

## General Commissioning Policy

<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Hip replacement – referral to secondary care</b>
<b>For the treatment of</b>	<b>Hip arthritis</b>
<b>Background</b>	<p>NHS Scarborough and Ryedale CCG (SRCCG) commissions' healthcare on behalf of its local population across primary, secondary and tertiary care sectors. Commissioning policy including clinical referral pathways and thresholds have been developed and defined using appropriate NICE guidance and other peer reviewed evidence and are summarised here in order to guide and inform referrers.</p> <p>This policy defines the SRCCG commissioning position for hip replacement – referral to secondary care.</p>
<b>Commissioning position</b>	<p>NHS Scarborough and Ryedale CCG do not routinely commission referral to secondary care for hip replacement. The threshold criteria also includes restrictions for patients who have greater intra and perioperative surgical risks because of obesity and/or smoking. Referral can be made if the patient meets the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experiencing moderate to severe persistent pain not adequately relieved by an extended course of non-surgical management. Pain is at a level at which it interferes with activities of daily living i.e. washing, dressing, lifestyle and sleep <b>AND</b></li> <li>• Is troubled by clinically significant functional limitation resulting in diminished quality of life <b>AND</b></li> <li>• The patient is fit for surgery with a BMI &lt;30. For patients with a BMI ≥ 30 they should be given appropriate support and advice to address lifestyle factors that would improve their fitness for surgery. This is for a 6 month period of health optimisation and may include a referral to Tier 2 weight management (click <a href="#">here</a>) or other lifestyle change programmes. <b>AND</b></li> <li>• The patient is a non-smoker <b>AND</b></li> <li>• A simple x-ray to confirm diagnosis has been carried out within the past 6 months <b>AND</b></li> </ul> <p>The GP referral letter needs to contain evidence that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The recommended hierarchy of management within NICE Clinical Guideline CG177 Care and Management in</li> </ul>

<b>Approved:</b> Business Committee	<b>Date approved:</b>
<b>Date published:</b> November 2016	NHS Scarborough & Ryedale Clinical Commissioning Group

	<p>Osteoarthritis has been followed (or reasons why a treatment is not appropriate); non-pharmacological treatments first, then drugs and then, if necessary, surgery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A confirmation that patients have been made aware of the of the options available as an alternative to surgery and the risks associated with surgery</li> <li>• Patients' fitness for surgery has been properly assessed and this is evidenced <b>AND</b></li> <li>• Oxford hip pain scoring has taken place and the score indicates severe symptoms e.g. 24 or less</li> </ul> <p>Patients who do not fulfil these criteria will not routinely be able to access hip arthroplasty unless</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surgery is considered urgent</li> <li>• Surgery is related to trauma</li> <li>• The patient is considered clinically exceptional to the CCGs commissioning position</li> </ul> <p>All referrals require prior approval through the NHS Scarborough and Ryedale CCG Individual Funding Request Panel (IFR) process, using the hip and knee arthroplasty request form.</p>
--	--

<b>Summary of evidence / rationale</b>	<p>Around 450 patients per 100,000 population will present to primary care with hip pain each year. Of these, 25% will improve within three months and 35% at twelve months; this improvement is sustained<sup>2</sup>.</p> <p>Osteoarthritis may not be progressive and most patients will not need surgery, with their symptoms adequately controlled by non-surgical measures. Symptoms progress in 15% of patients within 3 years and 28% within 6 years<sup>2</sup>.</p> <p>Scoring tools have to be used in conjunction with other clinical information. There is a surgical view that the current hip scoring tools are not appropriate for use in prioritisation or deciding on referral thresholds<sup>2</sup>.</p> <p>Total Hip Replacement (THR) is cost effective, returning 90% of patients to their previous job and enabling the elderly to keep independent. The National Tariff for THR is cheaper than long-term conservative treatment for osteoarthritis of the hip<sup>2</sup>.</p> <p>Factors influencing referral to secondary care<sup>1,2</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Referral should be independent of the radiographic grade of arthritis</li> <li>• Refer patients before there is prolonged and established functional limitation and severe pain</li> <li>• Age, gender, smoking, obesity and co-morbidity should not</li> </ul>
--	---

<b>Approved:</b> Business Committee	<b>Date approved:</b>
<b>Date published:</b> November 2016	NHS Scarborough & Ryedale Clinical Commissioning Group

	<p>be barriers to referral (but note commissioning position above)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that patients with significant co-morbidities (systemic or local) have appropriate investigations and treatment to optimise their condition before referral</li> </ul> <p>Referral to secondary care is advised by the Royal College of Surgeons if<sup>2</sup>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Persistent pain and disability has not responded to up to 12 weeks of evidence based non-surgical treatments, to include any manual therapy (including physiotherapy) received in primary care<sup>2</sup></li> </ul> <p>The criteria for the referral to secondary care for hip surgery refer to the recommendations in the Clinical NICE guidelines CG177 Care and Management in Osteoarthritis in Adults</p>
<b>Date</b>	November 2016
<b>Next Review Date</b>	2019
<b>Contact for this policy</b>	CCG Service Improvement Team <a href="mailto:Scrccg.enquiries@nhs.net">Scrccg.enquiries@nhs.net</a>

#### References:

1. Care and Management of Osteoarthritis NICE Clinical Guidelines CG177  
<http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/CG177/chapter/1-Recommendations#referral-for-consideration-of-joint-surgery>
2. Royal College of Surgeons Commissioning Guide: Painful osteoarthritis of the hip  
November 2013  
<http://www.rcseng.ac.uk/healthcare-bodies/docs/commissioning-guides-boa/painful-hip-commissioning-guide>

<b>Approved:</b> Business Committee	<b>Date approved:</b>
<b>Date published:</b> November 2016	NHS Scarborough & Ryedale Clinical Commissioning Group