

Low-intensity Pulsed Ultrasound for Fracture Healing: Exogen®

CRITERIA BASED ACCESS

Low-intensity Pulsed Ultrasound for Fracture Healing

(Marketed in the UK as the Exogen® system) ICD diagnosis: M841 and M842

The Exogen® ultrasound bone healing system delivers low-intensity pulsed ultrasound waves that aim to promote bone healing through stimulating the production of growth factors and proteins which increase the removal of old bone and the production of new bone. Long- bone fractures are suitable for treatment if the fracture is stable and well-aligned. Swindon CCG has considered the evidence for treatment of non-union fractures and recommends that Exogen® can be considered for suitable skeletally mature patients to treat long bone fractures with **non-union** (failure to heal after 9 months).

NHS funding for Exogen® in **delayed** fracture healing is not normally funded.

Criteria for treatment:

- age range – skeletally mature patients
- no significant mal-alignment at fracture site
- fracture gap <1.0 centimetre
- non-union fracture with failure to heal after 9 months
- non-smoker
- patient ability to comply with usage protocol and criteria
- authorised by a Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon

Exogen is not recommended in the following circumstances:

- during pregnancy
- presence of pacemaker
- skeletal immaturity
- presence of significant mal-alignment at fracture site
- fracture gap > 1.0 centimetre.
- smokers
- unwillingness/inability to comply with protocol

Long-bones are defined as tibia, fibula, femur, radius, ulna and humerus (and excludes clavicle), for the purposes of this policy, as per the evidence considered by NICE MTG12.

This policy criteria is in alignment with the [NICE MTG12 \(2013\) EXOGEN ultrasound bone healing system for long bone fractures with non-union or delayed healing](#).

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