

# FSSA

Federation of Surgical Specialty Associations



With thanks to the RCOG and the RCOphth

The Association of Surgeons of Great Britain & Ireland  
The British Association of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons  
The British Association of Otorhinolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery  
The British Association of Plastic, Reconstructive & Aesthetic Surgeons  
The Society for Cardiothoracic Surgery in Great Britain & Ireland

The British Association of Paediatric Surgeons  
The British Association of Urological Surgeons  
The British Orthopaedic Association  
The Society of British Neurological Surgeons  
The Vascular Society of Great Britain & Ireland

| Priority 1a - Emergency procedures to be performed in <24 hours                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                             |                                                                               |                                                                            |                                  |                                                                      |
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| <b>(n.b. This prioritisation is about 'when and not by whom' during the Covid19 Crisis - see notes below).</b>                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                             |                                                                               |                                                                            |                                  |                                                                      |
| <b>General surgery (including oesophago-gastric, HPB, colorectal, breast, endocrine)</b>                                                                                                                                                               | Emergency laparotomy -<br><i>Peritonitis</i><br><i>Perforation</i><br><i>Ischaemia</i><br><i>Necrotising fasciitis</i><br><i>Small bowel obstruction -with concerning features of incipient ischaemia/perforation</i><br><i>Post-operative complications (e.g. anastomotic leaks)</i><br><i>Bleeding - not suitable for/ responding to endoscopic/control/ interventional radiology</i>                                                | Appendicectomy - complicated/ unresponsive to conservative Rx                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Intra-abdominal trauma - unsuitable for/not responding to conservative Rx                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Drainage of localised sepsis/necrosis - not responding to conservative Rx (antibiotics/ interventional radiology)                                                                                                                                   | Benign Perforated oesophagus/ stomach - with survivable mediastinitis/ peritonitis                                                                                     | Acute airway obstruction - thyroid                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | All solid organ transplants                                                 |                                                                               |                                                                            |                                  |                                                                      |
| <b>OMFS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Haemorrhage from maxillary/mandibular trauma not responsive to conservative Rx (reduction + IR)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Dental Sepsis - not responding to conservative Rx and threat to life/airway/ sight/brain.                                                                                                                                                                                      | Orbital Compartment Syndrome/Muscle Entrapment - threat to sight                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Jaw Dislocation - not responding to conservative Rx                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                             |                                                                               |                                                                            |                                  |                                                                      |
| <b>Reconstructive plastic surgery including burns and hands</b>                                                                                                                                                                                        | Major burns - Airway management/ resuscitation/ escharotomies/ amputations/Toxic Shock                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Chemical burns - especially Eye/ Hydrofluoric acid >2%                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Necrotising Fasciitis - any site                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Soft tissue infection - any site (especially closed compartments/ joints) not responding to conservative Rx                                                                                                                                         | Revascularisation/ re-implantation/ failing free flap - any site                                                                                                       | Washout open wound/fractures/ infected/grossly contaminated (human/animal/ contaminated) wounds - any site                                                                                                                                           | Removal of prosthesis/expander for fulminant infection                      |                                                                               |                                                                            |                                  |                                                                      |
| <b>Urology</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Renal obstruction with infection - not responding to conservative Rx                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Renal/ureteric trauma requiring open surgery                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Bladder trauma requiring open surgery                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Genital trauma/ testicular torsion/ amputation/priapism (>24hrs)                                                                                                                                                                                    | Fournier's gangrene                                                                                                                                                    | Haematuria/ uncontrolled haemorrhage - causing haemodynamic instability and unresponsive to conservative Rx (including paediatric)                                                                                                                   | Insertion of catheter under GA                                              |                                                                               |                                                                            |                                  |                                                                      |
