

Criteria for Commissioning Grommets for Children

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Version Control Sheet

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Version	Date	Author	Status	Comment
1	21.03.14	C Freeman	Draft	
2	14.04.14	C Freeman	Draft	Updated following comments from IFR Medical Advisors
3	06.05.14	C Freeman	Draft	Updated following comments from Expert Patient
4	20.04.16	C Freeman	Final	CCG sign off

Criteria for Commissioning Grommets for Children

Funding for grommets for children with persistent otitis media with effusion will be considered for the following indications.

- Otitis media with effusion has persisted for a three month period of watchful waiting after diagnosis in primary care and the child suffers from one of the following:
 - at least five recurrences of acute otitis media requiring medical assessment and/or treatment in the previous year
 - hearing loss of at least 25dB, particularly in the lower tones with either delay in speech development or educational/behavioural problems attributable to the hearing loss
 - a second significant health problem or disability, for example learning difficulties, developmental delay or autism, with tympanometric evidence of middle ear effusions and where a reliable hearing test has not been achieved after three attempts
 - severe retraction of the tympanic membrane with risk of developing cholesteatoma or erosion of the ossicular chain
 - suspected underlying sensorineural hearing loss, as demonstrated by a single hearing test with hearing loss of at least 50dB on pure tone audiometry or at least 65dB on free field testing and flat tympanograms

If the patient does not fully meet these criteria the clinician may still submit an application if exceptionality can be demonstrated.

National supporting evidence

NICE CG 60 Surgical management of otitis media with effusion February 2008

<http://www.nice.org.uk/nicemedia/live/11928/39564/39564.pdf>

NHS England Interim Commissioning Policy Grommets November 2013

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/N-SC015.pdf>

