

GLoucestershire PRIMARY CARE TRUSTS

INTERVENTIONS NOT NORMALLY FUNDED

1. BACKGROUND

As part of the NHS, the Gloucestershire Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) have a responsibility to seek the greatest health advantage possible for local populations using the limited resources allocated to them. It is, therefore, necessary to target resources to areas of greatest health gain for the population.

The following list represents interventions that will not normally be funded by the Gloucestershire PCTs. This list brings together information from a variety of sources, including:

- Health Technology Evaluation Research Reviews - Wessex Regional Development and Evaluation Committee
- EL(94)74 Improving the Effectiveness of the NHS
- EL(95)105 Improving the Effectiveness of Clinical Services
- EL(97)9 National Specialist Commissioning Advisory Group
- Promoting Clinical Effectiveness - NHSE
- Effective Health Care Bulletins
- House of Commons Health Committee Report on Priority Setting in the NHS
- Recommendations of the Safety and Efficacy Register of New and Interventional Procedures of the Medical Royal Colleges (SERNIP)
- Recommendations of Gloucestershire Medicines Management Committee
- Previous decisions taken by Gloucestershire Health Authority and successor organisations
- National Institute of Clinical Effectiveness (NICE)

The list has 4 categories identifying interventions which are:

- unnecessary
- not proven to be effective
- purchased centrally from specialist providers
- of low priority

In each case exceptions will be made where there are over-riding clinical reasons.

The list is offered as advice to the NHS organisations within Gloucestershire.

2. INTERVENTIONS WHICH ARE UNNECESSARY

- **Cholesterol:** Population based cholesterol screening
- **D & C:** Diagnostic dilatation and curettage (D&C) in women under the age of 40 with menorrhagia
- **Growth hormone** (somatropin) for growth hormone deficient adults unless given in accordance with locally agreed guidelines for patient selection
- **Myringotomy** outside an agreed protocol for the treatment of glue ear in children
- **Wisdom teeth:** The removal of symptomless wisdom teeth in the absence of associated pathology
- All procedures allocated to category D by SERNIP (see Annex 1)

3. UNPROVEN INTERVENTIONS

- **Acetylcholinesterase inhibitors** for dementias, except for Alzheimer's disease when prescribed in accordance with NICE guidance
- **Autologous cartilage transplantation** for full thickness cartilage defects in knee joints
- **Bezafibrate** for lower extremity arterial disease
- **Carotid artery surgery** for asymptomatic patients with carotid artery disease
- **Inpatient or other residential treatment programmes for chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS) or myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME)**
- **Complementary therapy** with the exception of homeopathy, acupuncture for pain relief and osteopathy or chiropractic for spine manipulation when provided within an NHS setting or identified preferred provider by a practitioner who is a member of a recognised regulatory body, working to a job description with clear lines of responsibility and personal medical indemnity, where this is not provided by the employer
- **Computer Based Cognitive Behavioural Therapy**
- **Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT)** – other than in line with NICE guidance (no:59)
- **EMDR** - eye movement desensitisation and reprocessing for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
- **Hip Resurfacing Techniques** (other than Metal on Metal Hip Resurfacing Arthroplasty, in line with the published NICE guidance)
- **Hyperbaric oxygen** therapy for anything other than decompression sickness or carbon monoxide poisoning
- **Interleukin 2** for renal cell cancer

