

Equality Impact Assessment

**Guideline
Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation (TENS)**

Name: Heather Hawksley
Policy/Service: Pain Management Service; Guidelines for use of TENS
<p>Background: TENS is a safe, non-invasive, drug free method of providing pain management. Patients can be offered a trial of TENS in the Pain Management Service TENS clinic.</p> <p>This gives opportunity for learning about TENS, how to use it safely and appropriately, and to experience the sensation of TENS.</p> <p>The Guidelines for use of TENS will operate within the Pain Management Department's nurse-led services</p> <p>Heather Hawksley Consultant Nurse, Caroline Tyrrell Specialist nurse and Victoria Chetty Specialist nurse were involved in this EIA</p>
<p>Methodology: The effect of the guideline was assessed to include, race and ethnic origin, disability, gender, culture, religion or belief and sexual orientation.</p>
<p>Key Findings: The result of the assessment process identified that some patients with disabilities such as osteoarthritis and sight impairments may find TENS is not practical for them to use.</p> <p>Individuals living alone may also find TENS is not practical because they are limited by where they can place the electrodes.</p> <p>The guidelines promote involvement of disabled people and welcome the involvement of relatives, friends or carers and their attendance at appointments.</p>
<p>Conclusion: No adverse or potentially adverse impact for any equality groups was found.</p>
<p>Recommendations: The assessment will be reviewed when the guidelines are reviewed in 2012</p>