



NHS MEDICAL POLICY

Echoencephalogram Procedure 2015-008

Echoencephalogram is an ultrasound study of the head, primarily performed on children. An echoencephalogram may be indicated when any ONE of the following is present:

1	Microcephaly (smaller than normal head size) is documented.
2	Macrocephaly (larger than normal head size) is documented.
3	Any one of the following is suspected or requires imaging to diagnose or follow up: • congenital malformation • intracranial pathology • hemorrhage • increased intracranial pressure • hydrocephalus (accumulation of an excessive amount of cerebrospinal fluid) • abnormal ventricular size • abnormal fluid collection • neoplasm, mass, or tumor • structural abnormality

SOURCES

1. Hope PL, Gould SJ, Howard S, et al. Precision of ultrasound diagnosis of pathologically verified lesions in the brains of very preterm infants. Dev Med Child Neurol 1988; 30:457.
2. Miller SP, Cozzio CC, Goldstein RB, et al. Comparing the diagnosis of white matter injury in premature newborns with serial MR imaging and transfontanel ultrasonography findings. AJNR Am J Neuroradiol 2003; 24:1661.
3. Shankaran S, Kottamasu SR, Kuhns L. Brain sonography, computed tomography, and single-photon emission computed tomography in term neonates with perinatal asphyxia. Clin Perinatol 1993; 20:379.

4. Smith R, Leonidas JC, Maytal J. The value of head ultrasound in infants with macrocephaly. *Pediatr Radiol* 1998; 28:143.
5. UpToDate.com was accessed Oct 29, 2015:
 - Microcephaly in infants and children: Etiology and evaluation
 - Macrocephaly in infants and children: Etiology and evaluation

CODE REFERENCE (This may not be a comprehensive list of codes to apply to this policy.)

CPT 76506, 76536

POLICY HISTORY/REVISION INFORMATION

Date	Action/Description
12/14/2016	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/12/2017	Added code 76536
09/12/2018	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/12/2019	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/10/2020	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/10/2021	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
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08/23/2023	Annual review and approval by UM/QM Committee
08/24/2024	Annual review and approval by UM/QM Committee
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06/25/2026	Annual review and approval by UM/QM Committee