



## NHS MEDICAL POLICY

### Echoencephalogram Procedure 2015-008

**Echoencephalogram is an ultrasound study of the head, primarily performed on children. An echoencephalogram may be indicated when any ONE of the following is present:**

1	Microcephaly (smaller than normal head size) is documented.
2	Macrocephaly (larger than normal head size) is documented.
3	Any one of the following is suspected or requires imaging to diagnose or follow up: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• congenital malformation</li> <li>• intracranial pathology</li> <li>• hemorrhage</li> <li>• increased intracranial pressure</li> <li>• hydrocephalus (accumulation of an excessive amount of cerebrospinal fluid)</li> <li>• abnormal ventricular size</li> <li>• abnormal fluid collection</li> <li>• neoplasm, mass, or tumor</li> <li>• structural abnormality</li> </ul>

### SOURCES

1. Hope PL, Gould SJ, Howard S, et al. Precision of ultrasound diagnosis of pathologically verified lesions in the brains of very preterm infants. *Dev Med Child Neurol* 1988; 30:457.
2. Miller SP, Cozzio CC, Goldstein RB, et al. Comparing the diagnosis of white matter injury in premature newborns with serial MR imaging and transfontanel ultrasonography findings. *AJNR Am J Neuroradiol* 2003; 24:1661.
3. Shankaran S, Kottamasu SR, Kuhns L. Brain sonography, computed tomography, and single-photon emission computed tomography in term neonates with perinatal asphyxia. *Clin Perinatol* 1993; 20:379.

4. Smith R, Leonidas JC, Maytal J. The value of head ultrasound in infants with macrocephaly. *Pediatr Radiol* 1998; 28:143.
5. UpToDate.com was accessed Oct 29, 2015:
  - Microcephaly in infants and children: Etiology and evaluation
  - Macrocephaly in infants and children: Etiology and evaluation

**CODE REFERENCE (This may not be a comprehensive list of codes to apply to this policy.)**

CPT 76506, 76536

**POLICY HISTORY/REVISION INFORMATION**

Date	Action/Description
12/14/2016	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/12/2017	Added code 76536
09/12/2018	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/12/2019	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/10/2020	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/10/2021	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/19/2022	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
08/23/2023	Annual review and approval by UM/QM Committee
08/24/2024	Annual review and approval by UM/QM Committee