GM Policy: **Endoscopic Thoracic Sympathectomy for Facial Blushing**

GM Ref: GM062  **Current version:** 2.2 (25 January 2019)

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Policy exclusions (Alternative commissioning arrangements apply)

Treatment/procedures undertaken as part of an externally funded trial or as a part of locally agreed contracts / or pathways of care are excluded from this policy, i.e. locally agreed pathways take precedent over this policy (the EUR Team should be informed of any local pathway for this exclusion to take effect).

Policy inclusion criteria

Endoscopic Thoracic Sympathectomy is a procedure with a relatively high risk of complications. As facial blushing is a non-life threatening condition the risk is considered to outweigh the benefits in these cases and is therefore not routinely commissioned.

**Funding Mechanism:** Individual funding request (exceptional case) approval: Requests must be submitted with all relevant supporting evidence.

**Clinical Exceptionality:** Clinicians can submit an Individual Funding Request (IFR) outside of this guidance if they feel there is a good case for exceptionality.

**Fitness for Surgery:** The clinician making the request must confirm that in their opinion the patient is fit for the surgery requested.

**Best Practice Guidelines:** All providers are expected to follow best practice guidelines (where available) in the management of these conditions.

**Funding request form:** [Endoscopic Thoracic Sympathectomy (ETS) for facial blushing](#)