

Varicose Veins – Prior Approval Through IFR

Speciality	Procedure	Criteria for treatment	Evidence Base	Process	Date of review
Vascular Surgery	Varicose Veins	<p>The CCG will only fund Varicose Vein surgery if the patient meets the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BMI <math>\leq</math> 30 <b>AND</b></li> <li>• Intractable ulceration secondary to venous stasis. <b>OR</b></li> <li>• Bleeding varicose vein or if the patient is at high risk of re-bleeding. (i.e. there has been more than one episode of minor haemorrhage or one episode of significant haemorrhage from a ruptured superficial varicosity.) <b>OR</b></li> <li>• Significant and or progressive lower limb skin changes such as Varicose eczema, or lipodermatosclerosis with moderate to severe oedema proven to be caused by chronic venous insufficiency (itching is insufficient for referral). <b>OR</b></li> <li>• Recurrent thrombophlebitis (more than 2 episodes) associated with severe and persistent pain requiring analgesia and affecting activities of daily living and or instrumental activities of daily living*. <b>OR</b></li> </ul> <p>If the patient is severely symptomatic affecting activities of daily living and or instrumental activities of daily living. - <b>ALL</b> below must apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Symptoms must be caused by varicosity and cannot be attributed to any other co-morbidities or other disease affecting the lower limb.</li> <li>• There must be a documented unsuccessful six month trial of</li> </ul>	<p>National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). 2013. <i>Varicose veins in the legs: the diagnosis and management of varicose veins</i>. CG168. London: National Institute for Health and Care Excellence.</p> <p><a href="https://pathways.nice.org.uk/pathways/varicose-veins-in-the-legs#content=view-node%3Anodes-information">https://pathways.nice.org.uk/pathways/varicose-veins-in-the-legs#content=view-node%3Anodes-information</a> (Accessed 2017)</p> <p>Foti D &amp; Kanazawa L. Activities of daily living. In: Pendleton H &amp; Shultz-Krohn (eds) Pedretti's Occupational Therapy: Practice Skills for Physical Dysfunction. 7th edition. United states. Elsevier Mosby; 2008 p157-159.</p> <p>NHS England Interim Clinical Commissioning Policy for Varicose Veins November 2013 <a href="https://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/wpcontent/uploads/sites/12/2013/11/N-SC035.pdf">https://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/wpcontent/uploads/sites/12/2013/11/N-SC035.pdf</a></p>	Barnsley CCG require prior approval through IFR for this procedure	Dec 2018



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		<p>conservative management.**</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence that symptoms are affecting activities of daily living and or Instrumental activities of daily living.</li> <li>• In the opinion of a vascular specialist, these symptoms can be reversed or significantly improved with treatment.</li> </ul> <p>* Activities of daily living include: functional mobility, eating, bathing and personal care. They can be measured using the Barthel activities of daily living index. Instrumental activities of daily living include more complex tasks such as care of others, community mobility, health management and meal preparation.</p> <p>** Conservative management should include advice on walking and exercise, avoidance of activities that exacerbate symptoms, leg elevation whenever sitting and weight loss if appropriate. Compression stockings should only be used where interventional treatment is unsuitable or the patient fails to meet the criteria</p>			

