



VISUAL, AUDITORY, AND SOMATOSENSORY EVOKED POTENTIAL (EP)

Your physician has prescribed an evoked potential (EP) test. This examination involves verifying the electrical response of your sensory nervous system following a series of stimulations. The test can be performed on the nerves of the eye (visual EP), the auditory nerves (auditory EP), or the peripheral nerves (somatosensory EP).

ABOUT THE TEST

- The test is by appointment only.
- The test is performed by a technologist.
- The test usually takes 30 to 90 minutes.

PREPARING FOR THE TEST

On the day of the test

- Make sure your hair is clean and dry (not damp).
- Wear comfortable clothes.

CANCELLING OR POSTPONING AN APPOINTMENT

If you need to cancel or postpone your appointment, please notify the staff by dialling 819-346-1110, ext. 14489.

REMEMBER TO BRING...

- A valid medical insurance card (otherwise you will have to pay for this test).
- Your hospital card
 - * If you do not have a hospital card, before your appointment allow for 15 minutes to have one made at the admitting department.
- An up-to-date list of all your medications.
- A comb or hairbrush
- A hat or a tuque if it is cold outside

CHECKLIST

My examination date: _____

Examination time: _____

Location: _____

ON THE DAY OF THE TEST

- Go to the location at the time and date specified by the administrative officer or in your letter (received by mail or email).
- The technologist will measure your head and use a skin-marking pencil to position the electrodes.
- Glue that dries upon air contact and a conductive gel that enables recording will be used to secure the electrodes.
- Some 20 cables will connect the electrodes to the computer that will record the electrical response of your sensory nervous system.
- The technologist will stimulate the appropriate nerves.

VISUAL EVOKED POTENTIAL (VEP)

A screen will be placed 100 cm (about 3 ft.) from your face. On the screen you will see a checkerboard with a red dot in the centre. The black and white boxes will inverse. You must focus on the red dot throughout the test. One eye will be examined at a time. The other will be covered.

AUDITORY EVOKED POTENTIAL (AEP)

You will lie on your back and wear a headset. The technologist will repeatedly have you listen to sounds. One ear at a time will be examined (the sound will be heard by one ear at a time).

SOMATOSENSORY EVOKED POTENTIAL (SSEP)

You will lie on your back. The technologist will place electrodes on your arms or legs. He will stimulate your nerves with repeating shock waves until the desired response is obtained. One nerve at a time will be stimulated.

AFTER THE EXAMINATION

- Once the test is completed, the technologist will remove the cables and electrodes. He will wash your hair to remove the paste or glue from your head. Your hair will be damp and somewhat dishevelled.
- You will be able to leave the hospital after the test.
- You will be able to drive home.

GETTING YOUR TEST RESULTS

Your results will be available 2 to 4 weeks after your examination and will be sent to you by your prescribing physician.

DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?



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Info-Santé 811

OR

Speak to your prescriber.

**Centre intégré
universitaire de santé
et de services sociaux
de l'Estrie – Centre
hospitalier universitaire
de Sherbrooke**

Québec 

Authors

Medical electrophysiology team

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Service des communications

Direction des ressources humaines, des communications et des affaires juridiques

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