

INGROWN TOENAIL TREATMENT CRITERIA BASED ACCESS (CBA) POLICY

Version:	2425.v2d
Recommendation by:	Somerset ICB Clinical Commissioning Policy Forum (CCPF)
Date Ratified:	08 December 2021
Name of Originator/Author:	EBI Service
Approved by Responsible Committee/Individual:	Somerset ICB Clinical Executive Committee (CEC)
Publication/issue date:	March 2022
Review date:	Earliest of either NICE publication or 3 years from issue
Target audience:	<p>NHS Somerset ICB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHS Providers • GP Practices • Contracts Team <p>Medical Directors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Somerset Foundation Trust • Yeovil District Hospital NHS FT • Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS FT
Application Form	EBI Generic application form if appropriate to apply

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VERSION CONTROL

Document Status:	Current policy
Version:	2425.v2d

DOCUMENT CHANGE HISTORY

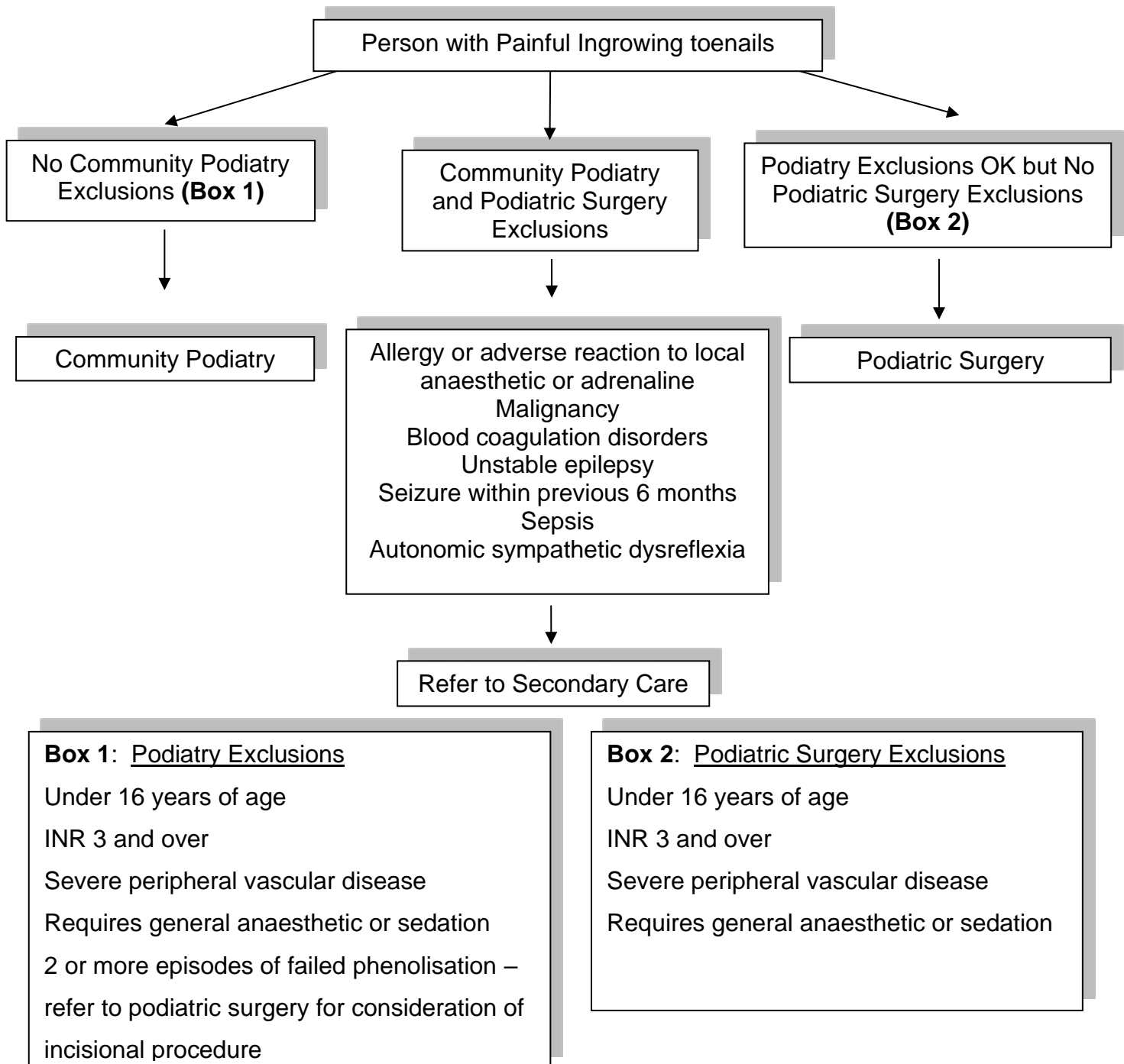
Version	Date	Comments
1.1	10/10/2017	Amended to criteria-based access, include exclusion criteria from the Somerset Partnership Podiatry and Podiatric Surgery Service
1718.v1.1	December 2021	3-year review, remove Somerset Partnership replace with Somerset Foundation Trust, updated pathway provided SFT Podiatry Service/ exclusion age raised from 15 to 16
2223.v2a	April 2022	Amend the email address for Podiatry due to separation from physiotherapy from PhysiotherapyMSKandPodiatryChard@SomersetFT.nhs.uk to PodiatryChard@somersetft.nhs.uk
2223.v2a	July 2022	Amendment from SCCG to NHS Somerset ICB. New PALS email address
2223.v2b	March 2023	Wording change 4.6
2223.v2c	July 2024	Logo change with amendment to website link and clinical exceptionalty wording on 4.6