| <b>Trauma and orthopaedics (including spinal surgery)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                              | Fractures -<br><i>Open</i><br><i>Neurovascular +/- Skin compromise</i><br><i>Hip/femoral shaft</i><br><i>Long bone/Pelvic +/- Spinal fixation in polytrauma</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Infection -<br><i>Septic arthritis - (natural or prosthetic joint)</i><br><i>Other metalwork (including spine)</i>                                                                                                                                                             | Dislocated joints                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Compartment syndrome                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Spinal Trauma with instability and or neurological dysfunction                                                                                                         | Acute spinal cord compression - with neurological dysfunction - including MSCC                                                                                                                                                                       | Cauda Equina Syndrome - Clinically and radiologically confirmed.            |                                                                               |                                                                            |                                  |                                                                      |
| <b>ENT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Airway obstruction - Cancer/Foreign body/Sepsis                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Neck trauma with vascular/visceral/ airway injury                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Nasal/ear/throat foreign body - button battery removal                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Life threatening middle ear conditions                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Orbital cellulitis                                                                                                                                                     | Uncontrolled epistaxis                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Sinus surgery for impending catastrophe/failure to respond to medical Rx    |                                                                               |                                                                            |                                  |                                                                      |
| <b>Neurosurgery (including spinal surgery)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Traumatic Brain injury - unsuitable for conservative RX                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Intra-cranial haemorrhage - not responding to conservative RX                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Acute raised Intra cranial pressure/ Hydrocephalus (recoverable stroke/ tumour) - not suitable for conservative Rx                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Cauda Equina Syndrome - Clinically and radiologically confirmed.                                                                                                                                                                                    | Myelomeningocele                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                             |                                                                               |                                                                            |                                  |                                                                      |
| <b>Cardiothoracic surgery</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Ruptured bronchus                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Myocardial infarction - imminent death                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Empyema with sepsis                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Aortic dissection                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Acute presentation of ventricular septal defect                                                                                                                        | Acute mitral valve disease                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Chest Trauma                                                                |                                                                               |                                                                            |                                  |                                                                      |
| <b>Vascular surgery</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Vascular injury/ occlusion - Limb/ Gut/SVC                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Uncontrolled external haemorrhage - any site/source                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Ruptured AAA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Diabetic foot sepsis                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                             |                                                                               |                                                                            |                                  |                                                                      |
| <b>Paediatric general and urological surgery (see also urology)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                    | Neonatal Malformations -<br><i>Oesophageal Atresia,</i><br><i>Gastroschisis,</i><br><i>Anorectal Malformations</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Emergency Laparotomy - (Neonatal) -<br><i>Necrotising Enterocolitis (NEC),</i><br><i>Perforation,</i><br><i>Malrotation</i>                                                                                                                                                    | Emergency laparotomy - (Infant/ child)<br><i>Peritonitis</i><br><i>Perforation</i><br><i>Intussusception</i><br><i>Ischaemia</i><br><i>Necrotising fasciitis</i><br><i>Bleeding (not responding to conservative Rx)</i><br><i>Post-operative complications (e.g., anastomotic leaks/bleeding)</i>                                                                                                   | Appendicectomy - Complicated or unresponsive to conservative Rx                                                                                                                                                                                     | Thoracotomy/Chest Drain Insertion/Video Assisted Thorascopic Surgery (VATS) for Empyema                                                                                | Strangulated inguinal hernia                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Acute Scrotal Exploration (suspected Testicular Torsion)                    | Trauma Thoracotomy                                                            | Trauma Laparotomy                                                          | Removal of Infected Central Line | Renal Obstruction with infection - not responding to Conservative Rx |
| <b>Paediatric orthopaedic surgery</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Septic arthritis/ osteomyelitis                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Fractures -<br><i>Open</i><br><i>Neurovascular compromise +/- Skin compromise</i>                                                                                                                                                                                              | Dislocated joints                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Compartment syndrome                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                             |                                                                               |                                                                            |                                  |                                                                      |
