

# Extracranial to intracranial bypass for intracranial atherosclerosis

Information for the public

Published: 8 November 2017

[www.nice.org.uk](http://www.nice.org.uk)

This procedure should not be used. The evidence shows that it is not safe and does not work for intracranial atherosclerosis.

In cerebrovascular disease, blood vessels in the head or neck become narrowed or partially blocked, limiting the blood supply to the brain. In extracranial to intracranial bypass surgery, a blood vessel from outside the skull is joined to one inside the skull, bypassing the affected vessel. The aim is to improve blood flow to the brain and help to prevent stroke.

Your healthcare professional should talk to you about other treatment options.

NICE's information on [interventional procedures guidance](#) has more about what a procedure is and how we assess them.

ISBN: 978-1-4731-8641-5