

## Criteria for Commissioning Tonsillectomy Children and Adults

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## Version Control Sheet

**Document Title: Criteria for Commissioning Tonsillectomy (Children and Adults)**

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Comment</b>
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 Tonsillectomy (Children and Adults)

If the indication for surgery is suspected malignancy or acute upper airways obstruction then prior approval is not required.

Funding for tonsillectomy for both adults and children will be considered for the following indications:

- sore throats are due to acute tonsillitis, **and**
- episodes of sore throat are disabling and prevent normal functioning as evidenced by three of the following criteria:
  - tonsillar exudates
  - tender anterior cervical lymph nodes
  - history of fever
  - absence of cough **and**
- seven or more well documented such episodes in the preceding year **or**
- five or more such episodes in each of the preceding two years **or**
- three or more such episodes in each of the preceding three years **or**
- two documented episodes of quinsy or
- severe halitosis secondary to tonsillar crypt debris

Funding for tonsillectomy for children will in addition be considered for the following indications:

- failure to thrive due to difficulty eating solid foods

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

### National supporting evidence

SIGN Guidance No 117 April 2010 Management of sore throat and indications for tonsillectomy

<http://www.sign.ac.uk/guidelines/fulltext/117/index.html>

NHS England Interim Clinical Commissioning policy for tonsillectomy November 2013

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/N-SC033.pdf>