| <b>Paediatric cardiac surgery</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Neonate - Left heart obstructive lesions -<br><i>HLHS (restrictive/ intact atrial septum)</i><br><i>Critical aortic stenosis/coarctation (unresponsive to medical Rx)</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Neonate - Right heart obstructive lesions -<br><i>PA-IVS</i><br><i>PA-VSD</i><br><i>Tetralogy of Fallot</i><br><i>Critical pulmonary stenosis</i><br>(not responding to medical Rx)                                                                                            | Neonate - Mixing lesions -<br><i>TGA (hypoxaemia for BAS/Intact IVS for ASO)</i><br><i>TAPVD (clinically obstructed)</i><br><i>Common arterial trunk (excess pulmonary blood flow, truncal regurgitation not responding to medical Rx)</i>                                                                                                                                                          | Neonate - Shunt/ stent -<br><i>Profound hypoxaemia/ occlusion/ thrombosis)</i>                                                                                                                                                                      | Neonate - Arrhythmia<br><i>CHB not responding to medical Rx.</i>                                                                                                       | Infant - Right heart obstructive lesions -<br><i>Tetralogy of Fallot (cyanotic spells unresponsive to medical Rx)</i><br><i>Shunt/stent dependent pulmonary blood flow (pre BCPC/pre bIV repair with profound hypoxaemia/ thrombosis/ occlusion)</i> | Infant - Regurgitant lesions -<br><i>Aortic (haemodynamically unstable)</i> | Child - Left heart obstructive lesions -<br><i>MV prosthesis (Thrombosed)</i> | Child - Regurgitant lesions -<br><i>Aortic (haemodynamically unstable)</i> |                                  |                                                                      |
| <b>Obstetrics and Gynaecology (including urogynaecology, pregnancy, delivery, and reproductive medicine)</b>                                                                                                                                           | Laparotomy/ Laparoscopy<br><i>Miscarriage with bleeding requiring surgical control and unstable</i><br><i>Torted/Ruptured ovarian mass</i><br><i>Tube-Ovarian Abscess/Pelvic collection/ Necrotising fasciitis</i><br><i>Genital tract trauma - (e.g. vaginal tear/ pelvo-vaginal haematoma)</i><br><i>Ectopic pregnancy</i><br><i>Complications of TOP</i><br><i>Molar pregnancy - (bleeding/ evacuation/ emergency hysterectomy)</i> | Pregnancy/Delivery<br><i>Emergency Caesarean</i><br><i>Instrumental delivery</i><br><i>Perineal repair</i><br><i>Manual removal of placenta</i><br><i>Cervical cerclage</i><br><i>Emergency laparotomy/ hysterectomy</i>                                                       | Termination of pregnancy -<br><i>a) Maternal compromise (e.g. sepsis, chorioamnionitis, severe pre-eclampsia, etc.)</i><br><i>b) Approaching legal threshold (23+6 weeks for all, 9+6 weeks [England &amp; Wales])11+6 weeks [Scotland] for medical abortion at home), 12-14 weeks where procedure not provided by local NHS beyond this)</i><br><i>c) Fetocide (where approaching legal limit)</i> | Reproductive medicine -<br><i>a) Males - sperm storage before acute sterilisation</i><br><i>b) Females - before acute sterilisation.</i><br><i>i) Oocyte collection (n.b. must be 36hrs after the trigger)</i><br><i>ii) Ovarian tissue storage</i> | Paediatric/adolescent -<br><i>Imperforate hymen incision and drainage.</i>                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                             |                                                                               |                                                                            |                                  |                                                                      |
| <b>Ophthalmology</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Acute risk to sight/ life (e.g. penetrating injuries/globe rupture/orbital haemorrhage/burns infection/fractures/ lid lacerations)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Oncology -<br><i>Ruthenium plaque removal.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Vitreoretinal<br><i>Vitreous biopsy/ antibiotic injection - suspected endophthalmitis</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                             |                                                                               |                                                                            |                                  |                                                                      |
| <b>PLEASE NOTE: More detailed specialty specific guidance can be found on the NHSE website <a href="https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/publication/specialty-guides/">https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/publication/specialty-guides/</a></b> | <b>a) THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE REVIEWED MONTHLY</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>b) This Prioritisation is about 'WHEN and not BY Whom'. Space does not allow every procedure to be listed under every specialty performing it and it DOES NOT indicate primacy of ANY specialty legitimately performing any procedure within their listed competencies.</b> | <b>c) Any delay in treatment, especially of cancers, trauma and life threatening conditions, may lead to adverse outcomes.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>d) Other Specialist Surgery in Paediatric patients is included in the guidance above.</b>                                                                                                                                                        | <b>e) Safeguarding issues must be considered in all those attending with trauma and acute surgical problems (e.g. NAI/ domestic violence/ abuse of the vulnerable)</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                             |                                                                               |                                                                            |                                  |                                                                      |

| Priority 1b - Procedures to be performed in <72 hours.                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                    |                                                |                                                                 |
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| <b>General surgery (including oesophago-gastric, HPB, coloproctology, breast, endocrine)</b>                                                                                                                                                           | Laparotomy -<br><br><i>Small bowel obstruction</i> - not responding to conservative Rx NOS.<br><br><i>Colectomy for acute severe ulcerative colitis</i> - not responding to conservative Rx<br><br><i>Bowel obstruction not suitable for stenting.</i>                                                                                                                                                                      | Perianal abscess/ other infection - not responding to conservative Rx.                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Urgent enteral nutrition access                                                                                                | Failed conservative management of localised intra-peritoneal infection                                                                                                                       | Breast sepsis - without necrosis unresponsive to conservative Rx                                                                                                       | Upper GI endoscopy for foreign body removal                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                    |                                                |                                                                 |
