

BOB ICB and Frimley ICB Priorities Committee Clinical Commissioning Policy Statement

Policy Number/ Name	BOBFPC53 Open Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Scans and Standing/ Upright MRI scans
Date of BOB ICB Adoption	March 2024

Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire West ICB and Frimley ICB Priorities Committee has considered the evidence for open MRI scans and standing or upright MRI scans. The Committee supports the use of an open MRI scan where one of the following criteria is met:

- Claustrophobia. A patient is claustrophobic and has previously failed an MRI scan with oral sedation in a wide bore MRI scanner at a local NHS trust
- Patient size. An MRI scan in a wide bore scanner at a local NHS trust has been unsuccessful due to the size of the patient and restriction of the MRI scanner tunnel

Remuneration for open MRI scans will be NHS tariff plus local MFF.

Due to the lack of evidence of clinical and cost effectiveness in comparison with conventional MRI scans, standing and upright MRI scans are **not normally funded**.

OPCS Procedure codes:*

U01.2 Magnetic resonance imaging of whole body
U05.2 Magnetic resonance imaging of head
U05.5 Magnetic resonance imaging of spine
U07.2 Magnetic resonance imaging of chest
U08.5 Magnetic resonance imaging of abdomen
U09.3 Magnetic resonance imaging of pelvis
U13.3 Magnetic resonance imaging of bone
U21.1 Magnetic resonance imaging NEC
U37.1 Magnetic resonance imaging of kidneys

*OPCS codes relate to conventional MRI scans. No OPCS codes are available specifically for open MRI scans and standing or upright MRI scans

NOTES:

- Potentially exceptional circumstances may be considered by a patient's ICB where there is evidence of significant health status impairment (e.g. inability to perform activities of daily living) and there is evidence that the intervention sought would improve the individual's health status.
- This policy was developed and recommended by Thames Valley Priorities Committee which was the predecessor of Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire West ICB and Frimley ICB Priorities Committee.
- This policy will be reviewed in the light of new evidence or new national guidance, e.g., from NICE.
- BOBFPC clinical policies can be viewed at [Clinical Commissioning Policy Statements & IFRs | BOB ICB](#)

Recommendation made by TVPC	February 2017 Updated March 2019
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