

NHS ENGLAND SPECIALISED SERVICES CLINICAL PANEL REPORT

Date: 18th December 2024

Intervention: gamma knife stereotactic radiosurgery

Indication: essential tremor refractory to medication (adults)

URN: 2332

Gateway: 2, Round 2

Programme: Cancer & Trauma

CRG: Radiotherapy & Neurosurgery

Information provided to the Panel

Policy Proposition

Evidence Review completed by Solutions for Public Health

Clinical Priorities Advisory Group (CPAG) Summary Report

Clinical Panel Report June 2024

Evidence to Decision (EtD) Summary

Equalities and Health Inequalities (EHIA) Assessment

Patient Impact Assessment

Blueteq® Form – adult initiation

Policy Working Group (PWG) Appendix

This Policy Proposition recommends the use of gamma knife stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) for patients with essential tremor (ET) refractory to medication (adults). This proposition suggests stereotactic radiosurgery as an alternative second line treatment option.

This was previously considered at a Panel meeting in June. Members at that time were concerned with the potential expansion of services given this is a highly specialised service delivery and the eligible patient numbers very low. They also requested a clearer definition of the position of this treatment in the clinical pathway compared to other treatments available, and the estimated number of eligible patients as a result.

Clinical Panel members were presented with the actions taken by the Policy Working Group since the last meeting.

EHIA – no amendments requested.

PIA – no amendments requested.

Recommendation

Clinical Panel recommends that this proposition progresses as a routine commissioning proposition.

Why the panel made these recommendations

Panel members agreed that the Policy Working Group's revisions to the proposition had been made appropriately and addressed previous concerns and points for clarification.

Documentation amendments required

Policy Proposition:

- The title of the proposition and relevant text within documents should be changed to state Stereotactic Radiosurgery rather than Gamma Knife specifically.
- The formatting needs checking on page 4 so that 'Implementation' forms the heading of the relevant section (currently flows into the updated information from the previous section).

Blueteq® Form:

- The title needs amending to reflect the requested change to the proposition title.
- There is a typo in the 2nd point of the 3rd Criterion, should read 'Either postural tremor or an intention tremor of grade 3 or 4 in the target upper limb (scored using the CRST part A) and a score of 2 or ~~of~~ above in any one of its items in the CRST Part C'.
- Amendments to be made to the layout of the criteria, as advised by the Pharmacy Lead.

Declarations of Interest of Panel Members: None received

Panel Chair: James Palmer, Medical Director, Specialised Services

Post Panel Amendments

Policy proposition		
Panel Comment	Amendment	Page number (if applicable)
The title of the proposition and relevant text within documents should be changed to state Stereotactic Radiosurgery rather than Gamma Knife specifically.	Title amended in all policy documents and title change form submitted.	
The formatting needs checking on page 4 so that 'Implementation' forms the heading of the relevant section (currently flows into	Formatting amended.	P4

the updated information from the previous section).		
Following discussions between Lead Commissioner and Clinical Lead (CL), the requirement of patients having to be “referred to an all-tiers stereotactic radiosurgery service” was only referenced in the implementation section which felt unsatisfactory and late in the document.	The same phrase was added into the ‘What we have decided’ section to address the issue earlier on within the document	P2
Following discussions between Lead Commissioner and Clinical Lead (CL), it was noted that the issue of RTQA was not yet addressed. The CL recommended a colleague, Katharine Hunt, to assist in this element of the policy	A phrase was added to the ‘Governance arrangements’ section: “All providers must be compliant with Radiotherapy Quality Assurance (RTQA) prior to offering this treatment. A national approach to regular peer review of patient eligibility and treatment plans will be required.”	P7
Following onboarding, Katharine Hunt recommended a minor change to the document	Rephrased first sentence on section titled, ‘About unilateral thalamic stereotactic radiosurgery’, now stating “Stereotactic radiosurgery is an alternative method of producing a focal lesion in the brain by delivering very highly focussed radiation to the ventralis intermedius (VIM) nucleus of the thalamus, typically targeting one side to alleviate the tremor on the most severely affected <u>other (contralateral) side of the body.</u> ”	P3
Blueteq® Form		
The title needs amending to reflect the requested change to the proposition title.	Title amended.	
There is a typo in the 2 nd point of the 3 rd Criterion, should read ‘Either postural tremor or an intention tremor of grade 3 or 4 in the target	Form amended.	

upper limb (scored using the CRST part A) and a score of 2 or of above in any one of its items in the CRST Part C'.		
Amendments to be made to the layout of the criteria, as advised by the Pharmacy Lead.	Criteria amended.	

FINAL