| <b>OMFS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Facial fractures - not suitable for conservative Rx                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                    |                                                |                                                                 |
| <b>Reconstructive plastic surgery including burns and hands</b>                                                                                                                                                                                        | Burns - requiring resuscitation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Burns - full thickness/deep dermal requiring debridement and closure                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Burns - mid/deep dermal with exposure of deep structures likely/ infection                                                     | Soft tissue infection - any site (especially closed compartments/ joints) not responding to conservative Rx                                                                                  | Delayed primary closure of open wound/fracture - any site                                                                                                              | Primary tendon/ nerve repair - all sites.                                                                                                                                                              | Unstable closed fractures or joint injuries - unsuitable for conservative Rx                                                      | Secondary closure of washed out open wound/ fracture - any site    | Fingertip/nail bed repair/terminalisation      | Major limb trauma reconstruction unsuitable for conservative Rx |
| <b>Urology</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Upper urinary tract obstruction                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Renal stones - pain/ impairment not responsive to conservative Rx (including paediatric)                                                                                                                                                                                       | Penile fracture                                                                                                                | Infected prosthesis - penile/testicular/ ureteric stent                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                    |                                                |                                                                 |
| <b>T &amp; O (including spinal surgery)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Tibial fracture – high energy/displaced/uns table shaft                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Fractures – pathological and peri-prosthetic                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Unstable articular fractures that will result in severe disability without operative fixation                                  | Non-hip lower limb frailty fractures requiring fixation to mobilise patient                                                                                                                  | Spinal Trauma requiring stabilisation without neurological involvement                                                                                                 | Compound/complex fractures of nose/ethmoid                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                    |                                                |                                                                 |
| <b>ENT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Other foreign body in nose                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Orbital decompression                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Acute mastoiditis and other middle ear conditions not responding to conservative Rx                                            | Traumatic/cholesteoma related facial nerve palsy                                                                                                                                             | Traumatic injury to the pinna                                                                                                                                          | Lymph node biopsy – lymphoma where core biopsy inadequate                                                                                                                                              | Head and neck sepsis = not responding to conservative Rx                                                                          | MDT directed cancer debulking/biopsy – Microlaryngoscopy +/- laser | Vocal Cord medialisation for severe aspiration | Compound/complex fractures of the nose and sinuses              |
| <b>Neurosurgery (including spinal surgery)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Depressed skull fracture                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Traumatic brain injury - not responding to conservative Rx - neurological compromise                                                                                                                                                                                           | Intracranial haemorrhage - no longer responding to conservative Rx                                                             | Acute raised Intra cranial pressure/ hydrocephalus (recoverable stroke/ tumour) - no longer responding to conservative Rx                                                                    | Battery change for spinal/deep brain/ epilepsy stimulators/pumps                                                                                                       | MDT directed paediatric brain tumour surgery                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                    |                                                |                                                                 |
| <b>Cardiothoracic surgery</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Empyema not responding to Rx                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Coronary Artery Disease - Unstable/ Rest ECG changes and not reposing to conservative Rx                                                                                                                                                                                       | Aortic Valve Disease - Deteriorating Symptoms / Haemodynamically unstable                                                      | Mitral Valve Disease - Deteriorating Symptoms / Haemodynamically unstable                                                                                                                    | Myxoma - Emboli/ Haemodynamically unstable                                                                                                                             | Chest Trauma                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                    |                                                |                                                                 |
