

Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation (TENS) for Pain Control During Cervical Dilator Placement Prior to Dilation and Evacuation

The safety and scientific validity of this study is the responsibility of the study sponsor and investigators. Listing a study does not mean it has been evaluated by  the U.S. Federal Government. [Know the risks and potential benefits](#) of clinical studies and talk to your health care provider before participating. Read our [disclaimer](#) for details.

ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:
NCT03868787

[Recruitment Status](#) : Not yet recruiting
[First Posted](#) : March 11, 2019
[Last Update Posted](#) : March 11, 2019
See [Contacts and Locations](#)

Sponsor:

Ashley Turner

Collaborator:

Society of Family Planning

Information provided by (Responsible Party):

Ashley Turner, Northwestern University

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[No Results Posted](#)

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Study Description

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Brief Summary:

This study evaluates the use of Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation (TENS) as a method of pain control during

osmotic dilator insertion prior to dilation and evacuation. Half the group will have an active TENS unit and half will have a sham or placebo TENS unit.

<u>Condition or disease</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Intervention/treatment</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Phase</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
Pain Management	Device: TENS Device: Sham TENS	Not Applicable

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Study Design

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Study Type : Interventional (Clinical Trial)

Estimated Enrollment : 70 participants

Allocation: Randomized

Intervention Model: Parallel Assignment

Masking: Single (Participant)

Masking Description: The experimental group will have an active TENS unit - Chattanooga Primera - and the control group will have a sham TENS unit. The sham TENS will be the same unit without the true TENS electrical connections. The true TENS unit consists of the active unit and electrode pads connected to the unit via direct wires. The sham group will be given the active unit and have electrode pads placed but without wire connections. These participants will be told the device is a wireless device. They will also be told they may or may not feel sensation from the TENS. This will allow the device to be powered on and run in the same manner as the active group, but will not allow for electrical transmission between the unit and electrodes

Primary Purpose: Treatment

Official Title: Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation (TENS) for Pain Control During Cervical Dilator Placement Prior to Dilation and Evacuation: A Randomized Controlled Trial

Estimated Study Start Date : March 15, 2019

Estimated Primary Completion Date : June 1, 2020

Estimated Study Completion Date : July 1, 2020

Resource links provided by the National Library of Medicine

[MedlinePlus](#) related topics: [Non-Drug Pain Management](#)



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<u>Arm</u> □	<u>Intervention/treatment</u> □
<p>Experimental: Active TENS</p> <p>The active TENS unit consists of the active unit and electrode pads connected to the unit via direct wires. The program that will be used is a high frequency (80Hz) program that runs for an hour in duration. It will be initiated 5 minutes prior to speculum placement. Participants will be instructed to increase the amplitude of the current as needed to provide analgesia but avoiding discomfort from the TENS stimulation</p>	<p>Device: TENS</p> <p>TENS units are small, inexpensive, portable, battery-powered devices which deliver mild, alternating electrical currents via electrodes positioned on the skin near the anticipated dermatomal distribution of pain.</p>
<p>Sham Comparator: Sham TENS</p> <p>The sham TENS will be the same unit without the true TENS electrical connections. The sham group will be given the active unit and have electrode pads placed but without wire connections. These participants will be told the device is a wireless device. They will also be told they may or may not feel sensation from the TENS. This will allow the device to be powered on and run in the same manner as the active group, but will not allow for electrical transmission between the unit and electrodes</p>	<p>Device: Sham TENS</p> <p>Non-active TENS unit</p>

Outcome Measures

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Primary Outcome Measures □ :

1. Pain following dilator placement [Time Frame: within 5 mins after dilator placement procedure]
Self-reported pain on 100mm VAS immediately following dilator placement

Secondary Outcome Measures □ :

1. Pain at dilator exchange [Time Frame: within 5 mins after dilator exchange procedure]
Self-reported pain on 100mm VAS immediately following dilator exchange (if applicable)

2. Interval pain [Time Frame: 5 mins after dilator placement to 36 hours after dilator placement]

Self-reported highest level of pain between dilator placement and D&E on 100mm VAS

3. Adjunctive pain medications [Time Frame: 5 mins after dilator placement to 36 hours after dilator placement]

Number and type of adjunctive pain medications used (Norco and ibuprofen), self-reported and confirmed with pill bottles

4. Patient satisfaction [Time Frame: 24-36 hours after dilator placement, immediately prior to D&E]

Patient satisfaction with device based on 4 questions with 5 point Likert scale

Eligibility Criteria

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Information from the National Library of Medicine



Choosing to participate in a study is an important personal decision. Talk with your doctor and family members or friends about deciding to join a study. To learn more about this study, you or your doctor may contact the study research staff using the contacts provided below. For general information, [Learn About Clinical Studies](#).

