APA Official Actions

Position Statement on Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS)

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Issue:

Most insurance companies cover transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) for major depressive disorder (MDD), but some still limit coverage of TMS for MDD and deny coverage for other evidence-based indications. Despite TMS being available for patient care, most psychiatrists lack education and knowledge about it. Supporting access to TMS is consistent with APA's mission and values of promoting the highest quality of care for individuals with neuropsychiatric disorders and supporting the best standards of clinical practice and scientifically established principles of treatment.

APA Position:

TMS is a safe and effective evidence-based medical treatment when administered by TMS-trained psychiatrists for appropriately selected patients. Training in evidence-based TMS therapy for residents and insurance coverage for TMS are needed to provide access to TMS.

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