| <b>Vascular surgery</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Acute on chronic limb ischaemia                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Symptomatic carotid disease                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Amputation for limb ischaemia                                                                                                  | Diabetic foot sepsis - not responding to conservative Rx                                                                                                                                     | Blocked AV fistula                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                    |                                                |                                                                 |
| <b>Paediatric general and urological surgery (see also urology)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                    | Neonatal Malformations -<br><br><i>Duodenal Atresia,</i><br><br><i>Small bowel obstruction</i><br><br><i>Large bowel obstruction</i><br><br><i>Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia</i><br><br><i>Congenital Pulmonary Airway Malformations (CPAMS) - respiratory compromise</i>                                                                                                                                                 | Laparotomy - small bowel obstruction not responding to conservative Rx                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Laparotomy - Colectomy for colitis (Ulcerative Colitis/ Hirschsprung's) not responding to conservative Rx                      | Soft tissue infection - any site not responding to conservative Rx                                                                                                                           | Central Venous Line insertion for Oncology/Enteral nutrition/Access for antibiotics/Dialysis                                                                           | Drainage of obstructed renal tract                                                                                                                                                                     | Malignant tumour/ Lymph node biopsy                                                                                               | Peritoneal Dialysis Catheter Insertion                             | Resection of Posterior Urethral Valves         | Pyloromyotomy                                                   |
| <b>Paediatric orthopaedic surgery</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Slipped Upper Femoral Epiphysis                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Fractures -<br><br><i>Displaced articular/ peri-articular</i><br><br><i>Forearm</i><br><br><i>Femoral</i>                                                                                                                                                                      | Exposed metalwork                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                    |                                                |                                                                 |
| <b>Paediatric cardiac surgery</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                    |                                                |                                                                 |
| <b>Obstetrics and Gynaecology (including urogynaecology, pregnancy, delivery, and reproductive medicine)</b>                                                                                                                                           | Laparotomy/ Laparoscopy<br><br><i>Pelvic collection/ tubo-ovarian abscess (not responding to conservative treatment, incl. interventional radiology)</i><br><br><i>Ectopic pregnancy (stable patient)</i><br><br><i>Evacuation of haematoma/Repair wound dehiscence/ Evisceration/ Incisional hernia</i><br><br><i>Pelvic pain &gt;48 hours</i><br><br><i>Bowel obstruction - Cancer not responding to conservative Rx.</i> | Incision + drainage/ marsupialisation -<br><br><i>Bartholin's abscess</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Miscarriage -<br><br><i>Patient stable - case selection</i>                                                                    | Abortion -<br><br><i>All cases - &lt;1 week post assessment (NICE 2019)</i>                                                                                                                  | Fistula repair –<br><br><i>Recto-vaginal/ Bladder-vagina</i>                                                                                                           | MDT Directed EUA and insertion of fiducial markers -<br><br><i>Cervical cancer staging and planning</i>                                                                                                | Hysteroscopy -<br><br><i>PMB with thickened endometrium + not amenable to outpatient sampling</i>                                 |                                                                    |                                                |                                                                 |
| <b>Ophthalmology</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Trauma -<br><br><i>Foreign body - Intraocular/corneal (deep/full thickness)</i><br><br><i>Paediatric orbital floor fracture with muscle entrapment</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Vitreoretinal -<br><br><i>Laser - retinal tear</i><br><br><i>Vitrectomy - i) dropped lens nucleus after cataract surgery</i><br><br><i>ii) Acute Rhegmatogenic Detachment - macularon/recently off</i>                                                                         | Cornea -<br><br><i>Corneal transplant/ glueing</i><br><br><i>Amniotic membrane graft - threat to sight</i>                     | Adnexal -<br><br><i>Orbital decompression/ lesion debulking - threat to sight</i><br><br><i>Drainage of orbital abscess</i><br><br><i>Eye removal - serious risk to health (e.g. sepsis)</i> | Glaucoma -<br><br><i>Acute – i) Laser PI ii) Unresponsive to medical Rx/laser</i><br><br><i>Secondary - Drainage/diode laser - imminent risk to sight</i>              | Paediatrics -<br><br><i>Retinopathy of prematurity - retinal -laser/intravitreal injection</i><br><br><i>Examination under anaesthesia - potential threat to sight</i><br><br><i>(see also trauma)</i> | Medical<br><br><i>Retina – Periocular/intravitreal steroids for inflammatory eye disease</i><br><br><i>Temporal artery biopsy</i> |                                                                    |                                                |                                                                 |
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| Priority 3 - Procedures to be performed in < 3 months.                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                          |                                                                               |                                                                                         |
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| (n.b. This prioritisation is about 'when and not by whom' during the Covid19 Crisis - see notes below)                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                          |                                                                               |                                                                                         |