Ages Eligible for Study: 18 Years and older (Adult, Older Adult)

Sexes Eligible for Study: Female

Accepts Healthy Volunteers: Yes

Criteria

Inclusion Criteria:

1. Women \geq 18 years of age
2. Gestational age between 14 weeks and 23 weeks 6 days
3. Willing and able to sign an informed consent in English
4. No contraindications to TENS

Exclusion Criteria:

1. Incarceration
2. Preterm Premature Rupture of Membranes or evidence of intra-amniotic infection

3. Presence of implanted cardiac device
4. Lack of sensation to touch on area of electrode placement
5. Prior TENS use
6. Opioid dependence

Contacts and Locations

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Please refer to this study by its ClinicalTrials.gov identifier (NCT number):
NCT03868787

Contacts

Contact: Ashley M Turner, MD 231-620-549 ashley.turner@northwestern.edu
Contact: Leanne McCloskey, MD, MPH 312-926-8678 legriffi@nm.org

Locations

United States, Illinois

Northwestern Center for Family Planning and Contraception **Not yet recruiting**
Chicago, Illinois, United States, 60611
Contact: Ashley Turner, MD 231-620-0549 ashley.turner@northwestern.edu

Sponsors and Collaborators

Ashley Turner
Society of Family Planning

Investigators

Principal Investigator: Leanne McCloskey, MD, MPH Northwestern University

Study Documents (Full-Text)

Documents provided by Ashley Turner, Northwestern University:

[Study Protocol and Statistical Analysis Plan \[PDF\]](#) December 4, 2018

[Informed Consent Form \[PDF\]](#) January 24, 2019

More Information

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Publications:

[Binder P, Gustafsson A, Uvnäs-Moberg K, Nissen E. Hi-TENS combined with PCA-morphine as post caesarean pain relief. *Midwifery*. 2011 Aug;27\(4\):547-52. doi: 10.1016/j.midw.2010.05.002. Epub 2010 Jul 7.](#)

[De Angelis C, Perrone G, Santoro G, Nofroni I, Zichella L. Suppression of pelvic pain during hysteroscopy with a transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation device. *Fertil Steril*. 2003 Jun;79\(6\):1422-7.](#)

[ELECTROPHYSICAL AGENTS - Contraindications And Precautions: An Evidence-Based Approach To Clinical Decision Making In Physical Therapy. *Physiother Can*. 2010 Fall;62\(5\):1-80. doi: 10.3138/ptc.62.5. Epub 2011 Jan 5.](#)

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[Johnson MI, Paley CA, Howe TE, Sluka KA. Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation for acute pain. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*. 2015 Jun 15;\(6\):CD006142. doi: 10.1002/14651858.CD006142.pub3. Review.](#)

[Kayman-Kose S, Arioz DT, Toktas H, Koken G, Kanat-Pektas M, Kose M, Yilmazer M. Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation \(TENS\) for pain control after vaginal delivery and cesarean section. *J Matern Fetal Neonatal Med*. 2014 Oct;27\(15\):1572-5. doi: 10.3109/14767058.2013.870549. Epub 2014 Jan 8.](#)

[Mercier RJ, Liberty A. Intrauterine lidocaine for pain control during laminaria insertion: a randomized controlled trial. *Contraception*. 2014 Dec;90\(6\):594-600. doi: 10.1016/j.contraception.2014.07.008. Epub 2014 Jul 23.](#)

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[Proctor ML, Smith CA, Farquhar CM, Stones RW. Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation and acupuncture for primary dysmenorrhoea. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*. 2002;\(1\):CD002123. Review.](#)

[Soon R, Tschann M, Salcedo J, Stevens K, Ahn HJ, Kaneshiro B. Paracervical Block for Laminaria Insertion Before Second-Trimester Abortion: A Randomized Controlled Trial. *Obstet Gynecol*. 2017 Aug;130\(2\):387-392. doi: 10.1097/AOG.0000000000002149.](#)

[de Sousa L, Gomes-Sponholz FA, Nakano AM. Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation for the relief of](#)

[post-partum uterine contraction pain during breast-feeding: a randomized clinical trial. J Obstet Gynaecol Res. 2014 May;40\(5\):1317-23. doi: 10.1111/jog.12345. Epub 2014 Apr 21.](#)

[Vance CG, Dailey DL, Rakel BA, Sluka KA. Using TENS for pain control: the state of the evidence. Pain Manag. 2014 May;4\(3\):197-209. doi: 10.2217/pmt.14.13. Review.](#)

Responsible Party: Ashley Turner, Co-investigator, Northwestern University
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Other Study ID Numbers: STU00209157
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Last Update Posted: March 11, 2019
Last Verified: March 2019

Individual Participant Data (IPD) Sharing Statement:

Plan to Share IPD: No

Studies a U.S. FDA-regulated Drug Product: No
Studies a U.S. FDA-regulated Device Product: Yes
Device Product Not Approved or Cleared by U.S. FDA: No
Pediatric Postmarket Surveillance of a Device Product: No
Product Manufactured in and Exported from the U.S.: No

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