

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

INTERVENTIONAL PROCEDURES PROGRAMME

Interventional procedure overview of Peripheral nerve- field stimulation for chronic low back pain – additional information

Specialist societies

- British Pain Society

Specialist Advisers' opinions

Specialist advice was sought from consultants who have been nominated or ratified by their Specialist Society or Royal College. The advice received is their individual opinion and does not represent the view of the society.

Dr Arun Bhaskar, Dr Sam Eldabe and Dr Teodor Goroszeniuk (British Pain Society).

- All Specialist Advisers thought that the title does not describe the procedure adequately and that the terminology is still under discussion.
- One Specialist Adviser has performed the procedure at least once, 2 performs this procedure regularly.
- One Specialist Adviser stated that this procedure can be added on as a hybrid to spinal cord stimulation in which case it is a minor variation of an established procedure but on its own it is a new procedure. Two Specialist Advisers considered this procedure to be an established practice and no longer new. They added that there has been large number of patients who have had peripheral stimulation for back pain and more than a 1000 patients have been implanted since 2005.
- The comparators are standard conservative treatment for low back pain, pain management programmes and implanted spinal cord stimulators.

- Theoretical adverse events include skin erosion, visceral damage (very rare, but not impossible particularly in very thin patients) and haematoma.
- Anecdotal adverse events include lead migration, lead fracture, infection and postoperative bleeding.
- Key efficacy outcomes include pain control, pain reduction measured on VAS, improvement in function Oswestry Disability Index (ODI), improvement in quality of life EQ-5D, reduction in concomitant medication for pain relief including neuropathic agents, opioids and NSAIDs, and early mobilisation and rehabilitation.
- All Specialist Advisers noted the lack of randomised control trials with only large case series so far.
- One Specialist Adviser thought that this is a simple procedure with no extra requirements for centres performing spinal cord stimulation. Two Specialist Advisers thought that this procedure is technically less challenging than a spinal cord stimulation, but requires an understanding and training as of neuromodulation procedures. This would be already in place in specialist centres doing neuromodulation. A specialised knowledge of correct indications and diagnosis, patient selection, multi-disciplinary approach, pre and post implantation management is recommended.
- One Specialist Adviser thought that the procedure is likely to have a minor impact on the NHS, adding that it is an expensive procedure but unlikely to be used for large number of patients. Two Specialist Advisers thought that the impact would be moderate.

Patient Commentators' opinions

NICE's Patient and Public Involvement Programme was unable to gather patient commentary for this procedure.