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Information about an EEG

What is an EEG?

This is a test which monitors brain wave patterns.

What does the EEG involve?

We attach up to 23 small discs, using a sticky paste, to your child's scalp to record the brain wave patterns. We also attach two discs to your child's chest to record their heart rate. This process can take up to ten to fifteen minutes.

To get the best results, we will ask your child to remain as still and as quiet as possible. For pre-school children it can be helpful to bring a favourite toy or book to keep them entertained, but we also have a TV for this purpose. Infants can have a bottle or drink to keep them settled. You can stay with your child throughout the test. The recording does not hurt, and can last up to 15-20 minutes. We will ask if we can video your child during the recording – please see enclosed explanation forms. As we record your child, we will need you to complete a consent form (a copy is enclosed).

Before the test

Hair styling products can affect the recording, please do not use gel or mousse in your child's hair before the EEG. If you think your child has head lice, please contact department beforehand as recording may not be possible if head lice are still present.

If your child takes any medication they should take this as usual, unless the doctor tells you not to.

Prior to the test we encourage you and your child to watch this video
<https://www.whatwhychildreninhospital.org.uk/eeg>