

**Hampshire, Southampton & Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group,
Portsmouth Clinical Commissioning Group and Frimley (NEH&F) Clinical
Commissioning Group
Priorities Committee**

Policy title Number/version	Policy 18 Balloon catheter sinus dilation for chronic rhinosinusitis (Version 2)
Policy position	Not Normally Funded
Update	This policy will be updated as per 3-year cycle or in light of a substantial body of new evidence or new national guidance (e.g. NICE).

Rhinosinusitis is inflammation of the lining of the sinuses and nasal cavities. Chronic rhinosinusitis is diagnosed when symptoms persist for more than twelve weeks. Balloon catheter sinus dilation involves the endoscopic insertion of a guidewire in the sinuses and the inflation and withdrawal of a balloon, with the aim of widening the ostium and improving drainage.

The Priorities Committee has considered the evidence for balloon catheter sinus dilation for chronic rhinosinusitis. Because the comparative effectiveness of the procedure remains uncertain, balloon catheter sinus dilation for chronic rhinosinusitis is **not normally funded**.

A separate policy, Policy 19, Functional endoscopic sinus surgery for chronic rhinosinusitis and nasal polyps addresses functional endoscopic sinus surgery for chronic rhinosinusitis and nasal polyps. The policy details criteria for funding.

Patients who represent an anaesthetic risk and cannot undergo other types of sinus surgery may be considered for balloon catheter sinus dilatation under IFR arrangements if their case is deemed to be exceptional.

OPCS-4 codes

Depending on which sinus the procedure is performed on one of the following OPCS-4 codes is assigned:

- E13.8 Other specified other operations on maxillary antrum
- E14.8 Other specified operations on frontal sinus
- E15.8 Other specified operations on sphenoid sinus
- E17.8 Other specified operations on unspecified nasal sinus

The following three codes are assigned directly after one of the codes listed above:

- Y76.1 Functional endoscopic sinus surgery
- Or
- Y76.2 Functional endoscopic nasal surgery
- Y40.3 Balloon dilation of organ NOC

Version	Date	Reason for change
Version 1.0	2017	Policy endorsed by Priorities Committee
Version 2.0	2021	3 yearly update. No significant new guidance or evidence, no change to core content of the policy.

Exceptional circumstances may be considered where there is evidence of significant health impairment and there is also evidence of the intervention improving health status