered the evidence for the clinical and cost effectiveness of corticosteroid injections in patients with pre patellar and olecranon bursitis.

Due to a lack of high quality evidence, the difficulty in distinguishing between septic and non-septic bursitis and the risk of conversion from non-septic to septic bursitis corticosteroid injections for these indications **are not normally funded**.

NOTES:

- Potentially exceptional circumstances may be considered by a patient's CCG where there is evidence of significant health status impairment (e.g. inability to perform activities of daily living) and there is evidence that the intervention sought would improve the individual's health status.
- This policy will be reviewed in the light of new evidence or new national guidance, e.g., from NICE.
- Thames Valley clinical policies can be viewed at <http://www.fundingrequests.ccsu.nhs.uk/>