

Commissioning Statement

Treatment/	Trans-anal Irrigation Systems
	These include:
	 Peristeen[®] (Coloplast Ltd) Qufora[®] (MacGregor Healthcare Ltd) Aquaflush[®] (Oakmed Ltd) IryPump S[®] (B Braun Medical) Navina Smart[®] (Wellspect Healthcare)
For the	Neurogenic bowel dysfunction, e.g. spinal cord injury, spina bifida,
treatment of	 multiple sclerosis Chronic constipation, including both evacuation difficulties and slow transit constipation Chronic faecal incontinence
Commissioning	Chronic faecai incontinence
position	NHS Calderdale CCG commissions the use of rectal irrigation systems for the management of chronic constipation and/or chronic faecal incontinence, including that due to neurogenic bowel dysfunction. Rectal irrigation should only be considered where all other less invasive methods of bowel management have proved unsuccessful to adequately control constipation and/or faecal incontinence. Initial management may include:
	 dietary measures; adjusting fluid intake; bowel habit; ensuring toilet access; evacuation techniques; medication; coping strategies.
	Rectal irrigation is a highly specialist management option and therefore:
	the patient should be referred to a specialist service for a specialist assessment (GP practices will not be expected to initiate prescribing without specialist management of the patient);
	the initial supply is made from specialist services;
	 appropriate communication has been made to the GP (i.e. product name, frequency of use, when specialist service will review patient, description according to entry in the Drug Tariff; PIP codes to be supplied if known).

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^{*}Updated May 2018 following new NICE Guidance on Peristeen trans-anal irrigation system for managing bowel dysfunction



Date effective from	29.05.2018
Policy to be	28.05.2021
reviewed by	(to be reviewed earlier if NICE issues guidance at an earlier date)
Background information	Trans-anal irrigation (TAI) is reported to benefit some patients with faecal incontinence, rectocele (rectal prolapse) and constipation [1,2]. It is possibly more effective in patients with passive soiling than those with urge incontinence secondary to lose stool [3]. It has been more widely reported in children with spina bifida than in adults [4,5,6].
	TAI has been found in a small randomised controlled trial to be effective for both constipation and faecal incontinence in people with spinal cord injury [7]. In a scintigraphic study (n=19), anal irrigation was found to empty stool as far up as the splenic flexure [8].
	The Royal College of Surgeons of England has published a commissioning guide about faecal incontinence. This states that anal irrigation is part of a range of treatment modalities considered following full assessment of the patient [9].
	TIA is one of the options in the NICE clinical guideline on managing faecal incontinence in adults [10].
	NICE guidance on the diagnosis and management of idiopathic constipation in children and young people does not include TIA as a treatment option prior to surgical intervention [11].
Summary of	There is a relatively small evidence base for this procedure at present.
evidence/ rationale	The only indication for which there is prospective, randomised controlled trial evidence (from one study) supporting rectal irrigation is spinal cord injury with neurogenic bowel dysfunction in adults (n=87) [7]. For other indications, data are largely derived from uncontrolled studies or case series.
	Rectal irrigation will usually only be tried if other less invasive methods of bowel management have failed to adequately control constipation and/or faecal incontinence. Depending on each individual's assessed symptoms and need, options for patients include [10]: • dietary measures; • bowel re-training; • biofeedback; • electrical stimulation; • pelvic floor muscle training.
	Mild and transient side effects including abdominal pain, chills, nausea, minor rectal bleeding occur in about 40 to 75% of patients. There is a potential for autonomic dysreflexia, a particular concern for patients with

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spinal cord injury with lesions located at T6 or above [12].

Patients will need support from the Bladder and Bowel Service (colorectal service) when they initially use the system. A medical evaluation by an appropriate specialist is necessary before starting treatment [13].

Comprehensive training, plus ongoing support for the patient is essential for safe and efficient long term use of rectal irrigation. Patients should be taught to recognise the symptoms of colonic perforation, an extremely rare side effect, and what actions to take [14].

Consider using a validated scoring system at baseline and reviews to aid assessment of continued need. Re-evaluation is necessary if success has not been attained by 8 to 12 weeks. On-going treatment should be reviewed regularly [13].

It is not known if one system out-performs another [13]. A randomised trial is currently comparing low-volume and low-volume anal irrigation in adults with chronic constipation [15]. Quality of life is being assessed after 3 month's treatment.

Cost effectiveness/resource impact:

In a study of 227 patients with neurogenic bowel dysfunction who had failed on conservative bowel management, treatment with Peristeen® resulted in improved bowel scores, less faecal incontinence episodes, fewer urinary tract infections and less use of healthcare resources such as hospitalisations and visits to the doctor. A health economic model predicted average life-long savings for the NHS of £21,768 per patient, compared to not initiating the patient on Peristeen® [16, 17].

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