

TRANSCRANIAL MAGNETIC STIMULATION (TMS)

Northpark Private Hospital in association with the Alfred Psychiatric research centre and Professor Paul Fitzgerald, have joined a national TMS clinical trial for the treatment of patients with treatment resistant depression.

TMS involves stimulation of an area of your brain using a pulsing magnet placed on your scalp. The magnet is designed to give a focused beam of magnetic energy. TMS works by changing brain electrical activity and the brain chemicals that are involved in controlling mood.

TMS is used to treat depression. The aim of TMS treatment is to lift your mood. With an improvement in mood there is often an associated improvement in sleep, appetite, energy and concentration and a decrease in negative thoughts. TMS is an acute treatment for depression and you will require ongoing suitable treatment from your Psychiatrist to maintain remission.

As with all treatments in medicine, there is no guarantee of success with TMS.

TMS is only offered as an inpatient at the hospital. A health fund check can be completed to check eligibility. The administration staff at the hospital can assist you with all your enquiries.

To receive TMS you will require a referral to Northpark Private Hospital TMS Unit by your Psychiatrist. TMS is available in a clinical trial setting for patients with depression and a history of poor response to, or an inability to tolerate the side effects of antidepressant medications. It is also available to those patients who have had a previous good response to TMS at this or other facilities providing TMS.

As TMS involves magnetic energy, there are some people who are unable to have TMS.

For further information contact:
TMS Coordinator - Ph: 03 9467 6022