- **Laparoscopic surgery** for colorectal cancer
- **Laser disc surgery** and ligament procedures for low backpain
- **Laser trabeculoplasty** for glaucoma
- **Lithotripsy** for gall stones or small asymptomatic renal calculi
- **Liquid based cytology** for cervical screening except when used as part of a national pilot
- **Lung volume reduction** surgery in emphysema
- **Microwave or laser therapy** for benign prostatic hyperplasia
- **PET** scanning for epilepsy and lung cancer
- **Population screening:**
 - **Breast cancer** screening and **cervical cancer** screening outside the nationally agreed categories
 - **Colorectal cancer** screening by faecal occult blood or once only sigmoidoscopy.
 - **Fragile X** screening
 - **Nuchal translucency**, using ultrasound measurement for Down's syndrome
 - **Osteoporosis:** Population based bone screening
 - **Ovarian cancer** screening
 - **Prostate cancer** : Prostatic specific antigen screening
- **Radial keratotomy**
- **Radiotherapy** for age-related macular degeneration of the eye
- **Subthalamic nucleotomy** - neurosurgery for Parkinson's disease
- **Transmyocardial revascularisation** for intractable angina
- **Vagal nerve stimulation** except for intractable partial seizures in adults
- All **procedures** previously allocated to **category C by SERNIP** and now transferred to NICE (see Annex 1)
- All **procedures** which are **being appraised by NICE** (see Annex 2), except for those where there is already an agreed local policy on their use

Most of these interventions are subject to major assessment studies of effectiveness and cost effectiveness. Many attract research funding to cover the entire costs of the trial. Where interventions are being offered as part of independent or partially funded trials, funds will only be made available by the Gloucestershire Primary Care Trusts on production of a trial protocol for approval. Such approval may require consideration by the Local Research and Ethics Committee.

As more research evidence becomes available, interventions in this category will be picked up through contractual agreements or identified as unnecessary.

4. INTERVENTIONS WHICH ARE PURCHASED CENTRALLY

The National Specialist Commissioning Advisory Group (NSCAG) advises the Secretary of State on purchasing arrangements for highly specialised services. The Secretary of State has agreed that the following services should be funded centrally and purchased from designated providers:

Services Designated and Funded

- **Amyloidosis**
- **Bladder Exstrophy** service for Children
- **Choriocarcinoma**
- **Craniofacial** Surgery
- **Endoprosthetic** Replacement for Primary Bone Tumours
- **Epidermolysis Bullosa** service for Children
- **Extra Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO)** for Adults
- **Extra Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO)** for neonates and infants
- **Gaucher's Disease** diagnostic and management advices
- **Heart and Lung Transplantation** service for Adults and Children
- **Liver Transplantation** for Adults and Children
- **Liver Disease** service for Children
- **Mental Health** Services for Deaf Children and Adolescents (in patient)
- **Ocular Oncology** services
- **Pseudomyxoma Peritonei**
- **Pulmonary Thromboendarectomy**
- **Rare Neuromuscular Disease**
- **Reconstructive Surgery in Adolescents** for Congenital Malformation of the Female Genital Tract
- **Retinoblastoma** service
- **Secure Forensic Mental Health** service for Adolescents
- **Severe Combined Immunodeficiency** and Related Disorders (SCIDS)
- **Sever Intestinal Failure** service
- **Small Bowel Transplantation** service for Children

Services Designated But Not Funded

- **Deep Brain Stimulation** for Parkinson's Disease
- **Epidermolysis Bullosa** service for Adults
- **Ocular Pathology** service
- **Pulmonary Hypertension** service

Services Being Evaluated

- **Anorectal Reconstruction** service
- **Personality Disorder** service

- **Small Bowel Transplantation** service for Adults
- **Stem Cell Transplants** for Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis and Related Connective Tissue Disorders
- **Ventricular** assist devices for Adults and Children

