

Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS) for chronic pain (Review)

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[Intervention Review]

Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS) for chronic pain

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The editorial group responsible for this previously published document have withdrawn it from publication.

REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL

This review is out of date although it is correct as of the date of publication. The latest version is available in the 'Other versions' tab on The Cochrane Library, and may still be useful to readers. This review will be replaced by two new reviews, Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS) for neuropathic pain and Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS) for fibromyalgia. The new reviews will serve to update this review, and will conform to current standards.

WHAT'S NEW

Last assessed as up-to-date: 28 April 2008.

Date	Event	Description
3 July 2014	Amended	This review has been withdrawn. See Published notes .

HISTORY

Protocol first published: Issue 3, 2001

Review first published: Issue 3, 2001

Date	Event	Description
9 April 2014	Feedback has been incorporated	Feedback added regarding included study Thorsteinsson 1978 , see Feedback .
30 September 2009	Feedback has been incorporated	Feedback incorporated regarding Davies 1997 and Lewis 1994 and Lewis 1984 references which were incorrectly cited. Please see feedback section for specific details of the changes made to this review
28 April 2008	New search has been performed	<p>This systematic review represents a substantial update and revision of the previous Cochrane Review published in 2001. The previous review was inconclusive of any beneficial effect of TENS in chronic pain. The studies identified (Al-Smadi 2003; Cheing 2003; Köke 2004; Ng 2003; Oosterhof 2006; Warke 2006) and included in this update offer little improvement upon earlier ones with respect to numbers (only six new studies included), methodological rigour or adequate sample size to conclusively define an effect of TENS in chronic pain.</p> <p>The updated search strategy was executed from 1999 to April 2008. Forty-two new studies were identified for potential inclusion but thirty-six of these were excluded and six (representing 510 new participants) were included.¹²⁸¹</p> <p>As the new studies were few and offered only marginal improvements in quality from previously included studies, meta-analysis and quantitative analysis were deemed inappropriate as in the previous review. Consequently, the new studies were only analysed qualitatively.</p> <p>Furthermore, this update considered issues such as the placebo effect in TENS and the potential synergy between TENS and other pain treatments. It was judged that the included studies did not present enough information upon which to make conclusions about these issues and readers may want to read this update bearing in mind these limitations.</p> <p>This updated review is a substantial update including</p>

(Continued)

		six new studies which, however, do not alter previous conclusions
28 April 2008	New citation required but conclusions have not changed	New authorship for this review.
4 April 2008	Amended	Converted to new review format.
11 January 2008	New citation required and conclusions have changed	Substantive amendment

SOURCES OF SUPPORT

Internal sources

- None, Other.

External sources

- None, Other.