

Getting the best medical outcomes for our money

About this session

Medical treatments have changed vastly since the NHS was established in 1948. The advance of time, technology and the medical and scientific evidence we have about what works and what does not has greatly improved outcomes for our patients.

As healthcare commissioners, we have a duty to ensure our residents can benefit from the most effective and affordable treatments. So, we regularly review our commissioning policy to ensure that the treatments available to our residents offer the best rates of success based on medical evidence and best practice guidance.

Where some treatments are found to no longer be effective for the majority of patients, we will look to change our commissioning policy, to ensure we are spending our money as wisely as possible on more proven healthcare.

We know that some of these treatments may be effective for a small number of people. So, we have a system in place to review the case of each of these patients to make sure they still have access if these treatments are found to provide them with an overwhelming benefit.

What we are doing

We will shortly be reviewing our commissioning policy and we would like your views about some treatments and processes which we already know are not as effective as they could be.

Your views

Treatment for cataracts is an area where current criteria and processes do not match the best medical evidence about success rates for our patients. Bringing processes in line with guidance also has the potential to improve our patients experience of having their cataracts dealt with effectively.

We will discuss this in more detail, along with some other areas of health treatments and procedures that we will look at in our commissioning policy review.

You will have the opportunity to share your views as part of the group discussion, but please share your views here if you prefer