Percutaneous disc decompression using coblation for lower back pain
National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence

Record Status
This is a bibliographic record of a published health technology assessment. No evaluation of the quality of this assessment has been made for the HTA database.

Citation

Authors' objectives
This study aims to assess the current evidence on percutaneous disc decompression using coblation for lower back pain.

Authors' conclusions
1 Guidance

1.1 Current evidence suggests that there are no major safety concerns associated with the use of percutaneous disc decompression using coblation for lower back pain. There is some evidence of short-term efficacy; however, this is not sufficient to support the use of this procedure without special arrangements for consent and for audit or research.

1.2 Clinicians wishing to undertake percutaneous disc decompression using coblation for lower back pain should take the following actions. - Inform the clinical governance leads in their Trusts. - Ensure that patients understand the uncertainty about the procedure's efficacy and provide them with clear written information. Use of the Institute's Information for the public is recommended (available from www.nice.org.uk/IPG173publicinfo). - Audit and review clinical outcomes of all patients having percutaneous disc decompression using coblation for lower back pain.

1.3 Further research will be useful in reducing the current uncertainty, and clinicians are encouraged to collect long-term follow-up data. The Institute may review the procedure upon publication of further evidence.

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Address for correspondence
MidCity Place, 71 High Holborn, London WC1V 6NA, UK Tel: +44 020 7067 5800; Fax: +44 020 7067 5801 Email: nice@nice.nhs.uk

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