



## Intravenous Immunoglobulin for Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy: Clinical- and Cost-Effectiveness Analyses

### TECHNOLOGY AND CONDITION

Intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIg) for immune-mediated inflammatory symptoms associated with chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (CIDP).

### ISSUE

Because of the growing use of IVIg in Canada (including off-label use), escalating costs, potential availability of other treatments, and uncertainty about therapeutic advantages, there is a need to assess the clinical- and cost-effectiveness and health services impact of IVIg for the treatment of CIDP.

### METHODS AND RESULTS

A systematic review was conducted to identify clinical trials and economic evaluations that compared IVIg with alternative treatments. Nine randomized controlled clinical trials were included. One economic evaluation of IVIg treatment for CIDP was identified. A primary cost-utility economic evaluation was conducted.

### IMPLICATIONS FOR DECISION MAKING

- There is no clear evidence of an overall therapeutic advantage. Compared with placebo, IVIg appears to reduce impairment and disability in patients with CIDP. The improvements are similar to those resulting from corticosteroid and plasma exchange therapy. Compared with alternative treatments, it is unclear whether IVIg has therapeutic advantages in the management of CIDP.
- IVIg treatment may not be perceived as a cost-effective use of health care resources. The cost per quality-adjusted life-year of IVIg compared with corticosteroids for CIDP treatment (\$549,449) is higher than what might be viewed as a cost-effective use of health care resources.
- Limited evidence is available to inform decisions. There was a small number of studies and small sample sizes for some outcomes in the clinical review. No Canadian economic evidence was available. The primary economic analysis may be limited by the assumptions that had to be made.

This summary is based on a comprehensive health technology assessment available from CADTH's website ([www.cadth.ca](http://www.cadth.ca)): Gaebel K, Blackhouse G, Campbell K, Robertson D, Xie F, Assasi N, Chalk C, Levine M, Giacomini M, Goeree R. *Intravenous Immunoglobulin for Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy: Clinical- and Cost-Effectiveness Analyses* [Technology report number 117 and Technology overview number 50].

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