5. INTERVENTIONS WHICH ARE OF LOW PRIORITY

- **Abdominal Surgery** to Aid Weight Reduction, including gastroplasty (except in line with NICE guidance No. 46)
- **Assisted conception techniques**
- **Beta interferon** for Multiple Sclerosis except for relapsing/remitting MS when prescribed in accordance with the agreed criteria
- Non-medical **circumcision**
- **Cosmetic Procedures** – All procedures which are typically carried out for predominantly cosmetic reasons including breast reduction, breast augmentation, liposuction, abdominoplasty, apronectomy. Where it is felt that a patient might require such a procedure in response to other clinical indications, specific prior approval of exceptional circumstances should be sought from the PCT concerned.
- **Drug treatments for impotence** in males except men who have:
 - radical pelvic surgery
 - prostatectomy
 - treatment for prostate cancer
 - treatment for renal failure
 - spinal cord and severe pelvic injury
 - diabetes
 - multiple sclerosis
 - single gene neurological disease
 - poliomyelitis
 - spina bifida
 - Parkinson's disease
 - were receiving treatment for impotence on 14 September 1998
 - severe distress on account of their impotence
- **Laser treatment** of all **skin lesions** except vascular lesions on the face
- **Orthodontic treatments** outside categories 4 and 5 on the index of treatment need
- **Osseointegrated implants** – other than as part of reconstructive surgery for trauma and cancer patients
- **Recombinant factor VIII** for individuals aged 16 and over who have antibodies to hepatitis C or HIV
- **Reversal** of male and female **sterilisation**
- **Tattoo** removal
- **Zanamivir** in the management and treatment of influenza of otherwise healthy adults: prescribing is recommended for at-risk adults in accordance with NICE Guidance

6. REVIEW

This list will be reviewed regularly and will be amended as appropriate.

**NICE LIST OF INTERVENTIONAL PROCEDURES
(some of these procedures formed part of the former SERNIP
programme)**

Anorectal goniometry
Artificial anal sphincter
Artificial joints for osteoarthritis of the hand
Balloon angioplasty of pulmonary vein stenosis
Balloon dilation of pulmonary valve stenosis
Balloon kyphoplasty for vertebral compression fractures
Balloon or blade atrial septostomy
Balloon thermal endometrial ablation (using data from Cavaterm and Gynaecare as specified by SERNIP)
Balloon valvuloplasty for aortic valve stenosis
Bone-anchored cystourethropexy (using data from In-Tac and Vesica as specified by SERNIP)
Circular stapled haemorrhoidectomy
Coblation tonsillectomy
Coil embolisation of intracranial aneurysms
Coil embolisation of intracranial arteriovenous malformations
CT guided thermocoagulation of osteoid osteoma
Customised titanium implants in orofacial reconstruction
Deep brain stimulation for Parkinson's disease
Dynamic cardiac monitoring
Electropalatography
Endoscopic axillary lymph node retrieval
Endoscopic dacryocystorhinostomy
Endoscopic epidural procedures
Endoscopic laser foraminoplasty
Endoscopic laser thoracic discectomy
Endoscopic stapling of pharyngeal pouch
Endoscopic transsphenoidal pituitary adenoma resection
Endovascular closure of patent arterial duct
Endovenous laser treatment of varicose veins
Extracorporeal albumin dialysis for acute on chronic liver failure
Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation in adults
Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation in children aged over one month
Extracorporeal shockwave lithotripsy for calcific tendonitis
Extracorporeal shockwave therapy for Peyronie's disease
Fallopscopy with coaxial catheter
Free fluid thermal endometrial ablation (using data from Hydrotherm as specified by SERNIP)

