Ref No: DGS 208
22 February 2018

Dear

Freedom of Information Request

Further to your request for information dated 8 February 2018 re Oculoplastic Surgery the information is

- **Are they routinely funded?**
  
  Yes, if they are not on the Referral and Treatment Criteria (RaTC).

- **If not routinely funded, how is this service accessed (eg criterion based access, individual funding request, other)**

  The below Oculoplastics need to meet the RaTC criteria

  **Chalazia – RaTC**

  Excision of chalazia are not routinely funded, except where all the following criteria are met

  - The Chalazion has been present continuously for more than 6 months, and
  - Conservative treatment has failed, and
  - The Chalazion is affecting vision or it is regularly infected (eg two times within a six month time-frame) and in need of medical treatment for infection.

  Children aged under 10 years are excluded from the above and should be referred and treated as appropriate due to the risk of amblyopia. If
the Chalazion has atypical features or recurs in the same location, biopsy to rule out malignancy. In common with all types of lesions, the CCGs will fund removal where malignancy is suspected.

o **Ptosis** (and dermatochalasis) – RaTC

Surgical repair of ptosis or dermatochalasis is not routinely funded except when both of the following criteria are met:

- Documented complaints of interference with vision or visual field-related activities such as difficulty reading or driving due to upper eyelid skin drooping or eyelid position
- Documented evidence of encroachment of the central 20 degrees of visual field.

For cases where combined procedures are requested, the individual must meet the criteria for each procedure.

Children aged under 10 years are excluded from the above and should be referred and treated as appropriate due to the risk of amblyopia

**Xanthelasma** – RaTC

Removal of xanthelasma is not routinely funded. Where appropriate, follow policy on ptosis.

**If criterion based access, what are these criteria?**

Please see question above

**Were any ophthalmologists/optometrists consulted when creating the policy for the procedure? If so, please provide us with their name and role.**

Please contact Sara Latham, Administrator, HPSU, NEL Commissioning Support Unit – sarlatham@nhs.net

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