Title: Gauntlets and Sleeves for Mastectomy Patients with Lymphedema: Clinical and Cost Effectiveness and Guidelines for Use

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Research question:

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of using a gauntlet and sleeve versus a sleeve with attached glove for the management of lymphedema in mastectomy patients?

2. What is the cost effectiveness of using a gauntlet and sleeve versus a sleeve with attached glove for the management of lymphedema in mastectomy patients?

3. What are the guidelines for the management of lymphedema in mastectomy patients?

Methods:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 2 2008, University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, EuroScan, international HTA agencies, and a focused Internet search using 2 different search engines. Results include articles published between 2002 and to the present, and are limited to English language publications only. Internet links are 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 economic evaluations, randomized controlled trials (RCTs), observational studies and evidence-based guidelines.

One systematic review, two observational studies and one guideline were identified pertaining to the use gauntlets and sleeves for the management of lymphedema in mastectomy patients. No relevant health technology assessments, RCTs, or economic studies were identified. Additional information that may be of interest has been included in the Appendix.

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Health technology assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses


Economic analyses and cost information
No literature identified.

Randomized controlled trials
No literature identified.

Observational studies


Guidelines and recommendations


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Appendix – further information:

Review articles


Additional references
