

Lancashire and South Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Groups Commissioning Policy Reviews

Complementary and Alternative Therapies Public Engagement Outcomes			
When the public engagement took place	Start date	End date	Duration
	06 September 2017	27 October 2017	8 weeks
Number of survey respondents – electronic or on paper	Total	By gender	By disability
	51	Female: 74% Male:26%	No disability: 64% Disability: 32% Prefer not to say: 4%
	By sexual orientation	By ethnicity	
	Heterosexual: 88% Gay/Lesbian: 4% Bisexual: 4% Prefer not to say: 4%	White British: 94% Asian ethnicity: 0% Other: 2%	Mixed ethnicity: 0% Black ethnicity: 0% Prefer not to say: 4%
Number of people seen face-to-face	Not applicable		
	0		
Survey question response rates from patients and members of the public	Over 84% of respondents read the complementary alternative therapies policy before completing the survey	Over 29% of those who responded felt it should only be funded for the people who meet the criteria	19.5% of survey respondents had received this treatment/procedure
	72.5% of survey respondents agreed with the criteria for complementary and alternative therapies and 16% disagreed with the criteria		
Key issues/themes raised by patients and members of the public	The policy does not go far enough in ruling out alternative therapies and wasting NHS funds		
	No mention is made of psychological based therapies, such as Mindfulness, which ought to be included		
	Individual patients may need a different provision to that allowed under the policy		
	It needed to be clearer that the NHS would only provide alternative therapies where there is clear evidence to support it		

Responses to key issues/themes raised during public engagement	Only where evidence supports the use of alternative therapies within NHS contracted services will these procedures be funded
	Psychological therapies such as Mindfulness are outside the scope of this policy
	Clinicians have the option to put in an Individual Funding Request if a different provision to that identified in the policy is considered necessary
	The point raised about NHS provision was accepted and changes were made to the policy to clarify that only where there was clear evidence to support them would alternative therapies be provided
Key changes to the policy following public engagement (if applicable)	Policy amended to make it clear only alternative therapies that are evidence-based would be supported
Policy ratified by Joint Committee of Clinical Commissioning Groups on 12 January 2018	