

Abdominoplasty / Apronectomy Commissioning Policy

Intervention	Abdominoplasty / Apronectomy and Removal of Excessive Skin from Other Areas of The Body
OPCS codes	S02 Plastic excision of skin of abdominal wall S021 Abdominoplasty S022 Abdominolipectomy S028 Other specified plastic excision of skin of abdominal wall S029 Unspecified plastic excision of skin of abdominal wall
For the treatment of	Excessive Skin
Commissioning position	<p>All Cases Require Prior Approval</p> <p>The removal of excessive skin from the abdomen and other areas of the body is not routinely commissioned and exceptional circumstances have to be demonstrated in all cases and considered by the Individual Funding Request Panel (IFR).</p> <p>Abdominoplasty / Apronectomy and the removal of excessive skin for patients who have lost a significant amount of weight and have been left with an overhang of skin are NOT supported unless exceptional circumstances can be demonstrated to address a specific clinical need, where treatments have failed.</p> <p>Abdominoplasty / Apronectomy have minimum criteria for the procedure as follows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • patients who have had a stable BMI of 25 Kg/m² or below for at least 2 years and are suffering from severe functional problems <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those with significant scarring following trauma or previous abdominal surgery or where it is required as part of abdominal hernia correction or other abdominal wall surgery <p>Severe functional problems include experiencing severe difficulties with mobility</p>
Summary of evidence / rationale	Any operation involving a general anaesthetic should be approached with caution, especially if for cosmetic reasons. Generally, the more extensive the procedure, the higher the risk. Cosmetic procedures are regarded as low priority.
Date effective from	December 2017
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References:

1. Information for Commissioners of Plastic Surgery Services - Referrals and Guidelines in Plastic Surgery (NHS Modernisation Agency) London