Commissioning Policy (WM/20)

Antibody incompatible renal transplantation (AIT)

Version 2 – October 2009

1. Definitions

*Designated provider* means a provider trust which has been assessed and approved by the West Midlands Strategic Commissioning Group to provide a particular specialised service. The assessment is conducted against known capacity requirements and quality standards.

*Nominated provider* means a provider trust which has been approved by the Specialised Commissioning Team (West Midlands) to provide a particular specialised service without a formal assessment. This label implies that the service area and/or the provider is still waiting formal comprehensive assessment.

*Prior Approval* means the prior approval by the responsible Primary Care Trust for an individual patient or a group of patients to access care or treatment, including diagnostics, under a Prior Approval Scheme as set out in paragraphs 3.3 to 3.8 of Schedule 3 Part 1 of the Standard NHS Acute Services Contract 2009/10.

*An individual funding request* is a request received from a provider, or a patient with explicit support from a clinician, which seeks funding for a single identified patient for a specific treatment.

*Exceptional clinical circumstances* refers to a patient who has clinical circumstances which, taken as a whole, are outside the range of clinical circumstances presented by a patient within the normal population of patients with the same medical condition and at the same stage of progression as the patient.
Responsible Primary Care Trust means the Primary Care Trust which discharges the Secretary of State’s functions under the National Health Service Act 2006 for an individual patient.

2. The policy

2.1 This policy applies to any patient for whom a West Midland’s PCT is the Responsible Commissioner.

2.2 Activity will only be sanctioned at a designated provider. Local designated providers are:

University Hospital Coventry & Warwickshire NHS Trust
University Hospital Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

2.3 AIT renal transplantation will be commissioned in line with the following criteria:

Inclusion Criteria:
- Adult donor and recipient, who have informed, signed consent
- Donor and recipient medically fit for transplantation
- Transplantation prevented by blood group antibodies
- Individuals who have been on the UK Transplant Waiting List for a long time;
- Individuals who have vascular access problems resulting in difficulties for those on dialysis.

Exclusion Criteria:
- Any Donor or potential recipient who is pregnant or likely to become pregnant within 1 year.
- Hepatitis infectivity in donor or recipient
- Any potential recipient who has undergone 2 attempts at AIT

In instances where demand is greater than capacity, clinicians are asked to give priority to those who may otherwise not get an opportunity of transplantation, namely:

- Individuals who have been on the UK Transplant Waiting List for a long time;
- Individuals who have vascular access problems resulting in difficulties for those on dialysis.

2.4 Provision of AIT to any patient falling outside the criteria set out above will not routinely be funded and such a patient would need to become the subject of an individual funding request.

2.5 Individual prior approval applies to this treatment.

Funding requests should be sent to the West Midlands Specialised Commissioning Team.
2.6 The responsible PCT is prepared to consider providing funding for individual patients who are able to demonstrate exceptional clinical circumstances. Any such applications will be considered by the PCT under its Individual Funding Request policy and other relevant policies and operating procedures.

Individual funding requests should be initially sent to the West Midlands Specialised Commissioning Team.

2.7 Designated providers should ensure that all activity is audited annually and patient outcomes assessed. The provider should ensure that this information is available on request.

3. Commissioning structure

This service is commissioned by the Specialised Commissioning Team (West Midlands) on behalf of the 17 Primary Care Trusts in the West Midlands.

4. Documents which have informed this policy

- West Midlands Strategic Group Commissioning Policy 1: Ethical Framework to support priority setting and resource allocation within collaborative commissioning arrangements
- West Midlands Strategic Group Commissioning Policy 4: Use of cost-effectiveness, value for money and cost effectiveness thresholds
- West Midlands Strategic Group Commissioning Policy 16: Prior approval
- West Midlands Strategic Group Commissioning Policy 9: Individual funding requests
- West Midlands Region Service Specification for ABO incompatible renal transplantation.