

## South Central Priorities Committees (Southampton, Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Portsmouth PCTs)

### Policy Recommendation 121: Aesthetic surgery in children

Date of issue: December 2011

The South Central Priorities Committee (Southampton, Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Portsmouth) has considered the evidence for aesthetic surgery in children.

All procedures for conditions without an impact on physiological function are **LOW PRIORITY**, because of inadequate evidence that the procedures improve quality of life, psycho-social or educational outcomes.

For the avoidance of doubt, repair of cleft lip and/or palate has functional benefit and therefore should continue to be commissioned.

We found no evidence about the effect of treatment of port wine stains, facial scarring, warts, gynaecomastia and supernumerary nipples on quality of life, psycho-social or educational outcomes. We found evidence suggesting that haemangiomas do not adversely affect children's quality of life, and that treatment of prominent ears and other abnormalities of the appearance of the external ear does not improve psychosocial outcomes.

#### NOTES:

1. *Exceptional circumstances may be considered where there is evidence of significant health impairment and there is also evidence of the intervention improving health status.*
2. *This policy will be reviewed in the light of new evidence or guidance from NICE.*
3. *South Central policies can be viewed at <http://www.sph.nhs.uk/priorities/policy-statements>*