

TMS TRENDS

DECEMBER 2011

A publication of the TMS Institute of Pennsylvania – Advanced Neuropsychiatric Solutions



The TMS Institute of Pennsylvania wishes you a happy holiday season and a prosperous New Year!

DECEMBER 13, 2011

The TMS Support Group of Chester County will hold its next meeting at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, December 13. Meetings are held at 129 S. High Street, West Chester, PA 19382. All are welcome to attend. Please call (610) 738-8671 for more information or for directions.

2012 MEETINGS

Meetings will continue to be held on the second Tuesday of each month, beginning January 10, 2012. We look forward to beginning the New Year with you!

REIMBURSEMENT UPDATE

The issue of Insurance reimbursement remains an important topic for many who are considering treatment with TMS Therapy. NeuroStar TMS Therapy, FDA-cleared since 2008, has been fully vetted and the medical literature is replete with evidence of its safety and efficacy. It is included in both the most recent American Psychiatric Association Treatment Guidelines and the Canadian Network for Mood and Anxiety Disorders Clinical Guidelines as a viable treatment option in treatment-resistant depression.

However, despite these inclusions, as well as the widespread use of TMS Therapy in major prominent psychiatric institutions across the country, insurance companies have been slow to adopt TMS Therapy as a covered service.

Several updates from Neuronetics, Inc., as well as from independent sources, have suggested that the insurance industry is steadily progressing towards accepting TMS Therapy into their policies. Recently, Highmark Medicare posted a draft of a policy which would cover TMS Therapy for those with major depression. This draft, while not in place as a current policy, is a promising development.

A recent insurance claim to Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield by one of our patients yielded a very positive outcome. The claimant received significant partial reimbursement without any need to begin the appeals process. This response from the insurance industry is hopefully indicative of changes to come.

Until insurance coverage is consistent, the TMS Institute of Pennsylvania will continue to work diligently with the NeuroStar Care Connection to appeal each denial and seek reimbursement for all our treated patients.