TITLE: Electrical Stimulation for Wound Management: Clinical Effectiveness

DATE: 09 February 2010

RESEARCH QUESTION:

What is the clinical effectiveness of electrical stimulation for the management of chronic superficial and deep wounds?

METHODS:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 1, 2010), 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 articles published between 2005 and February 2010. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Internet links were provided, where available.

RESULTS:

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 observational studies.

Two systematic reviews, three randomized controlled trials, one controlled clinical trial, and six observational studies were identified regarding the clinical effectiveness of electrical stimulation for the management of chronic superficial and deep wounds. No relevant health technology assessments were identified. Additional articles of interest can be found in the appendix.

Health technology assessments
No literature identified

Disclaimer: The Health Technology Inquiry Service (HTIS) is an information service for those involved in planning and providing health care in Canada. HTIS responses are based on a limited literature search and are not comprehensive, systematic reviews. The intent is to provide a list of sources of the best evidence on the topic that CADTH could identify using all reasonable efforts within the time allowed. HTIS responses should be considered along with other types of information and health care considerations. The information included in this response is not intended to replace professional medical advice, nor should it be construed as a recommendation for or against the use of a particular health technology. Readers are also cautioned that a lack of good quality evidence does not necessarily mean a lack of effectiveness particularly in the case of new and emerging health technologies, for which little information can be found, but which may in future prove to be effective. While CADTH has taken care in the preparation of the report to ensure that its contents are accurate, complete and up to date, CADTH does not make any guarantee to that effect. CADTH is not liable for any loss or damages resulting from use of the information in the report.

Copyright: This report contains CADTH copyright material and may contain material in which a third party owns copyright. This report may be used for the purposes of research or private study only. It may not be copied, posted on a web site, redistributed by email or stored on an electronic system without the prior written permission of CADTH or applicable copyright owner.

Links: This report may contain links to other information available on the websites of third parties on the Internet. CADTH does not have control over the content of such sites. Use of third party sites is governed by the owners’ own terms and conditions.
Systematic reviews and meta-analyses

   
   *Note: see Electrical Stimulation Therapy, page 107*

   
   Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) structured abstract: http://www.crd.york.ac.uk/CRDWeb/ShowRecord.asp?ID=12009100181

Randomized controlled trials


Controlled clinical trials


Observational studies


PREPARED BY:
Michelle Clark, BSc, Research Assistant
Carolyn Spry, BSc, MLIS, Information Specialist
*Health Technology Inquiry Service*
Email: [htis@cadth.ca](mailto:htis@cadth.ca)
Tel: 1-866-898-8439
APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Evidence-based guidelines

13. Saskatchewan Skin and Wound Care Action Committee. Saskatchewan skin and wound care guidelines [Internet]. Saskatoon: Health Quality Council; 2006. [cited 2010 Feb 8]. Available from: http://www.hqc.sk.ca/download.jsp?RaQr0bDsT4WcSUlZRfDN3jBlzBf0QfLQkUwK4QBZaJu6rms12FpwqNFIAFJYgAvw
Note: see 10 Adjunctive Therapies, C-26

Note: see Electrotherapy and electromagnetic therapy, page 183

Review articles

