

**SPECIALISED COMMISSIONING - CLINICAL EVIDENCE EVALUATION
CRITERIA FOR A PROPOSITION FOR A CLINICAL COMMISSIONING POLICY
FOR ROUTINE COMMISSIONING**

URN: 1678

TITLE: Hyperbaric oxygen therapy for necrotising infections

CRG: N/A

NPOC: Trauma

Lead: Jacquie Kemp

Date: 18/11/17

This policy is being considered for:	For routine commissioning		Not for routine commissioning	X
Is the population described in the policy the same as that in the evidence review including subgroups?	The populations in the studies are not consistent and the study population characteristics are often not well described. The panel also noted the heterogeneity of the study designs and subgroup analyses. Studies were conducted in a number of countries and it is unclear to what degree patients in the studies had access to other treatments that would be available in the NHS.			
Is the intervention described in the policy the same or similar as the intervention for which evidence is presented in the evidence review?	There is significant variation in timing, duration and criteria for starting treatment.			
Is the comparator in the policy the same as that in the evidence review? Are the comparators in the evidence review the most plausible comparators for patients in the English NHS and are they suitable for informing policy development?	Whilst the majority of the studies were controlled, none were randomised or blinded. A minority of the studies did not have a control (or comparator) group. The comparators in the controlled studies were not entirely clear and the use of antibiotics and surgery were likely to be variable. A number of studies were conducted abroad and the accessibility and range of comparator interventions is not clear.			
Are the clinical benefits demonstrated in the evidence review consistent with the eligible population and/or subgroups presented in the policy? Are the clinical harms demonstrated in the	The clinical benefits reported in the studies were not consistent and the study methodologies mean the findings are not robust. The survival benefit reported in the CPAG Summary report needs revising to include the full range of evidence, rather than just on single studies. The studies taken together do not show a reliable and consistent reduction in mortality, taking into account the confounding factors in the studies. It should be noted that three of the 5 better quality studies showed a mortality benefit and 2 did not. The Panel determined that the any			

evidence review reflected in the eligible and /or ineligible population and/or subgroups presented in the policy?	effect on mortality was highly uncertain.		
Rationale Is the rationale clearly linked to the evidence?	The rationale is supported by the evidence review; the studies demonstrate a great deal of uncertainty and lack of any clarity about whether and where in the pathway of care HBOT would offer a significant clinical benefit. .		
<u>Advice</u> The Panel should provide advice on matters relating to the evidence base and policy development and prioritisation. Advice may cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncertainty in the evidence base • Challenges in the clinical interpretation and applicability of policy in clinical practice • Challenges in ensuring policy is applied appropriately • Likely changes in the pathway of care and therapeutic advances that may result in the need for policy review. 	The CPAG summary report needs to be reviewed. In particular, panel ask that the section on mortality is amended to reflect and summarise the all the evidence relating to mortality and the conclusion that is drawn. The policy should remove reference to costs.		
Overall conclusion	This is a proposition for routine commissioning and	Should proceed for routine commissioning	
		Should reversed and proceed as not for routine commissioning	
	This is a proposition for not routine commissioning and	Should proceed for not routine commissioning	X
		Should be	

		reconsidered by the PWG	
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Overall conclusions of the panel

Report approved by:

David Black

Clinical Panel Co-Chair

28/11/17