

This leaflet explains the following tests:

- **Visual Evoked Potential Test**
- **Somatosensory Evoked Potential Test**

Visual Evoked Potential Test?

This is a test of the function of the nerves that connect your eyes to your brain. We record the electrical activity of your brain whilst giving you a stimulus. This test is carried out by an experienced clinical physiologist.

How is the Visual Evoked test carried out?

The stimulus is a visual image, such as the movement of a checkerboard pattern on a TV screen or a flashing light. We attach small metal discs to your scalp in various places using a soluble paste. The clinical physiologist will ask you to relax and concentrate on the stimulus. The clinical physiologist will carry out the test several times to make sure the result we get is reliable. They then remove the electrodes. There is no after effect from the test and you can continue your day as normal.

Somatosensory Evoked Potential Test?

This is a test of the function of various parts of your brain, spinal cord and nerves. We record the electrical activity of your brain whilst giving you a stimulus. This test is carried out by an experienced clinical physiologist.

How is the Somatosensory EP test carried out?

The stimulus consists of small electrical pulses on your skin. Your clinician will decide where the stimulus is placed, depending on your symptoms. (Please wear loose clothing around the neck, shoulder and leg area).

We attach small metal discs to your scalp and other body areas such as the neck using a form of soluble glue. The physiologist will ask you to relax. The clinical physiologist will carry out the test will be carried out several times to make sure the result we get is reliable. They then remove the electrodes. There is no after effect from the test and you can continue your day as normal.

Further Information

If you have any questions, please phone the Clinical Neurophysiology Department on 0141 201 2580.

Review Date: Dec 2024