

# National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence

## IP969 – Percutaneous electrical nerve stimulation for refractory neuropathic pain.

### Consultation Comments table

IPAC date: 17 January 2013

Com. no.	Consultee name and organisation	Sec. no.	Comments	Response
1	Consultee 1 Specialist Adviser	1.1	It may be added in the provisional recommendations that PENS provides not only provides neurostimulation techniques where implantable systems cannot be used like cancer patients requiring frequent MRI scans, but also provides a diagnostic option to determine suitability for implantable neuromodulation devices.	Please respond to all comments  Thank you for your comment.  The Committee considered this comment but decided not to change the guidance.
2	Consultee 1 Specialist Adviser	2.1	PENS is most effective in localised neuropathic pain like traumatic and surgical scar pain as well as burns	Thank you for your comment.  The Committee considered this comment but decided not to change the guidance. Section 2.1.1 gives examples of neuropathic pain and is not intended to be a definitive list.
3	Consultee 1 Specialist Adviser	2.2	In PENS you can either use a single probe with a grounding pad as well as two electrodes depending on the area required to be covered.	Thank you for your comment.  Section 2.2.1 of the guidance has been changed.

Com. no.	Consultee name and organisation	Sec. no.	Comments	Response
				Please respond to all comments
4	Consultee 1 Specialist Adviser		Â Paraesthesia may or may not be felt depending on the innervation. Â However, when a peripheral nerve is being stimulated, there would be muscle contraction. Â Motor stimulation is often beneficial for pain relief	Thank you for your comment.  Section 2.2.1 of the guidance has been changed.
5	Consultee 1 Specialist Adviser	<b>2.3</b>	There are also case series outlining the efficacy of PENS in various neuropathic pain states.	Thank you for your comment. The systematic review included case series with more than 10 patients but none of these were identified for neuropathic pain.
6	Consultee 1 Specialist Adviser	<b>2.4</b>	Adverse events are very rare and mainly consists of exacerbation of pain, bleeding, bruising and neuropraxia	Thank you for your comment. Section 2.4.3 lists anecdotal and theoretical adverse events described by Specialist Advisers.
7	Consultee 1 Specialist Adviser	<b>2.5</b>	As with any interventional procedure, patient selection is important as well where and how to stimulate effectively. Â Clinicians well-versed with Â PENS get much better results than the occasional user	Thank you for your comment.  Section 1.2 of the guidance states that 'Patient selection and treatment using PENS should be carried out by teams specialising in pain management.'
8	Consultee 1 Specialist Adviser	<b>Notes</b>	I have had bursary support to attend scientific meetings from Algotec research ltd, manufacturer of a device that is used to deliver PENS therapy	Thank you for your comment.

*"Comments received in the course of consultations carried out by NICE are published in the interests of openness and transparency, and to promote understanding of how recommendations are developed. The comments are published as a record of the submissions that NICE has received, and are not endorsed by NICE, its officers or advisory committees."*