

Policy:	<u>Ultrasound and Pulsed Electromagnetic Systems for Bone Healing</u>	GM Ref:	GM063
First issue date:	July 2016	Current version:	2.0
		Last reviewed:	July 2017

Policy inclusion criteria

Commissioned provided the device continues to be provided on a 150 day no heal (provided there is patient compliance) no fee basis for:

- Long bone fractures with non-union (failure to heal after 9 months)

Funding Mechanism

Monitored approval: Referrals may be made in line with the criteria without seeking funding. **NOTE:** May be the subject of contract challenges and/or audit of cases against commissioned criteria.

- Treatment for fractures of the Humerus and Scapula after 4 months where there is no healing and there is significant pain at the fracture site

Funding Mechanism

Individual prior approval at Clinical Triage provided the patient meets the above criteria. Requests must be submitted with all relevant supporting evidence.

- All other fractures showing non-union at 9 months
- Patients presenting with complex (for example, an unstable or misaligned fracture or an inter-fragment gap of more than 10mm) fractures
- Cases where bones are failing to heal post surgically after the normal time period (usual 3-4 months). **NOTE:** This includes joint fusion surgery

Funding Mechanism

Individual prior approval provided the patient meets the above criteria. Requests must be submitted with all relevant supporting evidence.

If the patient does not meet the criteria in any of the above: an individual funding request can be made if there is a good case for clinical exceptionality. Requests must be submitted with all relevant supporting evidence.

Policy exclusions

Non-orthopaedic applications of pulsed electromagnetic field therapy are not covered by this policy.

Treatment/procedures undertaken as part of an externally funded trial or as a part of locally agreed contracts / or pathways of care are excluded from this policy, i.e. locally agreed pathways take precedent over this policy (the EUR Team should be informed of any local pathway for this exclusion to take effect).