

Subject:	<b>Lung vibrator: the Vest</b>
Summary:	<p>This assessment is an update of CVZ's assessment dated 5 October 2007 regarding high-frequency chest wall oscillation (HFCWO). This re-assessment indicates that there is only one useful new study, a meta-analysis by Morrison et al. (2009). The quality of other new studies is too low; in particular, they lack a follow-up period (the studies with HFCWO involved periods lasting at the most fourteen days, unlike those for other medical devices, such as PEP, for which studies with a longer period were available.)</p> <p>Due to the lack of data, no statement can be issued about the long-term efficacy of using HFCWO on the various outcome parameters of patients with cystic fibrosis.</p> <p>Two new studies have been registered as Clinical Trials, but these are still in progress.</p> <p>The new literature does not form a reason for revising the previous outcome of assessment.</p> <p>At the moment there is insufficient evidence that high-frequency chest wall oscillation (HFCWO), used for clearing the respiratory airways in cases of cystic fibrosis, is at least as effective, even in the long term, as other methods of clearing the respiratory airways. Therefore, for the moment, although the lung vibrator can be regarded as a medical device in the sense of the regulations, the method (HFCWO) does not comply with established medical science and medical practice as defined in the <i>Zorgverzekeringswet</i> (Health Insurance Act).</p>
Type of ruling:	SpZ = Outcome of Assessment Zvw
Date:	30 September 2010
Issued to:	Health insurer insured client
Care form:	Medical care