

<b>Policy statement:</b>	<b>Arthroscopy Shoulder</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Threshold Approval</b>

MECCG commissions shoulder arthroscopy on a restricted basis.

Shoulder arthroscopy will only be funded for patients with adhesive capsulitis ('frozen shoulder') if the following treatments have all been tried and failed:

- (a) Activity modification
- (b) Physiotherapy and exercise programme
- (c) Oral analgesics including NSAIDs (unless contraindicated)
- (d) Intra-articular steroid injections
- (e) Manipulation under anaesthetic

GPs should not refer unless all the above have been tried and failed, and referrals must include objective information to demonstrate this.

Providers should be aware that payment may be withheld if they cannot demonstrate that patients meet these criteria.

Patients not meeting the above criteria will not be funded unless there are **clinically exceptional circumstances**.

Applications for funding in such circumstances should be made to the Exceptional Case Team but should only be made where the patient demonstrates true clinical exceptionality.

Further information on applying for funding in exceptional clinical circumstances can be found by clicking the link below and opening the relevant document on the page.

[Service Restriction Policies](#)

ICD10 codes	
OPCS codes	W88.1, W88.8, W88.9 with Secondary code of Z81.4