



Intervention	054. Spinal Injections & Facet joint injections of Local Anaesthetic and Steroid in people with Non-Specific Low Back Pain without Radiculopathy (Sciatica)
For the treatment of	Non-specific low back pain without radiculopathy
Commissioning Position	<p>The following interventions are not commissioned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spinal injections of local anaesthetic and/or steroid for non-specific low back pain. • Facet joint injections • Therapeutic medial branch blocks • Intradiscal therapy • Prolotherapy • Trigger point injections with any agent, including botulinum toxin • Epidural steroid injections for chronic low back pain or for neurogenic claudication in patients with central spinal canal stenosis • Any other spinal injections not specifically covered above • <p>Radiofrequency denervation can be offered according to NICE guideline (NG59) if all non-surgical and alternative treatments have been tried and there is moderate to severe chronic pain that has improved in response to diagnostic medial branch block.</p> <p>Epidural or nerve root block with local anaesthetic and steroid for patient with acute and severe lumbar radiculopathy is commissioned.</p>
Evidence/Summary of Rationale	<p>Spinal injections for treating low back pain without sciatica are not clinically or cost effective, except for people who meet the criteria for a procedure called 'radiofrequency denervation'.</p> <p>To determine whether these people will benefit from this procedure, they may be offered a diagnostic block of the nerves that supply the joints between the vertebrae. If they experience significant pain relief, they may then be offered radiofrequency denervation to achieve longer-term relief.</p>
Clinical Reference Documents	<p>ebi.aomrc.org.uk/interventions/injections-for-nonspecific-low-back-pain-without-sciatica</p> <p>NG59 Low back pain and sciatica in over 16s: assessment and management Guidance NICE</p> <p>National Spine Network - National Back Pain and Radicular Pain Pathway</p>
Effective from	October 2024
Policy Review Date	October 2027