

Peer Review

Review of: "Management of Nutritional Failure in People with Severe ME/CFS: Review of the Case for Supplementing NICE Guideline NG206"

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This review addresses a highly sensitive and clinically important issue—nutritional failure in people with severe ME/CFS—and provides a thoughtful, policy-oriented critique of current practice in relation to NICE Guideline NG206. The manuscript’s strengths lie in its clear focus on patient safety, informed consent, and adherence to evidence-based medicine, as well as its structured discussion of diagnostic confusion, ethical concerns, and practical aspects of enteral/parenteral feeding. The author persuasively argues against theory-driven or coercive “stimulus challenge” approaches in the absence of robust evidence, grounding the discussion in legal and ethical principles such as Montgomery and informed consent. However, the article is largely narrative and opinion-based, with limited systematic appraisal of empirical data; several strong claims regarding the ineffectiveness or harm of challenge-based interventions would benefit from more balanced framing and a clearer distinction between absence of evidence and evidence of absence. Greater engagement with counterarguments and international perspectives beyond the UK context would strengthen generalisability. Overall, this is a rigorous and ethically grounded commentary that makes a valuable contribution to ongoing debates about severe ME/CFS care, but its conclusions should be interpreted as policy-informed expert analysis rather than evidence-synthesised guidance.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.