

Release on April 26th

Important news! New system for payment for Compression Duplex Ultrasounds in CLOTS trial 3

The start up phase of the trial was funded by the Chief Scientist Office in Scotland who designated all the NHS costs associated with the trial as “Service Support Costs”. This meant that the costs, including those of performing Compression Duplex Ultrasounds (CDU), would come from the Comprehensive Local Research networks (CLRN/R&D).

The main phase of the trial is being funded by the HTA. They have decided that the costs of the CDUs should be split between “Research Costs” (£300 per patient for 2 scans) and “Service Support Costs” (£120 per patients for 2 scans). This is very good news! This means that we, at the CLOTS trial centre, hold the research budget and can reimburse you directly for the majority of the costs.

Other “Service Support Costs” have been identified to obtain consent (£9 per patient), and to review scan results (£19 per patient). These funds will come, with the £120 for two CDU, via the CLRN/R&D at your hospital.

The costs associated with monitoring the use of the Intermittent Pneumatic Compression have been designated as “Excess Treatment Costs” since they will continue if IPC is shown to be effective and if it is then used in routine practice (£131 per patient treated). The local Trust or NHS Board funds this out of their normal allocation – you will not see this money, it is virtual and already in the staffing budgets for the ward.

The table summarises the breakdown of this costing and the sources of funds.

This change affects all patients recruited from April 1st 2010

Task / Test	Basis of costs	Type of costs	Per patient cost	Source of funds
Duplex (above knee, both legs) x 2	HTA agreed costs	70% Research cost 30% Service support cost	£300 £120	CLOTS CLRN/R&D
Obtaining consent	Band 6 Nurse	Service support cost	£9	CLRN/R&D
Time for consultant to review duplex reports	Consultant	Service support cost	£19	CLRN/R&D
Daily leg checks (3 times per day ~ 10 minutes)	Band 6 Nurse	Excess Treatment Costs	£131	Trust/Boards

What do I need to do?

Your local CLRN / R&D Office should be aware of the Service Support and Excess Treatment costs detailed above and should process payments accordingly. You shouldn't need to do anything.

The CLOTS office will pay your Trust for CDUs on a yearly basis on receipt of complete data, i.e.

- Duplex 1
- Duplex 2 (unless not planned or patient died in which case only 50% funds will be given)
- Discharge form or six month in-hospital follow up form
- Hard evidence of any above knee DVT identified

We will only reimburse costs for patients in whom we have complete data by March 31st

Payment will be sent on a yearly basis (in April) by cheque to the Hospital Co-ordinator. We will be in touch to establish the payee details (this **cannot** be a named person).