

BODY CONTOURING PROCEDURES

EXCEPTIONAL FUNDING REQUIRED

Body contouring procedures are cosmetic and will not normally be funded.

This is not an exhaustive list of body contouring procedures but includes the most common.

Liposuction - also known as liposculpture or suction-assisted lipectomy is a treatment to remove body fat. Conducted for aesthetic reasons on areas of the body where deposits of fat tend to collect, such as the buttocks, hips, thighs, and abdomen. Other popular areas for liposuction are under the chin, neck, upper arms, breasts, knees, calves, or ankles. Liposuction simply to correct the distribution of fat is not normally supported or funded by the ICB.

Brachioplasty/Upper Arm Lift - Brachioplasty, commonly called an arm lift, is a surgical procedure to reshape and provide improved contour to the upper arms and connecting area of chest wall. This procedure is not normally supported or funded by the ICB.

Buttock Lift - A buttock lift (also known as belt lipectomy) improves and/or removes excess, sagging buttock and thigh skin that has developed because of weight loss, aging and gravity, or genetics. By raising and tightening the skin over the buttocks, a buttock lift makes the buttocks appear less saggy, dimpled, or wrinkled. This procedure is not normally supported or funded by the ICB.

Calf Implants - Calf implants are made of solid silicone rubber and inserted into the tops of the calves to increase the size and shape of the lower leg. They are useful for giving the calf a larger, more defined look as well as correcting asymmetrical legs. It is also known as calf augmentation surgery. This procedure is not normally supported or funded by the ICB. **Neck Lift** - A neck lift is a form of cosmetic surgery which can reshape the skin around the neck and jaw, reducing the appearance of sagging and other visible signs of ageing. This procedure is not normally supported or funded by the ICB.

Thigh Lift - A thigh lift is a surgical procedure to remove skin and fat from the thighs to tighten the skin and improve the contour of the legs. This procedure is not normally supported or funded by the ICB. Please see separate policies for Aesthetic and Abdominoplasty surgery.

The ICB does not fund cosmetic procedures solely to improve appearance in the absence of disease, significant congenital deformity, or significant functional impairment.

If a clinician wishes to refer the patient to secondary care, then funding must be authorised by the ICB via the Individual Funding Request route.

Psychological distress alone will not normally be accepted as a reason to fund surgery.

Related policies: Aesthetic; Abdominoplasty.