Type, Preparation and Duration:
(Follow the instructions checked off)

☐ Routine EEG (6 years and older)  75 minutes
  • No preparation required

☐ Routine EEG (5 years and under)   100 minutes
  • Ensure your child is awake for at least 5 hrs (no naps) prior to the test time even on the way to the hospital.
  • Bring his/her favorite toy, blanket and a bottle if necessary.
  • Your child may eat and drink prior to the test, however no caffeine including chocolate, cola or pop containing caffeine.
  • Wash your child’s hair before the test
  • bring a list of medications your child is taking.

☐ Sleep deprived EEG  90 minutes
  • Your child should have a light breakfast and take any prescribed medications unless otherwise instructed by his/her doctor.
  • No caffeine, cola, pop, energy drinks, chocolate, tea or coffee.
  • Wash your child’s hair and you may use an oil free conditioner. The hair must be clean and free of any products.
  • You can bring a favorite toy and blanket.

What you need to do the night before the test depends on your child’s age:

  • 3 years old and younger – wake your child up at 4 am and do not let your child go back to sleep until the test is underway.
  • 4 – 15 years old – your child should not get more than 5 hours of sleep. For example, go to bed at 11 pm and wake up at 4 am and stay awake until test time.

☐ EEG with Sedation  90 minutes

** PLEASE REGISTER AT THE ADMITTING DEPARTMENT ON THE 2ND FLOOR**
After admitting you will be going to the Pediatric Outpatient Department on Level 1

- Please ensure your child is awake (no naps) for at least 5 hours prior to the test time
- No solid food or milk products after midnight.
- Children under 10 yrs may have 4 oz of clear fluid (apple juice or water) 4 hours before procedure.
- Wash your child’s hair before the test.
- You can bring a favorite toy or blanket.
- If you have further questions, please call Pediatrics Outpatient at 684-6520.

What is an EEG?
The EEG is used to help diagnose the presence and type of seizure disorder, confusion, head injuries, brain tumors, infection, degenerative disease, and metabolic disturbances that affect the brain. It is also used to evaluate sleep disorders and to investigate periods of unconsciousness.

The brain cells communicate by producing tiny electrical impulses. In the EEG, electrodes are placed on the scalp over multiple areas of the brain to detect and record the electrical impulses within the brain. Certain abnormalities can be detected by observing the characteristic pattern of the recorded brain waves. This procedure does not “read the mind” or detect senility. The test is performed by an EEG Technologist.

What will happen during the EEG?
The technologist will apply between 16 and 22 flat metal discs (electrodes) in different positions on your scalp. The discs are held in place with a sticky paste.

The electrodes are connected by wires to an amplifier and the recording machine. The recording machine converts the electrical signals into a series of wavy lines, which are visible to the technologist on the monitor.

You will be asked to lie on your back on a stretcher. You will need to lie still with your eyes closed because movement can alter the results.

You will be asked to do certain things during the recording such as breathe deeply and rapidly for several minutes and look at a very bright flickering light. Nothing will be felt during the procedure. The procedure is very safe.

What will happen after the EEG?
You will have an opportunity to wash your hair after the test is completed.

You can resume normal activity after the test.

The EEG report will be sent to your physician. The results will be given to you by your physician.