High flow interposition extracranial to intracranial bypass
Holmium laser prostatectomy
Hysteroscopic laser myomectomy
Interstitial laser therapy for breast cancer
Intradiscal electrothermal therapy
Laparo-endogastric surgery
Laparoscopic cystectomy (of the urinary bladder)
Laparoscopic excision of pelvic lymph nodes group
Laparoscopic helium plasma coagulation of endometriosis (using data from HELICA as specified by SERNIP)
Laparoscopic laser myomectomy
Laparoscopic live donor nephrectomy
Laparoscopic pyeloplasty
Laparoscopic radical prostatectomy
Laser assisted serial tonsillectomy
Laser discectomy
Laser or radiofrequency valvotomy for pulmonary atresia
Laser sheath removal of pacing leads
Lumbar subcutaneous shunt
Macular translocation for age-related macular degeneration
Magnetic resonance image-guided percutaneous laser ablation of uterine fibroids
Microwave endometrial ablation
Minimally invasive placement of pectus bar
Needle fasciotomy for Dupuytren's contracture
Non-surgical ablation of septum
Off-pump coronary artery bypass
Pancreatic islet cell transplantation
Partial left ventriculectomy
Percutaneous endoscopic sigmoid colostomy
Percutaneous intradiscal thermocoagulation for lower back pain
Percutaneous pancreatic necrosectomy
Percutaneous vertebroplasty
Photodynamic endometrial ablation
Photodynamic therapy for bronchial carcinoma
Primary auditory brain stem implants
Prosthetic intervertebral disc replacement
Radical laparoscopic excision of endometriosis
Radical laparoscopic hysterectomy
Radiofrequency ablation of liver tumours
Radiofrequency ablation of varicose veins
Radiofrequency volumetric tissue reduction of the inferior turbinate
Radiotherapy in macular degeneration
Sacral nerve stimulation for faecal incontinence
Sacral nerve stimulation for urge incontinence
Secondary transperineal cryotherapy for carcinoma of prostate
Selective tubal occlusion for female sterilization

Stent-graft placement in abdominal aortic aneurysm
Stent-graft placement in the thoracic aorta
Stereotactic radiosurgery for trigeminal neuralgia using the Gamma knife
Stimulated graciloplasty
Subfascial endoscopic perforator vein surgery for varicose veins
Subthalamotomy for Parkinson's disease
Sugarbaker technique for pseudomyxoma peritonei
Supraorbital minicraniotomy for intracranial aneurysm
Technique for occlusion of parotid sinuses
Thrombin injection of pseudoaneurysms
Total laparoscopic hysterectomy
Transilluminated powered phlebectomy for varicose veins
Transpupillary thermotherapy for age-related macular degeneration
Transurethral electrovaporisation of prostate
Transurethral needle ablation of prostate
Transurethral radiofrequency needle ablation of the prostate
Uterine artery embolisation for fibroids
Vagus nerve stimulation for refractory epilepsy in children

NICE TECHNOLOGY APPRAISALS WORK PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Appraisals in Progress

Alzheimer's disease (mild to moderate) – donepezil, rivastigmine and galantamine
Alzheimer's disease (moderate to severe) – memantine
Asthma (uncontrolled) – Omalizumab (Xolair)
Atopic dermatitis (eczema) – Pimecrolimus (Elidel) and tacrolimus (Protopic)
Atopic dermatitis (eczema) – topical steroids
Autologous cartilage transplantation (ACT) for cartilage injury
Bi-polar disorder – new drugs
Breast cancer (early) – hormonal treatments
Conduct disorder in children, parent-training/education programmes
Coronary events – statins
Coronary imaging – myocardial perfusion scintigraphy in the diagnosis and management of cardiac disease
Cox-II inhibitors for the treatment of osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis
Dementia (non-Alzheimer) – new pharmaceutical treatments
Diabetic foot ulcers – new treatments
Dual chamber pacing
Epilepsy in adults – newer drugs
Epilepsy in children – newer drugs
Flu – (prophylaxis) amantadine and oseltamivir
Gastro-intestinal stromal tumours – Imatinib (Glivec)
Heart disease – drug eluting stents for the prevention of restenosis and review of coronary artery stents
Hepatitis C – pegylated interferons, ribavarin and alfa interferon
ICDs for the treatment of arrhythmias
Insomnia – newer hypnotic drugs
Laparoscopic surgery for hernia
Leukaemia (chronic myeloid) – imatinib for the first line therapy
Liquid based cytology for cervical screening (review)
Lung cancer (non-small cell) – gefitinib (Iressa)
Macular degeneration (age related)
Menorrhagia – endometrial ablation
Methylphenidate (Ritalin) for hyperactivity in childhood
Multiple sclerosis – cannabinoids
Non-ST-segment-elevation acute coronary syndrome, Clopidogrel
Osteoporosis – prevention and treatment
Psoriasis (moderate to severe) – new treatments
Renal transplantation – immuno-suppressive regimens

