



Nerve Conduction Studies (NCS) and Electromyography (EMG)

You have been scheduled for an EMG/nerve conduction test. The purpose of this test is to evaluate the symptoms you are experiencing in your arm(s) and/or leg(s). These symptoms might include numbness, tingling, pain, weakness, or muscle cramping. The test has 2 parts:

Part 1: Nerve Conduction Studies (NCS)

Part 1 takes approximately 30 minutes to perform. Small electrodes will be taped to your skin or placed around your fingers. Small electrical shocks are then applied to your arm or leg to evaluate nerve function. You may experience a mild and brief tingling or shock. This sensation is usually very tolerable.

Part 2: Electromyography (EMG)

Part 2 typically lasts 15 to 30 minutes. Small needles are inserted into selected muscles in your arm(s) and/or leg(s). The electrical activity of each muscle is then recorded. Analyzing the electrical activity of each muscle helps determine a diagnosis for your condition. You may experience mild discomfort when the muscles are stimulated.

Risks

Disposable sterile needles are used minimizing the risk of infection. The risk of bleeding and bruising is increased if you take blood thinners such as Coumadin (warfarin) or Plavix (clopidogrel). It is important to inform Dr Walker if you are taking these medications.

Preparation

It is important for the accuracy of the test that you shower and do not apply any lotions on the day of your test. Upon arrival your arm or leg will be warmed.

After the Procedure

There are no activity restrictions after the test. Some people may have minor aches and pains from the testing which can be treated with ice, Tylenol, or ibuprofen.

Results

The test results will be sent to your doctor who will discuss the results with you and devise a treatment plan.

Financial Responsibility

Your insurance company may require you to make partial payment for this study. Our financial department staff will assist you in determining your responsibility ahead of time.