

Policy statement:	Haemorrhoids
Status:	Individual Prior Approval

This policy does not apply to referrals for suspected cancer and acute, profuse rectal bleeding

Haemorrhoidectomy will be funded for patients with first or second degree haemorrhoids who do not respond to:

- Conservative treatment (e.g. lifestyle changes and pharmacological treatment)
- Other techniques (e.g. rubber band ligation, sclerotherapy, or infra-red photocoagulation).

Haemorrhoidectomy will be funded for patients with third or fourth-degree haemorrhoids that are either too large for other measures or have not responded to them.

- Grade 1 are small swellings on the inside lining of the anal canal. They cannot be seen or felt from outside the opening of the back passage (anus). Grade 1 piles are common. In some people they enlarge further to grade 2 or more.
- Grade 2 are larger. They may be partly pushed out from the anus when you go to the toilet, but quickly spring back inside again.
- Grade 3 hang out from the anus when you go to the toilet. You may feel one or more as small, soft lumps that hang from the anus. However, you can push them back inside the anus with a finger.
- Grade 4 permanently hang down from within the anus, and you cannot push them back inside. They sometimes become quite large.

Ref: <https://patient.info/health/rectal-bleeding-blood-in-faeces/piles-haemorrhoids>

Funding will not be made available outside the above criteria unless there are clinical exceptional circumstances.

Individual funding requests should only be made where the patient demonstrates clinical exceptionality.

Further information on applying for funding in exceptional clinical circumstances can be found on the CCGs' website.