

MEDICAL POLICY STATEMENT

Marketplace

Policy Name & Number	Date Effective
Peripheral Nerve Blocks for Treatment of Pain-MP-MM-1401	06/01/2024

without which the patient can be expected to suffer prolonged, increased or new morbidity, impairment of function, dysfunction of a body organ or part, or significant pain and discomfort. and

The MEDICAL Policy Statement detailed above has received due consideration as defined in the MEDICAL Policy Statement Policy and is app

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, , ,Chronic Pain

CareSource considers PNB, single injection, medically necessary when appropriate documentation for the treatment of chronic pain is included, only as part of an active component of a comprehensive pain management program when the following criteria are met:

§ Failure of conservative therapy, as evidenced by **ALL** the following:

Documentation in the medical record of at least 6 weeks of active conservative therapy within the past 6 months OR inability to complete active conservative therapy due to contraindication, increased pain, or intolerance.

Documentation in the medical record of at least 6 weeks inactive conservative therapy within the past 6 months.

% Insufficient evidence supports the use of PNB for **chronic** pain:

Genicular nerve or branches for chronic knee pain

Cluneal nerve injections or blocks for chronic low back pain or pelvic pain

Pudendal blocks for chronic pelvic pain conditions.

, 9 Peripheral Radiofrequency Ablation

The MEDICAL Policy Statement detailed a



10. Evidence Analysis Research Brief: Pudendal Nerve Decompression Surgery for Treatment of Pudendal Neuralgia. Hayes; 2022. Accessed February 9, 2024. www.evidence.hayesinc.com
11. Evolving Evidence Review: Middle Cluneal Nerve Block for Treatment of Low Back Pain. Hayes; 2022. Reviewed April 4, 2023. Accessed February 9, 2024. www.evidence.hayesinc.com
12. Evolving Evidence Review: Superior Cluneal Nerve Block for Treatment of Low Back Pain. Hayes; 2021. Accessed February 9, 2024. www.evidence.hayesinc.com
13. Frank FT, Sawsan A. Chronic pelvic pain in adult females: treatment. UpToDate. Updated March 15, 2023. Accessed February 9, 2024. www.uptodate.com
14. Garza I, Schwedt TJ. Chronic migraine. UpToDate. Updated September 5, 2023. Accessed February 9, 2024. www.uptodate.com
15. Garza I. Occipital neuralgia. UpToDate. Updated February 7, 2023. Accessed February 9, 2024. www.uptodate.com
16. Gautam S, Gupta N, Khuba S, et al. Evaluation of the efficacy of superior cluneal nerve block in low back pain: a prospective observational study. *J Bodyw Mov Ther.* 2022;30:221-225. doi:10.1016/j.jbmt.2022.03.001
17. Headaches in Over 12s: Diagnosis and Management. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence; 2012.

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