Rheumatoid arthritis – anakinra
Rituximab (Mabthera) for aggressive non Hodgkin's lymphoma
Sepsis (severe) – drotrecogin (Xigris)
Stroke and cardiovascular disease – ramipril and other ACE inhibitors
Trauma – prehospital intravenous fluid therapy
Vascular disease – clopidogrel and dipyridamole for the prevention of occlusive vascular events
Venous leg ulcers – new treatments

Completed Appraisals

Advanced colorectal cancer – irinotecan, oxaliplatin and raltitrexed (NO 33)
Alzheimer's disease – donepezil, rivastigmine and galantamine (NO 19)
Arrhythmias – implantable cardioverter defibrillators (NO 11)
Asthma – inhaler devices for older children (NO 38)
Asthma – inhalers for children under five (NO 10)
Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) – methylphenidate (NO 13)
Brain cancer – temozolomide (NO 23)
Breast cancer – capecitabine
Breast cancer – taxanes (NO 6)
Breast cancer – taxanes – review (NO 30)
Breast cancer – trastuzumab (NO 34)
Breast Cancer – Vinorelbine (NO 54)
Cervical smear tests – liquid based cytology (NO 5)
Colorectal cancer – capecitabine and tegafur uracil
Colorectal cancer – laparoscopic surgery (NO 17)
Crohn's disease (NO 40)
Depression and anxiety - computerised cognitive behaviour therapy (NO 51)
Diabetes (type 2) – pioglitazone (NO 21)
Diabetes (type 2) – Glitazones (review) (No 63)
Diabetes (type 2) – rosiglitazone (NO 9)
Diabetes – insulin pump therapy (NO 57)
Diabetes – long acting insulin analogues (NO 53)
Diabetes – patient education models (NO 60)
Dyspepsia – proton pump inhibitors (NO 7)
ECT – Electroconvulsive therapy (NO 59)
Flu – zanamivir (Relenza) (NO 15) – (obsolete, replaced by 58)
Flu – zanamivir (review), amantadine and oseltamivir (NO 58)
Glycoprotein (IIb/IIIa) inhibitor guidance for acute coronary syndromes (NO 12) – (obsolete, replaced by 47)
Glycoprotein (IIb/IIIa) inhibitor guidance for acute coronary syndromes – review (NO 47)
Haemodialysis – home versus hospital (NO 48)
Hearing disability – new advances in hearing aid technology (NO 8) – (obsolete, withdrawn)
Heart disease (ischaemic) – coronary artery stents (NO 4)

Hepatitis C – alpha interferon and ribavarin (NO 14)
Hernia (inguinal) – laparoscopic surgery (NO 18)
Hip resurfacing – metal on metal (NO 44)
Hips – prostheses for primary total hip replacement (NO 2)
Human growth hormone in Adults (NO 64)
Human growth hormone in Children (NO 42)
Juvenile idiopathic arthritis – etanercept (NO 35)
Knee joints (defective) – autologous cartilage transplantation (NO 16)
Leukaemia (chronic myeloid) – imatinib (NO 50)
Leukaemic (lymphocytic) – fludarabine (NO 29)
Lung cancer – docetaxel, paclitaxel, gemcitabine and vinorelbine (NO 26)
Lymphoma (follicular non-Hodgkin's) – rituximab (NO 37)
Motor neurone disease – riluzole (NO 20)
Multiple sclerosis – beta interferon and glatiramer acetate (NO 32)
Myocardial Infarction - early thrombolysis treatment (NO 52)
Obesity (morbid) – surgery (NO 46)
Obesity – orlistat (NO 22)
Obesity – Sibutramine (NO 31)
Osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis – Cox II inhibitors (NO 27)
Ovarian cancer (advanced) – PLDH (Caelyx) (NO 45)
Ovarian cancer – paclitaxel (NO 55)
Ovarian cancer – taxanes (NO 3)
Ovarian cancer – topotecan (NO 28)
Pancreatic cancer – gemcitabine (NO 25)
Pregnancy – routine anti-D prophylaxis for rhesus negative women (NO 41)
Rheumatoid arthritis – etanercept and infliximab (NO 36)
Schizophrenia – atypical antipsychotics (No 43)
Smoking cessation – bupropion and nicotine replacement therapy (NO 39)
Stress incontinence – tension-free vaginal tape (NO 56)
Ultrasound locating devices for placing central venous catheters (NO 49)
Wisdom teeth – removal (NO 1)
Wound care – debriding agents (NO 24)

