

Electrodiagnostic Testing (NCV and EMG)

The test you are going to have is called an ELECTRODIAGNOSTIC STUDY, often referred to as an EMG. It is a safe in-office procedure to determine if there is any objective evidence to confirm a nerve injury, muscle disease or some combination of both. The test is very accurate. It will allow your doctor to direct your treatment based upon the results. In our laboratory, the study is performed by a physician board certified in electrodiagnostics by the ABEM.

There is no preparation required. There are no side effects to worry about after the test and you will be fine to drive yourself. The test takes anywhere from one half hour to an hour depending on what is being tested. It has two parts. In part one you will feel a small electrical shock, like the zap you get when touching a doorknob. It does not hurt but startles you. You may experience some minor pain or skin irritation at the site of the electrical shocks.

In part two, a small recording pin is used to record muscle activity. Because of the computerization, the pin is so small it does not hurt and only rarely draws blood. You may, however, experience some bruising in the recording site. As with any medical procedure there is a small risk of infection. I am happy to report that in 23 years we have never had a post EMG infection. Some patients report mild muscle spasm after the procedure.

It takes the physician about 45 minutes to complete the computerized evaluation. The results are not available immediately after the test. On average, a report is available within 24 hours and will be mailed to your referring doctor. You will return to your referring doctor to review the results. No follow up appointment is required unless you would like to discuss the results in more detail. The cost of the testing depends on how many nerves and muscles are tested. It varies widely from approximately \$200 to as much as \$2000. Since we accept assignment from most insurance companies, you will only be responsible for your co-pay and/or deductible. Our front desk staff can tell you exactly what that should be.

Please feel free to ask any additional questions you may have. We look forward to helping diagnose your problem.

Jerrold Rosenberg, MD

Patient

Date