

Updated Tonsillectomy Policy Extract from South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Commissioning for Outcomes Policy – v20

Speciality	Ref	Intervention	Criteria for treatment	Evidence Base
ENT	H	Tonsillectomy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CCG will only fund tonsillectomy when one or more of the following criteria have been met: Recurrent attacks of tonsillitis as defined by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sore throats are due to acute tonsillitis which is disabling and prevents normal functioning AND 7 or more well documented, clinically significant *, adequately treated episodes in the preceding year OR 5 or more such episodes in each of the preceding 2 years OR 3 or more such episodes in each of the preceding 3 years Two or more episodes of Quinsy (peritonsillar abscess) Severe halitosis secondary to tonsillar crypt debris Failure to thrive (child) secondary to difficulty swallowing caused by enlarged tonsils Obstructive sleep apnoea causing severe daytime and night time symptoms Biopsy/removal of lesion on tonsil <p><i>*A Clinically significant episode is characterised by at least three of the following (Centor criteria):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tonsillar exudate Tender anterior cervical lymphadenopathy or lymphadenitis History of fever (over 38°C) Absence of cough 	<p>Burton MJ, Glasziou PP. Tonsillectomy or adeno-tonsillectomy versus non-surgical treatment for chronic/recurrent acute tonsillitis. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 1999, Issue 3. Art. No.: CD001802. First published online: July 26 1999. Available from: http://www.cochrane.org/reviews/en/ab001802.html (accessed 2019)</p> <p>Osbourne MS, Clark MPA. The surgical arrest of post-tonsillectomy haemorrhage: Hospital Episode Statistics 12 years on. Annals RCS. 2018.May (100) 5: 406-408</p> <p>Paradise JL, Bluestone CD, Bachman RZ. Efficacy of tonsillectomy for recurrent throat infection in severely affected children. Results of parallel randomized and non-randomized clinical trials. N England J Med 1984;310(11):674-83</p> <p>Rubie I, Houghton C, O'Hara J, Rousseau N, Steen N, Stocken DD, Sullivan F, Vale L, Wilkes S, Wilson J. The National randomised controlled Trial of Tonsillectomy IN Adults (NATTINA): a clinical and cost-effectiveness study: study protocol for a randomised control trial. Trials. 2015 Jun 6;16:263. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26047934 (accessed 2019)</p> <p>Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network Management of sore throat and indications for tonsillectomy. A National clinical Guideline. April 2010 https://www.sign.ac.uk/assets/sign117.pdf (accessed 2019)</p>