| General surgery (including oesophago-gastric, HPB, coloproctology, breast, endocrine)                                                                                                                                                           | MDT directed resection of colon cancer                                                                                                                                | MDT directed resection of rectal cancer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | MDT Directed cancer surgery<br><i>Hepatobiliary Pancreatic</i><br><br><i>Oesophagogastric GI</i><br><br><i>Stromal tumour</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                    | MDT Directed thyroid cancer surgery - including diagnostic lobectomy.                                                                                                                   | Salvage surgery for recurrent anal cancer                                                                                                                       | MDT directed breast cancer resection -<br><br><i>Pre-menopausal ER+ without adverse biology</i><br><br><i>Non-high grade DCIS</i>                                                                                                                             | MDT directed adrenal resections - intermediate masses<br><br><i>&gt;4cm&lt;6cm with hypersecretion (Cortisol/androgen)</i><br><br><i>metastases - progressing on scan at 3/12.</i>                          | Cholecystectomy - post acute pancreatitis                | Hernia - presenting with complications that have settled with conservative Rx | Parathyroidectomy - symptomatic renal stones/Sepsis not responding to conservative Rx . |
| OMFS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | MDT directed resection of head and neck skin cancer - moderately/well differentiated with no metastases.                                                              | MDT directed salivary gland tumours (low grade).                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Cleft lip - Alveolar bone grafting (Prior to canine eruption)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                          |                                                                               |                                                                                         |
| Reconstructive plastic surgery including burns and hands                                                                                                                                                                                        | Burns - reconstruction for eyelid closure/microstomia/joint and neck contracture                                                                                      | Limb contractures                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Secondary cleft and non-cleft speech surgery - to avoid breaching 5 yrs of age                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Primary cleft palate Repair - to avoid breaching 13 months of age                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                          |                                                                               |                                                                                         |
| Urology                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | MDT directed prostate cancer surgery - high/intermediate risk                                                                                                         | Stent removal/exchange                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Haematuria - investigation for non-visible (including paediatric)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | MDT directed bladder cancer surgery(not invading muscle)                                                                                                                                | MDT Directed penile cancer surgery (low grade and premalignant).                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                          |                                                                               |                                                                                         |
| T & O (including spinal surgery)                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Hip Avascular Necrosis (night pain/ collapse of the joint/ going off their feet)                                                                                      | Frozen shoulder - severe and not responding to conservative Rx                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Tendon reconstruction/tenodesis - any site                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Revision surgery<br><i>Loosening without impending fracture.</i><br><br><i>Recurrent joint instability</i>                                                                              | MDT Directed Benign bone/soft tissue lesion excision biopsy - not otherwise specified                                                                           | MDT Directed primary sarcoma plus metastases surgery                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Arthroscopic removal of joint loose body (Reversible symptoms preventing work)                                                                                                                              | Locked Knee - ACL/ other reconstruction                  | Removal of metalwork e.g. across joints.                                      | Spinal Surgery – Injection/decompressive surgery for intractable radiculopathy.         |
| ENT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | CSF fistula repair                                                                                                                                                    | Expanding mucocoele without infection/NOS                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Cochlear implant in pre-verbal profound hearing loss where delay will impact on long term outcome.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | MDT directed otological cancer surgery.                                                                                                                                                 | Micro-Laryngoscopy and papilloma resection (laser/microdebrider/coblation/steel)                                                                                | Endoscopic treatment of pharyngeal pouch with severe dysphagia                                                                                                                                                                                                | Sinus surgery with complication of infection                                                                                                                                                                |                                                          |                                                                               |                                                                                         |
| Neurosurgery (including spinal surgery)                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                          |                                                                               |                                                                                         |
| Cardiothoracic surgery                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Stable Non ST Elevation MI                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                          |                                                                               |                                                                                         |
| Vascular surgery                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | AAA >5.5cm and <7cm diameter                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                          |                                                                               |                                                                                         |
