

3 February 2026

Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS)

Does Belfast Health and Social Care Trust offer Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) for patients with severe or treatment resistant depression?

No, the Belfast Health & Social Care Trust Mental Health Service does not offer this treatment.

If not:

What are the reasons? This treatment is not commissioned for the treatment of depressive illness and is not therefore offered by the service.

Is this being looked at as an treatment option to be provided in the future? This has not to date been discussed with our commissioners.

Can patients be referred to other NHS Trust's to have this treatment? We do not routinely refer to other Trusts for this treatment.

What treatment options are currently provided for patients with severe or treatment resistant depression.

Each patient diagnosed with treatment resistant depression will be given a treatment plan by their responsible clinician. This will be individualised according to need but will likely include a combination of pharmacological treatments, psychosocial interventions and possibly ECT (if certain criteria are met).