

BOB ICB and Frimley ICB Priorities Committee Clinical Commissioning Policy Statement

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| Policy Number/ Name | BOBFPC39 Severe and Complex Obesity: Eligibility for Bariatric Surgery |
| Date of BOB ICB Adoption | June 2024 |

Bariatric Surgery will only be considered as a treatment option for people with obesity providing all the following criteria are fulfilled:

- The individual is deemed suitable for bariatric surgery following a comprehensive assessment by a specialist weight management service providing multidisciplinary management of obesity, as set out in NICE clinical guideline 189 ([i.e., recommendations 1.10.6 to 1.10.10](#))
- The individual has a BMI of
 - 40kg/m² or more, OR
 - between 35 kg/m² and 40kg/m² with a significant health condition that could be improved if they lost weight. Example health conditions include cardiovascular disease, hypertension, idiopathic intracranial hypertension, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease with or without steatohepatitis, obstructive sleep apnoea, type 2 diabetes. These examples are based on the evidence identified for NICE CG189 and the list is not exhaustive.

Use a lower BMI threshold (reduced by 2.5) for people of South Asian, Chinese, other Asian, Middle Eastern, Black African or African-Caribbean family background to account for the fact that these groups are prone to central adiposity and their cardiometabolic risk occurs at a lower BMI,

- The individual has recently received and complied with a local specialist weight management programme (as defined by [NICE CG189](#)), where this is currently available, for a duration considered appropriate** by the multi-disciplinary team,
- The patient agrees to the necessary long-term follow up after surgery (for example, lifelong annual reviews)

Plastic surgery correction of redundant skin following weight loss is not normally funded from NHS resources.

*****Special consideration should be given to patients requiring transplant surgery/ other life-limiting surgery or with rapidly progressing and/ or severe conditions that would benefit from bariatric surgery (e.g., benign intracranial hypertension, rapidly evolving kidney disease, recent onset and difficult to control diabetes).***

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](#)

| Version | Date | Reason for change |
|----------------|--------------|---|
| Version 1 | January 2016 | |
| Version 2 | May 2021 | The requirement for severe obesity to have been present for at least five years was removed |
| Version 3 | March 2024 | Update to NICE recommendations for bariatric surgery under CG189 |