

EXOGEN ultrasound bone healing system for long bone fractures with non-union or delayed healing

Information for the public

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NICE has assessed the EXOGEN ultrasound bone healing system to help the NHS decide whether to use this product.

The EXOGEN ultrasound bone healing system delivers low-intensity pulsed ultrasound to help speed up bone healing after fracture. It is thought that EXOGEN promotes healing by increasing both the removal of old bone and the production of new bone. The treatment involves an ultrasound probe being placed on the skin at the site of the fracture for 20 minutes each day. If there is a cast over the fracture, a hole is cut in the cast so that the probe can reach the skin. Treatment may last a few weeks, or sometimes several months. NICE has said that EXOGEN can be used to treat non-union fractures of long bones (such as the tibia or femur, long bones in the leg). Non-union means that the fracture hasn't healed after 9 months.

Healthcare teams may want to use the EXOGEN ultrasound bone healing system because the evidence shows high rates of fracture healing when it is used and it can save money, by avoiding surgery, compared with current treatment for non-union fractures.

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