

Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (rTMS)



What is rTMS?

Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (rTMS) is a therapeutic treatment, it is a safe procedure for psychiatric disorders, especially episodes of Major Depression, Bipolar Affective Disorder, OCD, Anxiety and most recent studies show effectiveness in Addiction. It involves an application of a pulsed magnetic field targeting the Cerebral Cortex. This induces a small electrical current which stimulates the nerve cells.

As an in-patient under your Health Fund there is no out of pocket costs.

Who can be treated with rTMS?

TMS is a useful treatment for patients:

- Who may have not responded to 2 or more medication and/or psychotherapy
- Who are unable to take medication due to adverse reactions

Who is not recommended to have rTMS?

There is little safety data in the use of rTMS on pregnant women and children under the age of 18yrs

Side effects

rTMS is a very safe option that has been studied for over 30yrs and doesn't have any long-term side effects. Although during treatment some side effects may occur, it is uncommon to have to stop treatment because of them.

Most Common:

- Scalp discomfort
- Headache
- Transient tiredness
- Mood fluctuations

These symptoms are usually minor and do not prevent patients from driving or returning to work after a treatment session. These generally subside after the first 2 weeks.

Very rare:

- Risk of seizure (1:30,000)

Risk screening and assessments are performed prior to your 1st treatment

Enquiries

For more information please contact the department of Neurostimulation 07 5671 8129 or Ramsay Clinic Gold Coast Intake Co-ordinator 07 5671 8447

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