



NHS MEDICAL POLICY

Electrical or Electromagnetic Bone Growth Stimulators DME 2014-008

An electrical or electromagnetic bone growth stimulator may be indicated when ONE of the following is present:

1	Electrical bone growth stimulator is being used as adjunctive treatment to a certified cervical, thoracic or lumbar spine fusion AT MORE THAN ONE LEVEL.
2	Electrical bone growth stimulator is being used as adjunctive treatment to a cervical, thoracic or lumbar spine fusion AT ONE LEVEL and one of the following risk factors for fusion failure is present: • A comorbid condition associated with compromised bone healing is present (eg, diabetes, obesity, osteoporosis, current tobacco use) • There is a history of a previous failed fusion • Spondylolisthesis grade II or greater is present before the surgery

SOURCES

1. Personal communication, Dr. Kambiz Hannani, spine surgeon, peer reviewer October 9, 2014.
2. UpToDate.com was accessed October 8, 2014.
3. Milliman Care Guidelines, 18th Edition, Bone Growth Stimulators, Electrical and Electromagnetic, ACG: A-0565
4. Foley KT, et al. Randomized, prospective, and controlled clinical trial of pulsed electromagnetic field stimulation for cervical fusion. Spine Journal 2008;8(3):436-42. DOI: 10.1016/j.spinee.2007.06.006
5. Welch WC, et al. Implantable direct current stimulation in para-axial cervical arthrodesis. Advances in Therapy 2004 Nov-Dec;21(6):389-400

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

CPT: 20974, 20975

HCPCS: E0747, E0748, E0749

POLICY HISTORY/REVISION INFORMATION

Date	Action/Description
09/25/2015	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/14/2016	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/12/2017	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
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
09/19/2022	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
08/23/2023	Annual review and approval by UM/QM Committee
08/23/2024	Annual review and approval by UM/QM Committee
06/27/2025	Annual review and approval by UM/QM Committee
06/25/2026	Annual review and approval by UM/QM Committee