

(PSEUDO)NOMENCLATURE

*Ultrasound-guided radiofrequency treatment
of peripheral nerves*

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CURRENT SETTING

- Medical innovation > reimbursement
- Radiofrequency treatment (fluoroscopy) – routine clinical practice
- Introduction ultrasound → new targets with visualisation of:
 - peripheral nerves
 - soft tissue
- Increasing evidence for radiofrequency treatment of peripheral nerves



- Increasing use in clinical practice but **no reimbursement.**

EVOLUTION

- October 2020 first submission with request for nomenclature
- 7 indications
 - Anterior knee pain (N Genicularis)
 - Occipital neuralgia (N Occipitalis)
 - Shoulder pain (N Suprascapularis)
 - Scrotal pain (N Genitofemoralis)
 - Inguinal pain (N Ilioinguinalis / N Iliohypogastricus)
 - Meralgia paresthetica (N Cutaneus Femoralis Lateralis)

 Not approved  Pseudonomenclature

WHY NECESSARY?

- Medical need
- Avoid misuse
- Scientific value of registration

➡ Not the goal but a means to an end!

EVOLUTION

- Working group → Standardised national pseudonymenclature
 - 7 indications
 - Summary of evidence for each indication
 - Uniform price of 325 euro based on costs (hospital fee and honorarium)
 - Requirements:
 - Anesthesiologist
 - In-hospital procedure
 - Informed consent
 - Registration conform RIZIV/INAMI registration

PSEUDONOMENCLATURE

- 2/2021 Approved by scientific societies VAVP/GRID/BPS
- 3/2021 Distributed to members

NOMENCLATURE

October 2020: 7 indications submitted Technisch geneeskundige raad/Conseil Technique
Médical working group surgery

➡ Not approved

➡ Resubmission with:

- Reduction to 3 indications with strongest evidence:
 - Knee pain
 - Shoulder pain
 - Occipital neuralgia
- Adjusted cost-benefit analysis

NOMENCLATURE

May 2021: invited to Technisch geneeskundige raad/Conseil Technique Médical working group surgery

➡ Not approved

➡ Resubmission with:

- Reduction to 2 indications with strongest evidence:
 - Knee pain
 - Shoulder pain
- “Connexiteit” with other disciplines cfr article 12

NOMENCLATURE

November 2021: Technisch geneeskundige raad/Conseil Technique Médical working group surgery

➡ Partial approved

➡ Resubmission with:

- Maximal once a year per side
- Addition of outcome score in registration

NOMENCLATURE

March 2022: Technisch geneeskundige raad/Conseil Technique Médical working group surgery

➡ Partial approved

➡ Resubmission with:

- Honorarium for medical imaging contained in honorarium of technical act
- Rules of application clarified

➡ **May 2022: Full approved?**

➡ **But no budget at the moment – hopefully 2023-24**

A close-up photograph of a snail moving across the face of an analog clock. The snail is positioned in the lower-left quadrant, with its body extended and its two eye stalks pointing towards the center of the clock. The clock face is white with black Roman numerals and a small sub-dial at the bottom. The background is dark and out of focus. The text "Slow progress is still progress." is overlaid in white, serif font, centered over the snail and the clock face.

Slow progress is
still progress.

SUGGESTIONS – REMARKS?

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