

Electroencephalography (EEG)

Patient Information

WHAT IS AN EEG?

An EEG (electroencephalogram) is a recording of the electrical activity of the brain.

The EEG is a painless test, which does not involve needles and takes up to one and a half hours to do.

Your doctor has ordered this test to help with diagnosis and treatment.

WHAT IS THE PREPARATION FOR THIS TEST?

We ask that you wash and dry your hair before coming in for the test. You can shampoo and condition your hair as normal. Do not use gel, mousse, hairspray or hair oil as they interfere with the recording.

You do not have to fast, you may eat and drink as normal.

Please bring your Medicare card, referring letter from your doctor and a list of the medications you are currently taking.

Medications should be taken as usual, unless your doctor has told you otherwise

WHAT IS THE TESTING PROCEDURE?

You will sit in a chair while the scientist measures your head with a soft color pencil and measuring tape. .

The marked spots will be cleaned with a special gel and small metal discs, called electrodes, will be applied with a sticky paste

For the test, you will be asked to sit in a comfortable chair and to relax. The scientist will also ask you to do some deep breathing and you will be asked to look at some flashing lights.

CHILDREN

If your child is having an EEG, it is the same procedure as described above.

Children will need to remain quiet and still during the recording. If your child has a favourite blanket, toy, DVD or video, please bring these along to help them settle during the test.

For babies and toddlers, please bring a bottle and dummy as this may help them settle. If possible please bring only the child having the test as we have no child care facilities.

SLEEP- DEPRIVED EEG

For a sleep - deprived EEG, you will be asked to stay awake from midnight until the test is performed. No stimulants such as tea, coffee, Coca-Cola or chocolate should be taken. We suggest you eat breakfast (without tea or coffee) before coming to the hospital for the test. It is strongly advised that you do not drive yourself either to or from the test.

For sleep recordings on children under the age of 14 years, specific details will be given when the appointment is made.

The patient will hopefully sleep during the test; however don't worry if you feel that you or your child won't be able to sleep. It is just as important that you have carried out the instructions completely and that they, or you, are adequately sleep deprived.

WHEN WILL RESULTS BE READY?

The scientist will not be able to give you the results (as the test must be interpreted by a Neurologist.) The results will be sent on to your referring doctor within a week. In the case of "1st Seizure Clinic" patients, a copy of your results will be sent to the clinic.


WHAT ARE THE COSTS?

This test is bulk-billed by Medicare, so please bring your Medicare card. In the case of insurance claims, overseas patients or any other request not covered by Medicare please inform the receptionist when making your appointment.

If you have any language difficulties, we can arrange for an interpreter to attend, please inform the receptionist when making your appointment.

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Receptionist Monday to Friday from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00. p.m. on

 (03) 9496-2845

Fax (03) 9496-4065

WHERE IS HOSPITAL LOCATED?

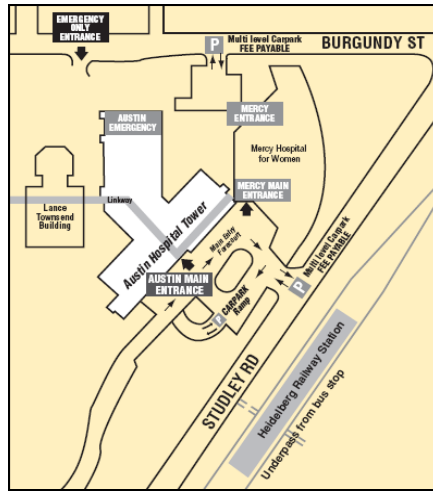
Neuroscience & Vascular Laboratories,
Level 6North, Austin Tower

Austin Health. Studley Road, Heidelberg.
VIC 3084.

Melways ref Map 31K4

Train: Heidelberg Train Station
(Hurstbridge Line)

[See map on the next page](#)



WHAT ARE THE PARKING FACILITIES?

Patient drop – off point (restricted to 15 minutes) is available. Enter via Main Entrance on Studley Road.

Undercover parking is available. Enter from Studley Road opposite Heidelberg train station. Charges apply.

Take lifts from the main Foyer (Level 1) to level 6 (North), Austin Tower. (Neurosciences and Vascular Laboratories).

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