

## Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board Priorities Committee

<b>Policy title</b>	<b>Policy 32: Cataract removal</b>
<b>Policy position</b>	<b>Criteria based access</b>
<b>Date of issue</b>	January 2023
<b>Update</b>	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)

Any referral for first **or** second eye cataract surgery must include how visual symptoms experienced as a result of cataract/s are negatively affecting the patient's lifestyle, for example;

- Significant glare or dazzle in daylight due to lens opacities
- Difficulty with night vision due to lens opacities particularly if driving
- Difficulty reading
- Significant Anisometropia/ Aniseikonia
- Difficulty with the management of other coexisting eye conditions, including DRSS ungradable photograph
- Refractive error primarily due to cataract
- Difficulty with fulfilling employment responsibilities

The Committee advises that;

- The risks and benefits are fully discussed with the patient prior to surgery.
- Bilateral cataract extraction may be considered where clinically appropriate, and in accordance with NICE guidance<sup>2</sup>.
- Patients meeting the Certificate of Vision Impairment<sup>1</sup> criteria as a result of cataract/s should be prioritised for surgery.

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

### OPCS-4 codes

C71-C74 (lens extraction) and C75.1 (lens replacement)

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Reason for change</b>
Version 1.0		Second eye statement only
Version 2.0	2018	New policy for all cataract surgery. New NICE guidance.
Version 3.0	2021 (Ratified by Board - July 2022)	3 yearly update

1. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-published-on-registering-a-vision-impairment-as-a-disability>
2. [NICE guideline \[NG77\] Cataracts in adults: management](#)