

# Uterovaginal Prolapse

## Policy

NHS NWL CCGs will only fund surgical interventions for Uterovaginal Prolapse when conservative management has failed and when one of the following criteria has been met:

- 1) In cases of mild to moderate symptomatic cystoceles where trial of a pessary has failed
- 2) Moderate or severe symptomatic prolapse (including those combined with urethral sphincter incompetence or urinary/faecal incontinence)

**Note: Patients who smoke should have attempted to stop smoking 8 to 12 weeks before referral to reduce the risk of surgery and the risk of post-surgery complications. Patients should be routinely offered referral to smoking cessation services to reduce these surgical risks.**

*These policies have been approved by the eight Clinical Commissioning Groups in North West London (NHS Brent CCG, NHS Central London CCG, NHS Ealing CCG, NHS Hammersmith and Fulham CCG, NHS Harrow CCG, NHS Hillingdon CCG, NHS Hounslow CCG and NHS West London CCG).*

## Background

Pelvic organ prolapse (POP) (genitourinary prolapse) refers to abnormal descent/ herniation of one or more of the pelvic organs as a result of failure of ligamentous and fascial supports, resulting in the protrusion of the organ beyond its normal anatomical confines. Prolapse can occur in the anterior (urethrocele, cystocele, cystourethrocele), middle/apical (uterine, vaginal vault (post-hysterectomy), enterocele), or posterior (rectocele) compartment of the pelvis. POP development is multifactorial, with vaginal child birth, advancing age, and increasing body-mass index (BMI) the most consistent risk factors

Diagnosis is usually clinical and based on history and pelvic (speculum) examinations, to establish the compartments affected (classification of the prolapse) and define the extent of the prolapse (grading of severity/degree).

## References

### Patient information

- <http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Prolapse-of-the-uterus/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

### References

- <http://www.bsug.org.uk>
- <https://www.rcog.org.uk>