

**Name of treatment or procedure**

Pinnaplasty (ear pinning)

**Description of treatment or procedure**

This is an operation that changes the shape of the ears, making them appear smaller or tucked in.

The procedure can be performed under local anaesthetic and involves:

- making one small cut (incision) behind the ear to expose the ear cartilage
- removing small pieces of cartilage if necessary
- scoring and stitching the remaining cartilage into the desired shape and position.

**Current policy**

This surgery is not routinely commissioned for patients for cosmetic or psychological reasons, except for children under the age of 16 years.

**Proposed change(s)**

This procedure would not be routinely commissioned for any age group. This means that children under the age of 16 would no longer be able to have a pinnaplasty procedure for cosmetic or psychological reasons.

**Reason for proposed change(s)**

To ensure everyone is treated equally.

**Impact of proposed change(s)**

The biggest impact would be for patients who request this procedure for psychological or cosmetic reasons.

All patients could still apply for this procedure, with support from their doctor, through an Individual Funding Request to their local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). The CCG panel would consider whether the request could be funded.

