Functional Electronic Stimulation Prior Approval Policy

Pathway
Functional electronic stimulation (FES) using skin surface electrodes.
Commissioned
Functional electronic stimulation using skin surface electrodes will only be funded providing **ALL** the following criteria apply and can be evidenced: 1. The patient has foot drop caused by central nervous system damage 2. They have been assessed by a specialist in foot drop of neurological origin 3. All treatment options have been considered 4. Foot drop results in trips/falls or an altered gait causing significant functional problems 5. The patient can walk a minimum of 10 metres independently using mobility aids if appropriate 6. They can manage a FES with minimal physical assistance 7. They have the cognitive ability to manage a FES independently 8. There are no co-morbidities which would affect their capacity to benefit from FES 9. The patient does not have any of the accepted clinical contraindications to FES 10. Clear FES treatment goals and expectations of benefit are outlined
Not Funded
Functional electronic stimulation using methods other than skin surface electrodes, for example implanted or wireless.
Rationale
▪ Policy based on *Functional electrical stimulation for drop foot of central neurological origin NICE IPG278 2009* ▪ NICE states that the efficacy and safety of functional electrical stimulation (FES) for foot drop of central neurological origin appears adequate to support its use. However, there was limited information to evidence any impact on disability and quality of life.
Cohort
Adults and Children.
Equality
Compliant with the Equality Act 2010.
Status
RED as defined in the Prior Approval Scheme Policy.
OPCS codes
Application of transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulator A70.7
Version History

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No material changes from previous version.	
Authorised	
April 2019	
Review	
April 2024 Earlier if new evidence published by NICE or other authoritative body.	