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| Intervention   | **003. Cleft (split) earlobe surgery**   |
| For the treatment of   | Cleft (split) earlobe   |
| Commissioning Position  | This intervention is commissioned if the cleft earlobe was caused by direct trauma, not due to gradual change caused by wearing heavy earrings. Surgery should be performed as soon as clinically safe to do so after the trauma.   |
| Summary of Rationale   | Acquired clefts can develop due to prolonged traction from wearing heavy earrings over time, or due to trauma. Surgical repair is not always successful, and the earlobe is a site where poor scar formation is a recognised risk.   |
| References  | [information-for-commissioners-of-plastic-surgery-services.pdf (bapras.org.uk)](https://www.bapras.org.uk/docs/default-source/commissioning-and-policy/information-for-commissioners-of-plastic-surgery-services.pdf?sfvrsn=ba572cc3_2)   |
| Effective from  | October 2024  |
| Policy Review Date   | October 2027  |