

MEDICAL POLICY STATEMENT

Ohio Marketplace

Policy Name & Number

Date Effective

Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation OHMP MM-0235

03/01/2022-

by

Medical Policy Statement

Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) is a non-invasive procedure that uses magnetic fields to stimulate nerve cells in the brain. It is used to treat major depressive disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and smoking cessation. The procedure is performed by a healthcare provider using a TMS coil. The patient lies on a treatment table while the coil is placed on their head. The coil is connected to a computer system that controls the magnetic field. The patient may feel a tapping or knocking sensation on their head during the procedure. The procedure is typically performed in an outpatient setting. The number of sessions varies depending on the condition being treated. TMS is generally well-tolerated, with minimal side effects. However, some patients may experience headaches, neck pain, or lightheadedness during or after the procedure. TMS is not recommended for patients with certain medical conditions, such as epilepsy, metal implants, or pregnancy. TMS is covered by most health insurance plans. The cost of TMS varies depending on the number of sessions and the location of the procedure. TMS is a safe and effective treatment for major depressive disorder and other conditions. It is a non-invasive procedure that does not require anesthesia. TMS is a promising treatment for major depressive disorder and other conditions. It is a non-invasive procedure that does not require anesthesia. TMS is a promising treatment for major depressive disorder and other conditions. It is a non-invasive procedure that does not require anesthesia.

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A. Subject
Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation

B. Background

Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) was originally introduced in 1985 as a noninvasive treatment that is used for treating major depressive disorder. Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation is a technique that sends brief repetitive pulses of magnetic energy to the scalp via a large electromagnetic coil. This technique generates a low level of electrical stimulation. The amount of electricity created by this type of stimulation is very small and cannot be felt by the patient but is still strong enough to flow into the brain without seizures or need for anesthesia. The electric charges cause the neurons to become active and lead to the release of neurotransmitters such as serotonin, norepinephrine and dopamine.

C. Definitions

- **Depression** – a mental disorder that is characterized by alterations in the mood secondary to psychological, social and biological factors.
- **Adequate**



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H. References

1. "Brain Stimulation Therapies." , U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, June 2016, <https://www.nimh.nih.gov>
2. Holtzheimer, P. E., MD, Roy-Byrne, P. P., MD, & Solomon, D., MD. "Technique for Performing Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS)." , Septemb Td(U)5.8 (eme)56b82 Tc .1 (n)69.52or

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