

What is EMG?

- Electromyogram means the electrical testing of muscles and nerves.
- A neurologist performs the EMG while a specially-trained technician may perform part of the nerve conduction test.
- The procedure does not require hospitalization.
- EMG may take between 30 minutes to two hours depending on your doctor's orders.
- EMG is only a test and is not a treatment, much like an EKG or an x-ray.

Why is it done?

- EMGs are usually requested when patients are having problems with their muscles and nerves, like a pinched nerve at the back or in the neck. Tingling or numbness in your arms or legs may mean that you have nerve entrapment somewhere or a nerve injury.
- Aside from these, there are many other medical problems that might suggest the need for an EMG.

How is it done?

- The test consists of two parts, though at times, one may be done without the other.
- The first part of the test is called Nerve Conduction Studies. In this part some brief electrical shocks, which are at the safe level, are delivered to your arm or leg.
- The second part of the test is called Needle Examination that involves some needle sticking.
- This part tests the muscle to see if there has been damage to it as a result of the nerve problem, or if it involves the muscle.

What kinds of preparations are necessary for an EMG?

- You do not need to fast.
- You can drive yourself to and from the test.
- You can resume your regular activity after the test is completed.
- The back of the neck and the shoulder areas are examined. It is best not to wear clothes which will interfere in the proper examination of these areas.
- Continue taking the medication that your physician prescribes.
- If you are taking blood thinner medication, you should notify your physician.

What are the risks?

- Every time a needle is inserted into the body there is a small chance of infection. However, risks in this type of test are rare.

How do you find out the result?

- The full results are available only after more calculation and measurements are performed.
- The results are not released directly to the patient, instead, they will be conveyed to the referring physician since he has to assess the results in light of the patient's other findings.

Neurology Department

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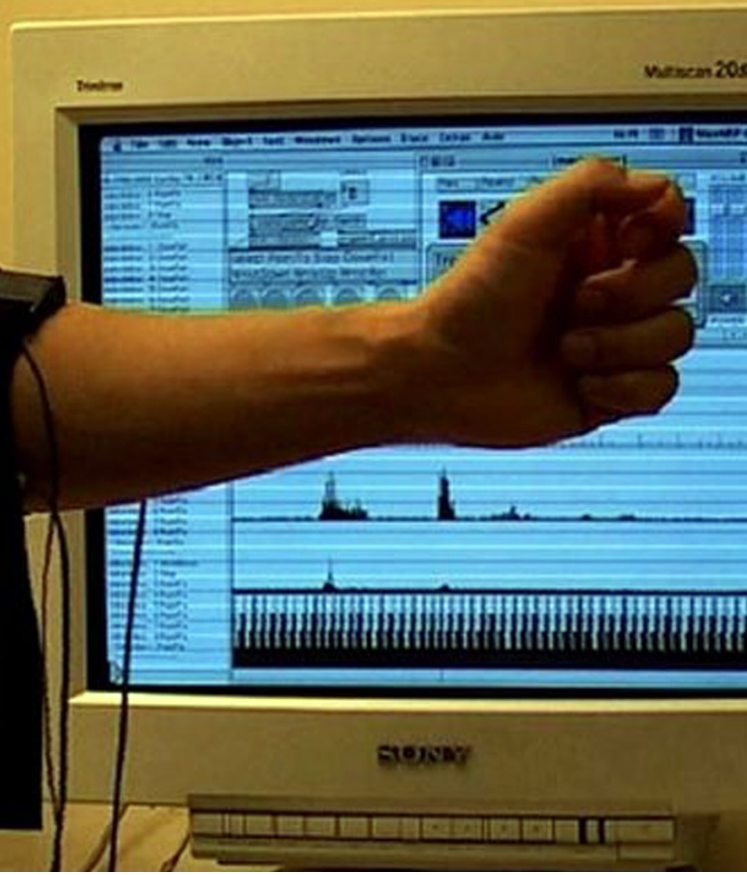
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Electromyogram (EMG)



Electromyogram (EMG) Definition

EMG is a test that measures the electrical activity of skeletal muscles.

- It is used to diagnose neuromuscular disorders.
- It can help identify the cause of muscle weakness or pain.
- It is often used in conjunction with other tests, such as nerve conduction studies.

- EMG is a non-invasive test.
- It is performed by a healthcare professional.
- The test involves attaching small electrodes to the skin over the muscle.
- The electrodes detect the electrical signals that are produced when the muscle contracts.
- The signals are then amplified and recorded on a computer.
- The recorded signals are then analyzed to determine if there is any abnormality.

- EMG is used to diagnose a variety of conditions, including:
- Muscle weakness or atrophy.
- Muscle pain or cramping.
- Nerve damage or injury.
- Spinal cord injury.
- Multiple sclerosis.
- Myasthenia gravis.
- Botulism.
- Guillain-Barre syndrome.
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).
- Huntington's disease.
- Parkinson's disease.
- Dystonia.
- Tourette syndrome.
- Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD).
- Tic disorder.
- Chronic fatigue syndrome.
- Fibromyalgia.
- Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS).
- Migraine.
- Epilepsy.
- Sleep apnea.
- Anxiety disorder.
- Depression.
- Bipolar disorder.
- Schizophrenia.
- Personality disorder.
- Borderline personality disorder (BPD).
- Narcissistic personality disorder (NPD).
- Antisocial personality disorder (ASPD).
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- EMG is used to monitor muscle activity during surgery.
- It is used to assess the effectiveness of physical therapy.
- It is used to evaluate the severity of muscle damage.
- It is used to determine the cause of muscle weakness.
- It is used to identify the muscles that are affected by a condition.

EMG is a test that measures the electrical activity of skeletal muscles. It is used to diagnose neuromuscular disorders and to monitor muscle activity during surgery.

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