

Medical Policies



Policy ME-Z-108

Number:

Policy Name: Percutaneous Electrical Nerve Field Stimulation (PENFS)

Policy Type: Medical Policy Miscellaneous

Subtype:

Effective 09-01-2025 End Date: 11-02-2025

Date:

Description

Percutaneous electrical nerve field stimulation (PENFS) involves the transmission of electrical impulses to cranial nerve bundles in the ear targeting brain areas involved in processing pain. In PENFS for irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), nerves processing pain for the abdominal region are targeted via a stimulator placed behind the ear.

Policy Application

All claims submitted under this policy's section will be processed according to the policy effective date and associated revision effective dates in effect on the date of processing, regardless of service date.

Diagnosis Codes

Not Applicable

CURRENT CODING

CPT:

0720T	PERQ ELEC NRV FIELD STIMJ CRANIAL	Medicaid Expansion
	NRVS WO IMPLTJ	

References

- 1. Lacy BE, Pimentel M, Brenner DM, et al. ACG clinical guideline: Management of irritable bowel syndrome. Am J Gastroenterol. 2021;116(1):17-44.
- 2. Sperber AD, Bangdiwala SI, Drossman DA, et al. Worldwide prevalence and burden of functional gastrointestinal disorders, results of rome foundation global study. Gastroenterology. 2021;160(1):99-114.e3.
- 3. Definition & Facts for Irritable Bowel Syndrome. National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases. Updated November 2017. Accessed January 30, 2024. https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/digestive[1]diseases/irritable-bowel-syndrome/definition-facts.
- 4. Al-Biltagi M, El Amrousy D, El Ashry H, Maher S, Mohammed MA, Hasan S. Effects of adherence to the Mediterranean diet in children and adolescents with irritable bowel syndrome. World J Clin Pediatr. 2022;11(4):330-340.
- 5. Velasco-Benítez CA, Collazos-Saa LI, García-Perdomo HA. A systematic review and meta-analysis in schoolchildren and adolescents with functional gastrointestinal disorders according to rome IV criteria. Arq Gastroenterol. 2022;59(2):304-313.
- 6. Spatuzzo M, Chiaretti A, Capossela L, Covino M, Gatto A, Ferrara P. Abdominal pain in children: The role of possible psychosocial disorders. Eur Rev Med Pharmacol Sci. 2021;25(4):1967-1973.
- 7. Santucci NR, Sahay R, El-Chammas KI, et al. Percutaneous electrical nerve field stimulation compared to standard medical therapy in adolescents with functional abdominal pain disorders. Front Pain Res (Lausanne). 2023;4:1251932.
- 8. Krasaelap A, Sood MR, Li BUK, et al. Efficacy of auricular neurostimulation in adolescents with irritable bowel syndrome in a randomized, double-blind trial. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2020;18(9):1987-1994.e2.
- 9. IB-Stim website. Accessed January 30, 2024. https://ibstim.com/
- 10.US Food and Drug Administration. IB-Stim. DEN180057. June 07, 2019. Accessed January 30, 2024. https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/cdrh docs/reviews/DEN180057.pdf
- 11. Shah E, Eswaran S, Harer K, et al. Percutaneous electrical nerve field stimulation for adolescents with irritable bowel syndrome: Cost-benefit and cost-minimization analysis. J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr. January 15, 2024. https://doi.org/10.1002/jpn3.12118
- 12.Santucci NR, King C, El-Chammas KI, et al. Effect of percutaneous electrical nerve field stimulation on mechanosensitivity, sleep, and psychological comorbidities in adolescents with functional abdominal pain disorders. Neurogastroenterol Motil. 2022;34(8):e14358.
- 13. Castillo DF, Denson LA, Haslam DB, et al. The microbiome in adolescents with irritable bowel syndrome and changes with percutaneous electrical nerve field stimulation. Neurogastroenterol Motil. 2023;35(7):e14573.
- 14.Lembo A, Sultan S, Chang L, Heidelbaugh JJ, Smalley W, Verne GN. AGA clinical practice guideline on the pharmacological management of irritable bowel syndrome with diarrhea. Gastroenterology. 2022;163(1):137-151.
- 15. Chang L, Sultan S, Lembo A, Verne GN, Smalley W, Heidelbaugh JJ. AGA clinical practice guideline on the pharmacological management of irritable bowel syndrome with constipation. Gastroenterology. 2022;163(1):118-136

ND Committee Review

Internal Medical Policy Committee 6-10-2025 New Policy - Effective September 01, 2025

- Adopted policy; and
- Added Policy Application.

Disclaimer

Current medical policy is to be used in determining a Member's contract benefits on the date that services are rendered. Contract language, including definitions and specific inclusions/exclusions, as well as state and federal law, must be considered in determining eligibility for coverage. Members must consult their applicable benefit plans or contact a Member Services representative for specific coverage information. Likewise, medical policy, which addresses the issue(s) in any specific case, should be considered before utilizing medical opinion in adjudication. Medical technology is constantly evolving, and the Company reserves the right to review and update medical policy periodically.