TITLE: Lasers in Physiotherapy: Parameters for Optimal Clinical Effectiveness

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RESEARCH QUESTION:

What is the evidence for the most effective parameters for lasers for use in physiotherapy patients for optimal response?

METHODS:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 3., 2009), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, EuroScan, international health technology agencies, and a focused Internet search. The search was limited to English language, human articles published between 2004 and August 2009. Filters were applied to limit the retrieval to health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, controlled clinical trials, and guidelines. Internet links are provided, where available.

RESULTS:

The literature search identified three systematic reviews/meta-analyses, fourteen randomized controlled trials, six controlled clinical trials, and two evidence-based guidelines that specified parameters for lasers for use in physiotherapy patients. No health technology assessments were identified.

HTIS reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by randomized controlled trials, controlled clinical trials, and evidence-based guidelines.

Health technology assessments
No literature identified
Systematic reviews and meta-analyses


Randomized controlled trials


**Controlled clinical trials**


Guidelines and recommendations


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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Review articles


