



Video Telemetry Ward 411

This leaflet provides you with information about Electroencephalogram (EEG) video telemetry. This is a recording of the natural electrical patterns of the brain, brainwaves, with a video recording of your seizures.

As part of your assessment, it is important for the neurosurgeon or neurologist to gain as much information as possible about your seizures, in order to better understand your condition and manage your care.

It is necessary to record your brain waves (EEG). This is done by applying 25 small metal discs (electrodes) to your scalp and making a video recording of your seizures.

What should I do before my appointment?

You will be admitted to ward 411 in a single patient room with toilet facilities. Your appointment letter will tell you how long you need to be admitted for your test.

Important: On the morning of your admission date, please telephone the ward and check with a member of the nursing staff or the nurse-in-charge whether a bed is available for you and the time that you should come to the ward. The ward telephone number is on your appointment letter. Please do not arrive at the ward until you have been told to do so by the ward nursing staff, as you may have to wait or you could be turned away if the bed is not available.

Ward 411 Telephone: 0121 371 4152

- Continue to take your regular medication.
- Arrive with your hair freshly washed, dried and free from hairspray, mousse or gel to ensure electrodes stick to your scalp.
- It would be helpful if you could bring clothes that button or zip at the front to make changing your clothes easier.
- Do not wear any form of hair weave or extension, as the glue removal solution (acetone) will damage them. If you have a hair weave, hair extensions or braided hair, please contact the department prior to your appointment for advice.

What will happen at my appointment?

- You may bring a friend or family member along with you.
- During your appointment your scalp will be prepared with a special paste that will give good skin contact.

In rare instance, this may result in minor skin redness or itching.

If you are known to suffer with allergies to cosmetics/lotions please contact the department before your appointment.

- The electrodes are attached using glue (collodion). A special sticky contact paste is used under the electrodes.

What will happen during the recording?

The telemetry system will be set up to start recording once the electrodes are connected into a recording box (recorder), which is carried in a special bag and has to be worn at all times (the physiologist will explain and show this to you). The recording box and bag weigh around 500 grams (the weight of half a packet of sugar). The recorder is an expensive and delicate piece of equipment so you must avoid getting it wet or damaged. Keep the recorder in the bag attached to you at all times.

The physiologist will check your electrodes on a daily basis, and at the end of the working day, to make sure all the electrodes are secure. You will be allowed to move freely in the room but we ask you to stay in view of the camera.

Unfortunately, due to the position of the room and the need to video, it will not be possible to leave the room, therefore smoking is not possible. However, Nicotine patches will be provided where required. If you have any concerns, please contact the Telemetry team.

You will be asked to make a note of any attacks you have, but it is important that you inform the nursing staff as well.

The physiologist will try to scan the recording on a daily basis to monitor your progress and keep the neurosurgeon/neurologist and the team informed of developments.

The neurosurgeon or neurologist may reduce your anti-epileptic medication during your admission to help gain more information about your seizures, but you will be monitored very closely. The physiologist will try to answer any questions you have. If you have any concerns the nursing staff will be pleased to help.

Things you must not do during the recording period

We ask that you do not chew gum during the recording as this can interfere with the quality of the recording. You will not be able to have a shower, bath or wash your hair whilst you are attached to the electrodes and the recording equipment. You will only be able wash yourself with a flannel, sponge or you may wish to use wipes to clean yourself. You may wash your face avoiding any electrodes on the forehead or sides of the face.

Removing the electrodes (discs)

The discs are removed using acetone (like nail varnish remover). Some glue will remain in your hair but can be washed off at home. Brushing your hair will also help remove the glue. **The electrodes may leave small pressure marks or sore areas on your scalp.**

After the recording

The physiologist will not be able to give you the results immediately after the electrodes are removed. The results will take 2–3 weeks to be sent back to the doctor that referred you.

Further information

Please feel free to contact the department if there is any information you do not understand. If your appointment is not convenient, please phone as soon as possible to rearrange this.

Clinical Neurophysiology Department

Telephone: 0121 371 6420

Monday–Friday: 8.30am–4.30pm

Information for Patients

We hope this leaflet has been helpful.

Please use the space below to write down any questions you may have and bring this with you to your next appointment.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Neurophysiology

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If you require this information in another format, such as a different language, large print, braille or audio version please ask a member of staff or email interpreting.service@uhb.nhs.uk.