

Skin Camouflage Services Prior Approval

Before consideration of referral for management in secondary care, please review advice on the Remedy website (www.remedy.bnssg.icb.nhs.uk/) or consider use of advice and guidance services where available.

Funding approval for **one** advice session within an acute trust Skin Camouflage Clinic will be given where:

1. The patient is suffering from significant facial disfigurement.
AND
2. The deformity is capable of being camouflaged, disguised, or minimised with camouflage products.
AND
3. The patient has accessed services provided in the community without any benefit (a report from the Service setting out why they have been unable to benefit the patient will aid decision making).

Patients with funding approval will receive advice from Skin Camouflage Services on techniques and products to use to manage their disfigurement.

For more guidance please see <https://remedy.bnssg.icb.nhs.uk>

Notes:

1. Funding will not be approved where disfigurement is not on the face.
2. It is important to note that camouflage products and creams are not routinely available on prescription in BNSSG these products must be self-funded.

BRAN

For any health- related decision, it is important to consider “BRAN” which stands for:

- **B**enefits
- **R**isks
- **A**lternatives
- **D**o **N**othing

Benefits

- Skin camouflage can bring about psychological, physical and social benefits to those who are experiencing an altered image, helping people to cope better with scarring and various skin conditions, which can enhance their self-esteem.

Risks

Allergic reactions to products used in the camouflage products.

Alternatives

None

Do Nothing

Remember, you always have the option to do nothing. Doing nothing is an equally reasonable option to doing something. Sometimes “not yet” is a good enough answer until you gather more information.

Skin Camouflage Services – Plain Language Summary

Patients with disfiguring facial scars, birthmarks and other skin conditions may wish to disguise these conditions with skin camouflage products and advice from Skin Camouflage clinics in acute trust hospitals.

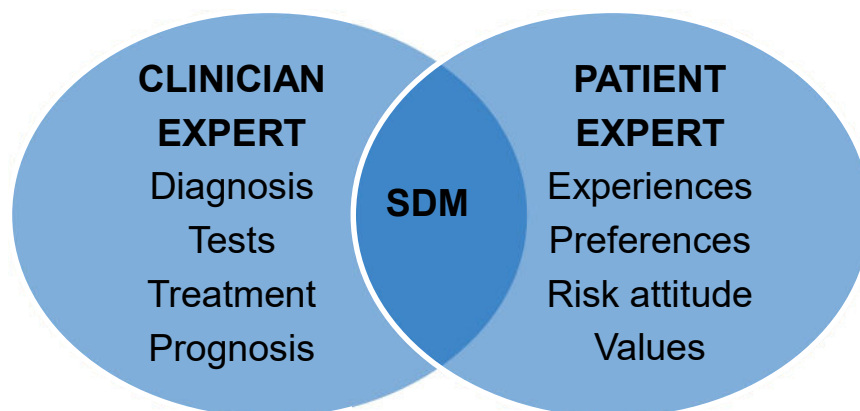
At these clinics, trained staff work with patients to find the most appropriate products for their specific condition, and to provide advice and the best method of application of the products.

This scope of this policy is limited to **facial** disfigurements only. The facial area is considered to be the area between the forehead and chin only and **does not include the ears, below the chin or the neck area.**

Shared Decision Making

If a person fulfils the criteria for Skin Camouflage treatment it is important to have a partnership approach between the person and the clinician.

Shared Decision Making (SDM) is the meeting of minds of two types of experts:



It puts people at the centre of decisions about their own treatment and care and respects what is unique about them. It means that people receiving care and clinicians delivering care can understand what is important to the other person.

The person and their clinician may find it helpful to use 'Ask 3 Questions':

1. What are my options? (see sections above)
2. What are the pros and cons of each option for **me**?
3. How can I make sure that I have made the right decision?

Connected Policies

- Cosmetic Surgery or Treatment
- Tattoo Policy
- Benign Skin Lesion

This policy has been developed with the aid of the following:

1. National Health Service (2019) Health A to Z: Cosmetic Procedures [online] www.nhs.uk/conditions
2. British Association of Skin Camouflage (2020) Information [online] www.skin-camouflage.net
3. Changing Faces (2022) Skin Camouflage Service [online] www.changingfaces.org.uk
4. Mayo Clinic (2021) Cosmetic Surgery [online] (20022389) www.mayoclinic.org

Due regard

In carrying out their functions, the Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Commissioning Policy Review Group (CPRG) are committed to having due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED). This applies to all the activities for which the ICBs are responsible, including policy development and review.

Document Control

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Governance

Commissioning policies are assessed for their likely level of impact on BNSSG ICB and the population for which it is responsible. This determines the appropriate level of sign off. The below described the approval route for each score category.

Policy Category	Approval By
Level 1	Commissioning Policy Review Group.
Level 2	Chief Medical Officer, or Chief Nursing Officer, or System Executive Group Chair
Level 3	ICB Board

OPCS Procedure codes

Must have any of (primary only):
NA

Support

If you would like further copies of this policy or need it in another format, such as Braille or another language, please contact the Customer Services Team on: **0117 900 2655** or **0800 073 0907** or email them on BNSSG.customerservice@nhs.net.