| Paediatric general and urological surgery (see also urology)                                                                                                                                                                                    | Congenital Malformations with delayed Management -<br><br><i>Hirschsprung's Disease initially managed with washouts.</i>                                              | Inguinal hernia (3-12 mths of age)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Gastrostomy for Failure To Thrive (FTT)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Interval appendicectomy for recurrent symptoms                                                                                                                                          | Cholecystectomy                                                                                                                                                 | Fundoplication for GOR – failure to thrive                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Orchidopexy for undescended testis                                                                                                                                                                          | Pyeloplasty for PUJ obstruction effecting renal function | Vesico-ureteric reflux effecting renal function/recurrent pyelonephritis      | Varicocele                                                                              |
| Paediatric orthopaedic surgery                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Developmental Dislocation of the Hip (DDH) - Primary joint stabilisation                                                                                              | Congenital Talipes Equino Varus (CTEV) - Initial management including tenotomies                                                                                                                                                                                        | Limb length discrepancy/malalignment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                          |                                                                               |                                                                                         |
| Paediatric cardiac surgery                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                          |                                                                               |                                                                                         |
| Obstetrics and Gynaecology (including urogynaecology, pregnancy, and reproductive medicine)                                                                                                                                                     | Urogynaecology<br><br><i>Suprapubic catheter change</i><br><br><i>Prolapse - bleeding/ulceration/proctodentia/vault inversion</i><br><br><i>Genitourinary fistula</i> | MDT Directed cancer treatment - Cervical (Stage Ia1)<br><br><i>Repeat local conisation (Any age) or Highgrade pre-cancer (&gt;50 yrs of age)</i><br><br><i>Simple hysterectomy following local conisation (LLETZ)</i>                                                   | Hysteroscopic/Laparoscopic/Open Myomectomy/Hysterectomy/Endometrial ablation<br><br><i>Fibroids/Heavy menstrual bleeding (significant anaemia + unresponsive to conservative Rx)</i><br><br><i>Endometriosis - a) Severe symptoms unresponsive to medical Rx b) Bowel/ureteric obstruction - failed/unsuitable for stenting)</i> | BSO/salpingectomy -<br><br><i>Risk reducing for BRCA1/2 + recent, normal CA125 and USS</i><br><br><i>Persistent, complex ovarian cyst - low risk of malignancy</i>                      | Hysterectomy - risk reducing for Lynch Syndrome                                                                                                                 | Paediatric and adolescent – MDT directed<br><br><i>Laparoscopic excision of obstructed uterine horn</i><br><br><i>Vaginal reconstruction for agenesis with menstrual obstruction</i>                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                          |                                                                               |                                                                                         |
| Ophthalmology                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Vitreoretinal - Some macular holes<br><br><i>Vitrectomy - i) Vitreous haemorrhage/tractional retinal detachment ii) silicone oil removal - complications</i>          | Adnexal -<br><br><i>Large mucocele</i><br><br><i>Entropion/Ectropion - ocular surface damage</i><br><br><i>Eye removal - Non-malignant/low threat to health</i><br><br><i>Botulism injects foe disabling blepharospasm</i>                                              | Glaucoma -<br><br><i>Drainage - not otherwise specified</i><br><br><i>Selected laser trabeculoplasty</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Cataract -<br><br><i>Surgery/YAG laser</i><br><br><i>i) Binocular vision &lt;6/60/severely disabled (e.g. cannot work) ii) Limiting management of other conditions -threat to sight</i> | External -<br><br><i>Cross-linking - rapidly progressive/ very thin cornea keratoconus</i>                                                                      | Paediatrics -<br><br><i>Retinal laser/ cryotherapy/ intravitreal injections - Retinal vascular conditions</i><br><br><i>Capsulotomy -visual axis opacity following congenital cataract surgery</i><br><br><i>Removal of loose corneal sutures in children</i> | Medical –<br><br><i>Diabetic macula/retinal vein/branch vein occlusion</i><br><br><i>i) Intravitreal injections ii) Macular laser</i><br><br><i>Photodynamic laser for central serous chorioretinopathy</i> |                                                          |                                                                               |                                                                                         |
| PLEASE NOTE: More detailed specialty specific guidance can be found on the NHSE website <a href="https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/publication/specialty-guides/">https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/publication/specialty-guides/</a> | a) THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE REVIEWED MONTHLY                                                                                                                             | b) This Prioritisation is about 'WHEN and not BY Whom'. Space does not allow every procedure to be listed under every specialty performing it and it DOES NOT indicate primacy of ANY specialty legitimately performing any procedure within their listed competencies. | c) Any delay in treatment, especially of cancers, trauma and life threatening conditions, may lead to adverse outcomes.                                                                                                                                                                                                          | d) Other Specialist Surgery in Paediatric patients is included in the guidance above.                                                                                                   | e) Safeguarding issues must be considered in all those attending with trauma and acute surgical problems (e.g. NAI/ domestic violence/ abuse of the vulnerable) |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                          |                                                                               |                                                                                         |

