

Policy statement:	Vagus Nerve Stimulation
Status:	Not Funded

Vagus nerve stimulation (VNS) is a medical treatment that involves delivering electrical impulses to the vagus nerve. It is used as an add-on treatment for certain types of intractable epilepsy and treatment-resistant depression. More recently, it has been used to treat headaches.

M&SECCGs do not fund vagus nerve stimulation for any indication.

This service/procedure has been assessed as a **Low Clinical Priority** by M&SECCGs and will not be funded unless there are **exceptional clinical circumstances**.

Funding for patients not meeting the above criteria will only be granted in clinically exceptional circumstances.

Applications for funding in such circumstances should be made to the Exceptional Case Team but should only be made where the patient demonstrates clinical exceptionality.

Further information on applying for funding in exceptional clinical circumstances can be found on the CCGs' website.