



## EMG PATIENT INFORMATION

**EMG Phone number: 781-453-3696**

You are scheduled to have an electromyography (EMG). An EMG is an examination of your nerves and muscles. It is usually a two-part evaluation consisting of (1) nerve conduction study and (2) muscle examination.

The nerve conduction study is done by placing electrodes on your skin and giving a brief electrical pulse to a nerve. Several brief pulses of varying intensity are given. Measurements can then be made of how fast and how well a nerve sends messages. Nerves in the body, face, arms or legs may be tested this way.

Muscle examination testing is done by inserting a thin needle electrode into a muscle. No shocks are given, since the needle detects electrical activity produced by the muscle. This electrical activity is displayed and played over a loudspeaker. The physician can both see and hear this activity. The needles used for the examination are sterilized and have never been used before; they are discarded after the examination is completed.

The time required to complete an EMG varies and depends on the problem you have and the reason that your physician requested the examination.

The results of the EMG study are reviewed and an interpretation is made by the physician performing the examination. A report is placed in your medical record and sent to the physician that ordered the examination. The EMG study may provide information needed to help determine the type and severity of your disorder. Your physician who ordered the exam will discuss the results with you.

The EMG examination is safe, although there may be some discomfort associated with the procedure. Complications, including local bruises, are minor, temporary and not serious. If you have questions about the examination, you should discuss them with the physician performing the EMG at the time of your appointment.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you have a cardiac pacemaker, electrical stimulator or take a blood thinner, please notify the physician prior to beginning the examination. Under some circumstances it may be necessary to modify the examination.

*Please bathe the day of or the night before your test but be sure to avoid crèmes, lotions or moisturizing soaps. Take you regular medications as usual.*

If your test is on your hand/arm, please try to wear gloves to maintain the proper body temperature (excluding summer appointments).

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR REFERRING PHYSICIAN HAS SENT A WRITTEN ORDER FOR THIS TEST OR THAT YOU BRING THE ORDER WITH YOU THE DAY OF THE TEST OR THE TEST CANNOT BE PERFORMED.**

Information