

OCCG SERVICE SPECIFICATION (2017-18)

ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT OF MINOR INJURIES

1. Background

The minor injuries service is an item of service payment agreement for the treatment of specified minor injuries in primary care by general practices. This service may be delivered by any general practice in Oxfordshire to patients who are either permanently or temporarily registered with them and is aimed at reducing attendance at emergency departments (EDs) and minor injury units (MIUs).

2. Service outline

The following lists give the injuries and conditions which will be covered by the service, and the restrictions and exclusions for circumstances under which practices will not be able to claim. Providers who previously offered the Local Enhanced Service for Minor Injuries should note that this list has been revised.

Injuries and conditions covered by this service:

- Assessment and treatment of lacerations, including suturing, gluing, steristrips (cleaning and dressing alone will not be claimable).
- Assessment and management of minor head injuries (head injuries that do not meet the NICE 2007 (updated 2012) guidelines for referral to ED; see the NICE guidelines or Appendix 1, below).
- Assessment and management of foreign bodies in the skin, ear and nose (including local anaesthetic as needed) and non-penetrating foreign bodies in the eye.
- Assessment and management of joint sprains.
- Assessment and management of superficial burns

Restrictions and exclusions – injuries and conditions not covered by this service:

- Injuries and conditions over 48 hours old. Professional consensus indicates that injuries and wounds over 48 hours old should usually be dealt with through normal primary care services as should any lesion of a non-traumatic origin
- Overdose, poisoning, head injury associated with loss of consciousness, penetrating eye injury, partial and full thickness burns, traumatic contusions, fractures, tendon and artery injuries.
- Any injury or condition for which the patient is subsequently referred to ED or MIU by the Provider.

The list of Read codes attached as Appendix 2 identifies qualifying conditions and treatments.

Suture removal: No longer included in this specification. This element is now included in the specification for **Completing an Episode of Surgical Care** where relevant coding and payment arrangements are set out in full.

3. Accreditation

Health Care Professionals providing minor injury services would be expected to:

- (i) have either current experience of provision of minor injury work, or
- (ii) have current minor injury experience, or
- (iii) have recent accident & emergency experience, or
- (iv) have equivalent training which satisfies relevant appraisal and revalidation procedures.

Health Care Professionals carrying out minor injury services must be competent in resuscitation and, as for other areas of clinical practice, have a responsibility for ensuring that their skills are regularly updated. Health Care Professionals carrying out minor injury activity should demonstrate a continuing sustained level of activity, conduct audit data and take part in appropriate educational activities.

Nurses assisting in minor injury procedures should be appropriately trained and competent taking into consideration their professional accountability and the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) guidelines on the scope of professional practice. Those doctors who have previously provided services similar to this service and who satisfy at appraisal and revalidation that they have such continuing medical experience, training and competence as is necessary to enable them to contract for this service shall be deemed professionally qualified to do so.

4. Audit

The practice will be required to provide an audit of minor injury patients including information on attendance at MIUs or A&E. It is important therefore that practices record both category and consultation codes.

5. Payment

Payment will be made quarterly one month after the end of the quarter based on the activity recorded and accessed using Quest. NB Payment will only be made where practices record both consultation and category codes.

Payment for the assessment and treatment of minor injuries will be **£30**.

6. Monitoring

Practice activity will be measured using a QUEST search of actual activity following the end of each quarter during the year. Monitoring Codes to be used as in the attached document

In all cases patients who have died or left during the period will be included in the Search Populations. Data collection is to be quarterly.

7. Notice

This service will terminate on 31st March 2019. Any earlier termination date or other change will need to be agreed by both Commissioner and Provider.

Appendix 1: Summary of NICE 2012 guidelines for head injuries requiring referral to ED

- Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) < 15 on initial assessment
- Any loss of consciousness as a result of the injury
- Any focal neurological deficit since the injury (e.g. problems understanding/speaking or reading/writing, loss of feeling in any part of the body, any changes in vision, or difficulty balancing or walking)
- Any suspicion of skull fracture or penetrating head injury
- Amnesia for events before or after the injury
- Persistent headache after the injury
- Any vomiting after the injury
- Any seizure since the injury
- Any previous history of cranial neurosurgical interventions
- High-energy head injury (e.g. pedestrian struck by car, diving accident, fall or more than 1m, high-speed collision)
- History of bleeding or clotting disorders
- Currently on anticoagulation, such as warfarin
- Current drug/alcohol intoxication
- Age 65 or over
- Suspicion of non-accidental injury
- Continuing concern by clinician about the diagnosis

Appendix 2 Minor Injury Service Codes 2017-18

	Item	Read Code	Code Description
Search Population	Patients with any codes shown at any time during the quarter		
For payment (see below)	Lacerations	7G21% 7G20% 8BC7 7G1M2 8BC8	Suture of skin of other site Suture of skin of head or neck Glueing of wound Glue closure of skin wound Application of adhesive skin closure
	Head Injury	S6460	Minor head injury
	Superficial burns	SH11% SH31% SH41% SH21% SH51%	Superficial burn of the face, head or neck Superficial burn of the arm Superficial burn of the wrist and hand Superficial burn of the trunk Superficial burn of the leg
	Joint sprains	S50% S51% S52% S53% S54% S55%.	Sprain of shoulder and upper arm Sprain of elbow and forearm Sprain of wrist and hand Sprain of hip and thigh Sprain of knee and leg Sprain of ankle and foot
	Foreign body – orifice	SG1% SG2%	Foreign body in ear Foreign body in nose
	Foreign body – skin	7G23% 7G24%	Removal of other inorganic substance from skin Removal of other foreign body from skin
	Foreign body – eye	SG0% 72745	Foreign body on external eye Examination of eye under anaesthetic
Payment Criterion*	Consultations for minor injuries in the quarter	9kB 9Na1	Minor injury - enhanced services administration Consultation for minor injury

Practices must record **both** a consultation code **and** a site of injury code to qualify for payment. * Payment will be based on the number of consultations (9kB, 9Na1) done. If two or more minor injuries are assessed/treated in the same consultation, only one claim should be made. Temporary residents will be included.