Rapid Response Report: Reference List

TITLE: Pulsed Radiofrequency Ablation for Chronic Pain: Clinical Effectiveness, Safety, and Guidelines

DATE: 30 June 2015

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the clinical effectiveness and safety of pulsed radiofrequency ablation for the treatment of patients with chronic pain due to nerve entrapment?

2. What are the evidence-based guidelines regarding the use of pulsed radiofrequency ablation for the treatment of patients with chronic pain due to nerve entrapment?

3. What are the evidence-based guidelines regarding the treatment of patients with abdominal pain due to nerve entrapment?

KEY FINDINGS

No relevant literature was identified regarding pulsed radiofrequency ablation for the treatment of patients with chronic pain due to nerve entrapment. In addition, no relevant evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding the treatment of patients with abdominal pain due to nerve entrapment.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including Ovid Medline, PubMed, The Cochrane Library, University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. For research question 3, a supplemental search was conducted on abdominal pain caused by nerve entrapment, in which a methodological filter was applied to limit retrieval to guidelines. Where possible, retrieval was limited to the human population. The searches were also limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2010 and June 24, 2015. Internet links were provided, where available.

Disclaimer: The Rapid Response Service is an information service for those involved in planning and providing health care in Canada. Rapid 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. Rapid 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.

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SELECTION CRITERIA

One reviewer screened citations and selected studies based on the inclusion criteria presented in Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1: Selection Criteria</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Population</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Q1 &amp; Q2: Patients with chronic pain due to nerve entrapment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q3: Patients with abdominal pain due to nerve entrapment (e.g., abdominal cutaneous nerve entrapment syndrome; rectus abdominus nerve entrapment syndrome)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Intervention</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pulsed radiofrequency ablation; pulsed radiofrequency; pulsed radiofrequency nerve ablation</td>
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<td><strong>Comparator</strong></td>
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<td>Other procedures used to treat chronic pain due to nerve entrapment</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Outcomes</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Q1: Clinical benefit (reduction in pain)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical harm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q2 &amp; Q3: Guidelines and recommendations</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Study Designs</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, non-randomized studies, evidence-based guidelines</td>
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RESULTS

Rapid Response 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, non-randomized studies, and evidence-based guidelines.

No health technology assessments, systematic review, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, non-randomized studies, or evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding pulsed radiofrequency ablation for the treatment of patients with chronic pain due to nerve entrapment. In addition, no relevant evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding the treatment of patients with abdominal pain due to nerve entrapment.

References of potential interest are provided in the appendix.

Health Technology Assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses
No literature identified.

Randomized Controlled Trials
No literature identified.

Non-Randomized Studies
No literature identified.

Guidelines and Recommendations
No literature identified.
APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Health Technology Assessments – No Specific Mention of Nerve Entrapment


Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses – No Specific Mention of Nerve Entrapment

PubMed: PM21116663

Randomized Controlled Trials – No Specific Mention of Nerve Entrapment

PubMed: PM25530347

Non-Randomized Studies - No Specific Mention of Nerve Entrapment

PubMed: PM21812907

Guidelines and Recommendations – Not Specific to Chronic Pain Due to Nerve Entrapment

PubMed: PM23615883
Review Articles – No Specific Mention of Nerve Entrapment


Additional References
