



Important Information Regarding Facial Hair Removal for Patients at Nottingham Gender Clinic

As you may be aware, the [NHS England Interim Gender Dysphoria Protocol](#) states in appendix 4 that:

The reduction of facial hair is seen as an essential part of gender reassignment for a trans-woman to facilitate the period of living in the gender role that is congruent with the individual's gender identity before genital reassignment surgery. The absence of facial hair is of psychological benefit and will produce a greater well-being for the patient as there should be little or no need to remove hair on a constant basis.

It is recommended that facial hair removal should commence prior to social gender role transition, as the beard must grow to visible lengths to be removed.

Laser and Intense Pulse Light (IPL) treatment for facial hair reduction is most effective on those with dark hair and fair skin and is unsuitable for treating non-pigmented hairs such as grey, white, blonde and red; the latter may require reduction by electrolysis. Some modern lasers are able to effectively treat racially pigmented skin.

A fixed number of sessions (one site test and eight sessions), will be funded for facial hair reduction for trans-women.

Unfortunately, up until now the Nottingham Gender Clinic has been unable to refer anyone for laser hair removal despite this protocol existing. This was due to problems sorting out the commissioning process. We have spoken to some of the lead commissioners for gender identity and they have now clarified the situation with the people who deal with Nottingham.

We can now confirm that several patients at Nottingham Gender Clinic has been approved for eight sessions of facial hair removal (plus site test).

This treatment is available to all trans women who are current patients of Nottingham Gender Clinic who have received a diagnosis. The interim protocol clearly states that it is “recommended that facial hair removal should commence prior to social gender role transition” so there is no requirement for you to have transitioned before funding can be approved. You should not need to contact Nottingham Gender Clinic yourself as NHS Commissioner will do this for you.

Currently there are no contracts set up so you will be able to choose from a wide variety of locations. The attached list is approved hair removal clinics for patients in the Midlands. There shouldn't be any problems using a different hair removal clinic, but it may take an extra week or two while the NHS Commissioners review them for suitability.

Once you have chosen your hair removal clinic you need to contact them and ask them to provide a quote to Tina Smith who is the NHS England Commissioner who deals with these referrals. They need to contact her with your name, your NHS number and a quote for the fixed number of sessions (one site test and eight sessions). They should send the details to Tina by email on tina.smith15@nhs.net or if they have any problems they can call her on 0113 824 9576.

Tina will then confirm with the Gender Clinic that you are on the treatment pathway and approve the funding. She will then send confirmation to the hair removal clinic and tell them where to send invoices, and at this point will then be able to book your treatment. The entire process usually only takes a week or two.

**If you have any difficulties or success stories please let us know!
You can contact us by emailing info@uktrans.info**

FACIAL HAIR REMOVAL PROVIDERS

Bedford Hospital **Bedford Laser Treatment Centre**

Kempston Rd
Bedford
MK42 9DJ
Telephone: 01234 792172

Cristianos Laser Clinic

Altrincham
Bury
Leeds
Liverpool
London
Telephone: 0800 085 0661

The Laser Hair Clinic Northamp- **ton**

38 Billing Road
Northampton
NN1 5DQ
Telephone: 01604 634999

Lincoln Laser Skincare

3 Beaumont Fee
Lincoln
LN1 1UH
Telephone: 01522 575756

The Mapperley Park Clinic **The Nottingham Laser Centre)**

395 Mansfield Road
Nottingham
NG5 2DL
Telephone: 0800 2946 515

Rotherham Hospital **Careplus Skin**

Moorgate Road
Rotherham
S60 2UD
Telephone: 01709 426555

Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospital **Birmingham Regional Skin Laser Centre**

Dudley Road
Birmingham
West Midlands
B18 7QH
Telephone: 0121 507 6637/6639

SK:N Clinic

Birmingham Bull Street
Birmingham Edgbaston
Cheltenham
Leamington Spa
Leicester
Milton Keynes
Northampton
Norwich
Nottingham
Wolverhampton
Telephone: 0800 822 3305