

**POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE COMMISSIONING OF  
APPROPRIATE, EFFECTIVE AND PRIORITY HEALTHCARE**

**POLICY NUMBER 23**

**Policy for Commissioning Tattoo Removal**

Policy/Procedure Number	F&WCCG/COMM/23
Date Adopted	26.03.2013
Review Date	May 2015

## NHS FYLDE & WYRE CCG

### Policies for the Commissioning of Health and Healthcare

#### Policy for Commissioning Tattoo Removal

##### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This document is part of a suite of policies adopted by the Clinical Commissioning Group to drive its commissioning of healthcare. Each policy in that suite is a separate public document in its own right, but will be applied with reference to other policies in that suite.
- 1.2 This policy relates to the commissioning of tattoo removal.

##### 2. Definition

- 2.1 Tattoo removal has the intended outcome of improving the cosmetic appearance of the body.

##### 3 Appropriate Healthcare

- 3.1 The Clinical Commissioning Group considers that tattoo removal is not an appropriate service to be commissioned by the Clinical Commissioning Group. This is because a tattoo is not a medical condition (see principles of health and healthcare commissioning).

##### 4. Effective Healthcare

- 4.1 As this is not considered an appropriate intervention to be commissioned by the Clinical Commissioning Group, it is unnecessary to consider effectiveness.

##### 5 Cost Effective Healthcare

- 5.1 As this is not considered an appropriate intervention to be commissioned by the Clinical Commissioning Group, it is unnecessary to consider cost effectiveness.

##### 6. Ethical Healthcare

- 6.1 As this is not considered an appropriate intervention to be commissioned by the Clinical Commissioning Group, it is unnecessary to consider the criterion of ethical delivery.

##### 7. Policy

- 7.1 The Clinical Commissioning Group will not commission procedures for the removal of tattoos.

##### 8. Exceptions

- 8.1 The Clinical Commissioning Group will consider exceptions to this policy. This policy is based on criteria of appropriateness, effectiveness, cost effectiveness and ethical issues. A successful request to be regarded as an exception is likely to be based on evidence that the patient differs from the usual group of patients to which the policy applies, and this difference substantially changes the application of those criteria for this patient. Requests for funding for the removal of tattoos under any other

*Commissioning Policies – Policy Number 30 – Policy for Commissioning Tattoo Removal*

*Do you have the up-to-date version? See the Intranet for the latest version*

circumstances must be submitted to the Clinical Commissioning Group's Individual Funding Request Panel. (See Clinical Commissioning Group's Individual Funding Request Policy).

**9. Force**

- 9.1 This policy remains in force for a period of four years from the date of its adoption, or until it is superseded by a revised policy, whichever is sooner

Mike Leaf  
Acting Director of Public Health  
Public Health Directorate  
25 May 2011