

CHRONIC FATIGUE SYNDROME/MYALGIC ENCEPHALOMYELITIS (ME) (PAEDIATRIC AND ADULT) INPATIENT AND RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT

EXCEPTONAL FUNDING REQUIRED

NICE Guidance CG53 Chronic fatigue syndrome/myalgic encephalomyelitis (or encephalopathy): diagnosis and management (August 2007, reviewed 2017) provides guidance based on the best available evidence on diagnosing and managing this condition. It aims to improve the quality of life by setting out the care and treatment options.

Commissioners have a responsibility within local and national priorities for funding services which enables healthcare professionals and individuals to access services for ME.

Any outpatient assessment and treatment for ME should be referred to local commissioned services.

Inpatient or residential treatment for ME is not normally funded and will require an Exceptional Funding Request (EFR) as per the ICB process for exceptional clinical cases.

Primary care must obtain funding before referring patients to secondary care providers and secondary care providers must satisfy themselves that the patient has funding secured prior to seeing the patient. This is to ensure inappropriate out-patient appointments are avoided and patient expectations are properly managed.