

Adult Neurology

Reed C. Perron, MD Susan P. Molinari, MD
Hugo N. Lijtmaer, MD John T. Nasr, MD
Daniel R. Van Engel, MD Amrit K. Grewal, MD
Kenneth A. Levin, MD Olga Noskin, MD
Kenneth A. Citak, MD Yamini Naidu, MD
James T. Shamas, MD Daniel Berlin, MD, MSc
Elena Zislin, PA-C

Pediatric Neurology

Peter L. Heilbroner, MD, PhD
Jennifer A. Cope, MD
Mitchell Steinschneider, MD, PhD
Consultant
Heather Weiner, PNP-BC

Biofeedback

Geraldine Fee, PhD

Managing Partner

Hugo N. Lijtmaer, MD

Administrator

David T. Contento, FACMPE

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EVOKED POTENTIALS

These tests are non-invasive procedures.

Your doctor may order any or all of these tests to check the signals your brain and spinal cord (parts of your nervous system) receive from other parts of your body. The signals are responses to what you see, hear, or feel during the tests. These tests are also used to check for vision and hearing problems.

Visual Evoked Potential (VER)

You will sit a few feet from a screen. The technologist will attach small metal disks (electrodes) to your scalp. This will be done using water-based gel or paste. Testing each eye separately, with a patch over one eye, you will watch a reversal checkerboard pattern on the screen. If you wear contacts or eye glasses, please have them with you. Testing time is approx. 1 hour

Brainstem Auditory Evoked Potential (BAER)

The technologist will attach electrodes to your head and behind your ears with gel or paste. Wearing headphones, you will hear clicking sounds or tones to the testing ear (each ear tested separately). Testing time is approx. 1 hour

Somatosensory Evoked Potential (SSER)

UPPER / LOWER

Electrodes will be placed on various parts of your body, such as your head, spine, arms, or legs. The technologist will apply mild electrical current to the nerves in your wrists or ankles. You may feel your muscles twitch.

For the lower SSER, your doctor may prescribe Valium to bring to the office. You will need to have transportation after testing due to the Valium.

Testing time: Upper SSER: 1 hour Lower SSER: 1 ½ hours

TESTING PREP:

1. Clean, dry hair with no hairstyling products.
2. Your skin should be free of excessive oil.
3. Bring or wear any eyeglasses or contact lenses you use.