

Policy Category:

INNF

Who usually applies for funding?

GP/Consultant

## Bobath Therapy

### Commissioning decision

Bobath Therapy is considered a low priority for funding and will only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Funding approval must be sought from the ICB via the Individual Funding Request process prior to treatment.

### Policy Statement:

Bobath Therapy is not normally funded.

### Rationale:

The evidence base for the effectiveness of Bobath therapy in children and adults is poor.

### Plain English Summary:

Bobath therapy is an approach in neurological rehabilitation that is applied in patient assessment and treatment (such as with adults after stroke or children with cerebral palsy). The goal of applying the Bobath concept is to promote motor learning for efficient motor control in various environments, thereby improving participation and function. This is done through specific patient handling skills to guide patients through initiation and completion of intended tasks.

The evidence of the effectiveness of this approach is poor and therefore the treatment is not usually available on the NHS, but it may be considered in exceptional circumstances. If your doctor believes you should be considered for this treatment your doctor will need to complete an Individual Funding Request application form to request funding from the ICB, and within this application will need to demonstrate why your circumstances are exceptional. The ICB will consider such applications on a case-by-case basis in order to determine whether or not the procedure would be funded on the NHS.

### Evidence base:

The Effectiveness of the Bobath Concept in Stroke Rehabilitation: What is the Evidence? Stroke, 2009; 40: e89-e97.

Can physiotherapy after stroke based on the Bobath Concept result in improved quality of movement compared to the motor relearning programme. Physiotherapy Research International, Volume 16, Issue 2, pages 69–80, June 2011.

Bobath Concept versus constraint-induced movement therapy to improve arm functional recovery in stroke patients: a randomized controlled trial. Clinical Rehabilitation, 2012 Aug;26(8):705-15.

For further information please contact [GLICB.IFR@nhs.net](mailto:GLICB.IFR@nhs.net)

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### Policy sign off

| <b>Reviewing Body</b>                         | <b>Date of review</b>        |
|---|------------------------------|
| Effective Clinical Commissioning Policy Group | 3 <sup>rd</sup> August 2015  |
| Integrated Governance and Quality Committee   | 20 <sup>th</sup> August 2015 |

### Version Control

| <b>Version No</b> | <b>Type of Change</b> | <b>Date</b> | <b>Description of Change</b>  |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------|---|
| 1                 |                       | 12.10.15    |   |
| 2                 | Review date           | 15.3.18     | Policy review date changed to March 2022                                    |
| 3                 | Review date           | 10.3.22     | Policy review date changed to March 2025.<br>No changes to policy required. |