

## **DIAGNOSTIC TESTING**

### **AUDIOMETRIC EVALUATION**

A complete evaluation of your hearing to determine hearing levels, degree and type of hearing loss, if present.

Time: ½ hour

No preparation required by patient.

Patient will be asked to respond when tones of different pitches are heard as well as repeat a spoken list of words.

### **ABR (Auditory Brainstem Response Test)**

Checks the integrity of the hearing system from the outer ear to the hearing nerve to verify that the sound is traveling through the hearing system properly.

Time: 1 hour

No preparation required by patient.

Four electrodes – 2 on forehead and 1 behind each ear.

Patient wears headphones and listens to a clicking sound while reclining in a chair.

Test should not cause dizziness or nausea.

### **ECoG (Electrocochleography)**

Checks potentials of the inner ear for an imbalance in the inner ear fluids.

Time: 1 hour

No preparation is required by patient.

5 electrodes – 1 on forehead, 1 behind each ear and 1 foam one in each ear.

Patient reclines in a chair and listens to a clicking sound.

Test should not cause dizziness or nausea.

### **VNG (Videonystagmography)/ENG (Electronystagmography)**

Checks the patient's balance system by monitoring eye movements during various tests.

1. Visual tests – patient asked to follow moving lights
2. Positional tests – patient is placed in different positions on an exam table.
3. Caloric test – Warm and cool water or air is flushed in each ear separately to directly stimulate the balance system.

Time: 1 hour

Instruction sheet of required preparation is given to patient. (See instructions for ENG/VNG.)

Patient wears “scuba” type goggles while a small camera monitors eye movement, or patient wears 5 electrodes – 1 on forehead; beside each eye, 1 above and below one eye.

Patient asked to do counting or naming tasks throughout tests.

Test may cause dizziness and/or nausea.

### **Tympanometry**

Checks the function of the middle ear.

Time: 15 minutes

No preparation is required by patient.

Patient will wear headphone on one ear and small probe tip in other.

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR ENG/VNG**

1. You must be off the following types of medications 12 hours prior to the test:

No drugs for dizziness

No tranquilizers

No sedatives

No sleeping medications

**If you are on medications for heart disease, diabetes, hypertension or epilepsy – you should continue these medications as prescribed by your physician.**

2. No alcoholic beverages, caffeine, tobacco or chocolate for 12 hours prior to the test.
3. Please do not eat 3 hours prior to appointment time. Meals prior to this time should also be relatively light.
4. No eye makeup.
5. If you wear contacts that change the color of your eyes, do not wear them or bring them along equipment for removal.

**If you have any questions or if you need to reschedule your appointment please call us at 513-793-9600**