August 2003

INTERVENTIONS NOT NORMALLY FUNDED BY THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE HEALTH COMMUNITY

Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
abdominoplasty	- surgical removal of excess skin and fat tissue from the abdomen
aneurysm	- local dilation of a blood vessel
bezafibrate	- blood lipid lowering drug
choriocarcinoma	- cancer occurring during pregnancy, affecting the placenta
donepezil (aricept)	- new drug believed to improve cognitive function and delay progression of Alzheimer's dementia
endoprosthetic bone replacement	- insertion of artificial bone into the bone as a treatment for bone cancer
fragile X syndrome	- commonest form of inherited learning disability
gastroplasty	- stapling of the stomach to reduce its capacity and aid weight loss
Gaucher's disease	- an inherited enzyme defect which causes abnormal storage of a normally produced substance
glaucoma	- a condition of the eye leading to loss of vision if untreated
hyperbaric oxygen therapy	- intermittent inhalation of 100% oxygen under high pressure, for the management of decompressions sickness, gas gangrene, carbon monoxide poisoning, burns, soft tissue injury and major wound healing
interferon beta	- drug, derived from a naturally occurring protein, delivered by injection, which is believed to

Term	Definition
Interleukin 2	reduce the relapse rate in multiple sclerosis
laparoscopic surgery	- highly toxic drug, believed to lead to tumour shrinkage
laser trabeculoplasty	- "keyhole" surgery
liposuction	- destruction by laser of a small segment of tissue at the front of the eye
lithotripsy	- cosmetic procedure for removal of excess fat
Macula	- sudden bursts of high pressure shock waves focused on gall stones or renal stones with the aim of breaking them into small fragments
menorrhagia	- the area of clearest vision on the retina
microwave therapy for benign prostatic hyperplasia	- excessive regular menstrual blood loss
myringotomy	- application of microwaves to reduce the size of enlarged prostate
neonatal extracorporeal membrane oxygenation	- making a hole in the ear drum
nuchal translucency	- technique by which the blood of new born babies with poor lung function is 'cleaned' by passing it through membranes outside the body
Orlistat (Xenical)	- appearance at the nape of neck of the fetus at ultrasound
Orthodontic Index of Treatment Need	- a gastric and pancreatic lipase inhibitor for the treatment of obesity
osseointegrated implants	- a nationally agreed means of assessing the severity of orthodontic problems
PET scanning	- the permanent fixing of 'false teeth' into the jaw bone
	- Positron Emmission Tomography, a radiological technique for imaging abnormal tissue

Term	Definition
prostatic specific antigen screening for prostatic cancer	- blood test for the early detection of cancer of the prostate
radial keratotomy	- cuts made in the surface of the eye to correct short-sightedness
recombinant factor VIII	- synthetic, genetically engineered form of factor VIII, a blood clotting factor which is lacking in haemophilia A
retinoblastoma	- malignant tumour of the internal coat of the eyeball
retinopathy	- disease of the light sensitive internal coat of the eyeball
Tacrine	- new drug believed to influence nerve conduction
transmyocardial revascularisation	- the application of a laser probe directly onto the surface of the heart to create channels to allow blood to flow from inside the heart to supply muscles in the wall of the heart

August 2003