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Form Date:	N/A
Quality Impact Assessment QIA. Date:	1718. V1
Sponsoring Director:	Dr Alex Murray
Document Reference:	2425.v2d

1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES (CBA)

- 1.1 Treatment should only be given in line with these general principles. Where patients are unable to meet these principles, in addition to the specific treatment criteria set out in this policy, funding approval may be sought from the ICB Evidence Based Interventions Service (EBI) by submission of an EBI application form
- 1.2 Clinicians should assess their patients against the criteria within this policy prior to a referral and/or treatment
- 1.3 Treatment should only be undertaken where the criteria have been met and there is evidence that the treatment requested is effective and the patient has the potential to benefit from the proposed treatment. Where the patient has previously been provided with the treatment with limited or diminishing benefit, it is unlikely that they will qualify for further treatment
- 1.4 Referring patients to secondary / community care without them meeting the criteria or funding approval not secured not only incurs significant costs in out-patient appointments for patients that may not qualify for surgery, but inappropriately raises the patient's expectation of treatment
- 1.5 On limited occasions, the ICB may approve funding for an assessment only in order to confirm or obtain evidence demonstrating whether a patient meets the criteria for funding. In such cases, patients should be made aware that the assessment does not mean that they will be provided with surgery and surgery will only be provided where it can be demonstrated that the patients meet the criteria to access treatment in this policy
- 1.6 Patients should be advised being referred does not confirm that they will receive treatment or surgery for a condition as a consent discussion will need to be undertaken with a clinician prior to treatment
- 1.7 The policy does not apply to patients with suspected malignancy who should continue to be referred under 2 week wait pathway rules for assessment and testing as appropriate
- 1.8 Patients with an elevated BMI of 30 or more may experience more post-surgical complications including post-surgical wound infection so should be encouraged to lose weight further prior to seeking surgery.
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1198743X15007193>
(Thelwall, 2015)
- 1.9 Patients who are smokers should be referred to smoking cessation services in order to reduce the risk of surgery and improve healing

2. Somerset NHS Foundation Trust: Painful Ingrowing Toenail Pathway



Health professionals can refer to Community Podiatry using the latest referral form on the intranet webpage and email the referral to:

PodiatryChard@somersetft.nhs.uk

Patients who require a referral to Podiatric Surgery should be referred from Community Podiatry to Podiatric Surgery: podosurgery.referrals@somersetFT.nhs.uk.

Full referral details including treatment to date, routine circulatory and sensation screening, and reason for referral. Copy of correspondence to be sent to GP for information. There is a referral form which can be used on RiO.

3 **POLICY CRITERIA BASED ACCESS (CBA)**

3.1 Patients who are not eligible for treatment under this policy, please refer to section 4 EVIDENCE BASED INTERVENTIONS APPLICATION PROCESS on how to apply for funding with evidence of clinical exceptionality

3.2 Treatment of an ingrown toenail in secondary care for a part or whole nail avulsion or other surgical input is not routinely commissioned unless the patient fulfils the following criteria

The patient has exclusion(s) and is unsuitable for treatment with Somerset NHS Foundation Trust Community Podiatry and Podiatric Surgery Service

Please refer to exclusion(s) detailed in Item 2 Somerset NHS Foundation Trust: Painful Ingrowing Toenail Pathway Box 1 and/or Box 2

4 **EVIDENCE BASED INTERVENTIONS APPLICATION PROCESS**

4.1 Patients who are not eligible for treatment under this policy may be considered on an individual basis where their GP or Consultant believes exceptional circumstances exist that warrant deviation from the rule of this policy

4.2 Completion of a **Generic EBI Application Form** by a patient's GP or Consultant is required

4.3 Applications cannot be considered from patients personally

4.4 Only electronically completed EBI applications will be accepted to the EBI Service

4.5 It is expected that clinicians will have ensured that the patient, on behalf of who they are forwarding the application for, is appropriately informed about the existing policies prior to an application to the EBI service. This will reassure the service that the patient has a reasonable expectation of the outcome of the application and its context

4.6 EBI funding application are considered against clinical exceptionality. To eliminate discrimination for patients, **social, environmental, workplace, and non-clinical personal factors cannot be taken into consideration.**

For further information on 'clinical exceptionality' please refer to the NHS Somerset ICB EBI webpage [Evidence Based Interventions - NHS Somerset ICB](#) and click on the section titled Generic EBI Pathway.

4.7 Where appropriate photographic supporting evidence can be forwarded with the application form

4.8 An application put forward for consideration must demonstrate some unusual or unique clinical factor about the patient that suggests they are exceptional as defined below:

- Significantly different to the general population of patients with the condition in question
- Likely to gain significantly more benefit from the intervention than might be expected from the average patient with the condition

5 ACCESS TO POLICY

5.1 If you would like further copies of this policy or need it in another format, such as Braille or another language, please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service on Telephone number: 08000 851067

5.2 **Or write to us:** NHS Somerset ICB, Freepost RRKL-XKSC-ACSG, Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 8HR or **Email** us: somicb.pals@nhs.net

6 REFERENCES

The following sources have been considered when drafting this policy:

6.1 NHS Choices. (2014, November 24). *Ingrown toenail*. Retrieved from NHS Choices:

<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Ingrown-toenail/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

6.2 Thelwall, S. P. (2015). Impact of obesity on the risk of wound infection following surgery: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1198743X15007193>

Results from a nationwide prospective multicentre cohort study in England. *Clinical microbiology and infection : the official publication of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases*, , vol. 21, no. 11, p. 1008.e1.

6.3 Somerset NHS Foundation Trust Podiatry and Surgical Podiatry Services

6.4 Royal college of Podiatry Nail Surgery Guidelines