Transcutaneous Electrical Modulation Pain Reprocessing

Description:
Transcutaneous electrical modulation pain reprocessing (TEMPR) is thought to provide effective, non-invasive pain relief to pain without the use of addictive medication. TEMPR treatment is thought to be effective for the most intense forms of chronic pain (oncologic/cancer, failed back surgery, sciatica, and other types of chronic neuropathic pain).

The therapy treats pain using a biophysical approach rather than the common biochemical process (e.g. pain blocking techniques using drugs). Multiple pain areas may be treated by applying surface electrodes to the skin. The device creates and sends a no-pain signal which becomes the dominant signal received by the brain, thus overriding the pain signal and providing relief for the patient. Pain relief is thought to be nearly totally removed during treatment, with subsequent treatments as necessary.

Although the TEMPR device has been approved by the FDA, evidence to date is limited. Therefore, the TEMPR device is not medically necessary as there is insufficient peer-reviewed scientific literature to demonstrate its efficacy.

Policy:
Transcutaneous electrical modulation pain reprocessing is considered not medically necessary as there is insufficient evidence in published, peer-reviewed literature to support its efficacy.

Coverage:
The following code is not medically necessary: 0278T.

Coding:
At this time there is no specific code for transcutaneous electrical modulation pain reprocessing.

Also known as:
Calmare® Pain Relief Therapy
Scrambler Therapy

Related topics:
Not applicable
Published:
Provider Update, July 2011
Provider Update, June 2012

Reference:
Calmare Therapies Pain Relief Center, LLC. Retrieved on 3/17/11:
http://www.calmarett.com/about/index.html

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