IQWiG Reports – Commission No. H21-10

Stent retriever for the treatment of cerebral artery vasospasm following subarachnoid haemorrhage[1]

Extract

[1] Translation of the executive summary of the §137h assessment: H21-10 *Stentretriever zur Behandlung des Vasospasmus zerebraler Arterien nach Subarachnoidalblutung* (Version 1.0; Status: 24 January 2022). Please note: This translation is provided as a service by IQWiG to English-language readers. However, solely the German original text is absolutely authoritative and legally binding.

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IQWiG thanks the medical advisor for her contribution to the §137h assessment. However, the advisor was not involved in the preparation of the §137h assessment. IQWiG is solely responsible for the content of the §137h assessment.

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Executive summary

The Federal Joint Committee (G-BA) commissioned the Institute for Quality and Efficiency in Health Care (IQWiG) to assess the method "stent retriever for the treatment of cerebral artery vasospasm following subarachnoid haemorrhage (SAB)" according to §137h Social Code Book (SGB) V – Statutory Health Insurance. The assessment documents were submitted to IQWiG on 13 December 2021.

To avoid misunderstandings, the method is referred to below as "angioplasty using a stent for vasospasm". According to the information in the submission form, it is used to treat patients with symptomatic vasospasm of cerebral arteries after SAB in whom first-line therapy by means of systemic drug treatment is not (sufficiently) effective or is contraindicated.

Results from 2 case series were available for the assessment of the method.

No findings on the benefit, ineffectiveness and harmfulness of angioplasty using a stent for vasospasm could be derived from the data submitted, as no comparative data were available. The supplementary examination of the results of the case series also did not indicate harmfulness of the method.

Overall, based on the documents submitted on angioplasty using a stent for vasospasm in patients with drug-refractory symptomatic vasospasm of cerebral arteries after SAB, neither a benefit, harmfulness or ineffectiveness of the method can be identified in the present assessment according to §137h.

The feasibility of a testing study depends largely on the possibility of applying control or add-on interventions in off-label use.

The full report (German version) is published under

https://www.iqwig.de/projekte/h21-10.html