

BOB ICB and Frimley ICB Priorities Committee Clinical Commissioning Policy Statement

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| Policy Number/ Name | BOBFPC114 Breast Prosthesis Removal (18 years and over) |
| Date of BOB ICB Adoption | June 2024 |

Surgery to remove a breast implant/prosthesis may be used to treat the complications of breast implants inserted for reconstructive or cosmetic purposes. Patients should be informed at the time of initial surgery that implants are likely to need replacement and further surgery may be required.

Surgery to remove breast implants should only be considered for the following clinical indications:

- After implant leakage or rupture
OR
- There is severe capsular contracture (grade III/IV on the Baker classification).
This will need to be confirmed by a specialist opinion.
OR
- Implants are complicated by recurrent implant infection or seroma
OR
- The patient develops Breast Implant Associated Anaplastic Large Cell Lymphoma (BIA-ALCL).

Patients whose initial procedure was privately funded should seek treatment from their private provider in the first instance.

Replacement of the breast implant is **not normally funded**.

Where a patient is eligible for implant removal due to a problem associated with a single implant, bilateral implant removal should be offered.

Only implant removal should be performed, and no other subsequent cosmetic procedure e.g. mastopexy.

Pre and postoperative photographs must be recorded for audit purposes. All eligible patients must be entered into the Breast and Cosmetic Implant Registry (BCIR) for audit purposes.

The following are outside the scope of this policy:

- Implants inserted following surgery for breast cancer or breast cancer prevention performed under the NHS - please see BOBFPC91 Reconstructive breast surgery post breast cancer.
- People with known PIP- implants for whom national guidance applies as per Department of Health Guidelines - 'Advice on PiP implants'.

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 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 |
|---------|------------|---|
| 1.0 | March 2024 | New criteria-based policy. Criteria informed by NHS England Evidence Based Interventions programme recommendations. |