

Electromyography and Nerve Conduction Studies

Your doctor has ordered Electromyography (EMG) and/or Nerve Conduction Studies. This testing is an important diagnostic tool for the evaluation of muscle and nerve-related problems. They can help determine the cause of symptoms such as numbness, tingling, muscle weakness and arm/leg or neck/back pain.

What Conditions Can the Testing Diagnose?

- Pinched nerve in the neck or back (possibly related to a ruptured disk or arthritis)
- Pinched nerve in the arm or leg such as Carpal Tunnel Syndrome
- Muscle disorders such as Muscular Dystrophy or Myopathy
- Neuromuscular disorders such as Myasthenia Gravis

What Can I Expect from Nerve Conduction Studies?

Wires will be attached to the skin of your arms or legs with electrodes (metal disks or stickers). An electrical current will be sent along the nerve of your limb with a device that touches the skin. This impulse is not painful but it is surprising. Your muscle may twitch which is a normal response. This impulse will not harm the nerve.

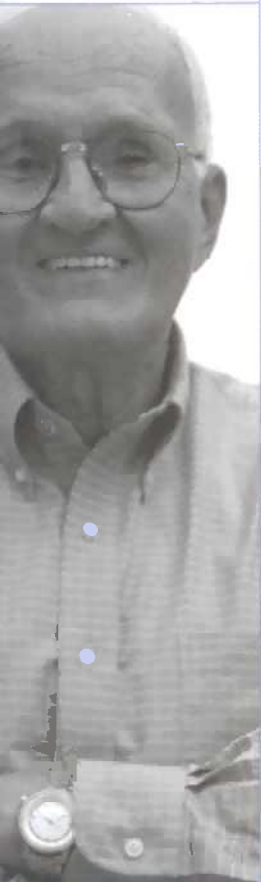
What Can I Expect from Electromyography?

A fine needle is inserted into muscles of the arms or legs. The needle may need to be moved around to sample different regions of the muscle. You will be asked to contract your muscle against resistance. You may feel some pain or pressure as the muscle is contracted. Tell the physician if you need to take a break or if the needle needs to be moved. No electrical impulse is given in this portion of the test.

How Should I Prepare for the Test?

Bathe or shower the day of your test. Wash your arms and legs well to remove body oil. Do not use any bath oils, lotions or creams. Wear comfortable, loose fitting clothes. Eat your meals as usual. Relax, the doctor will explain the test in more detail and answer any questions.

OrthoNeuro
A Multi-Specialty Center of Excellence



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70 S. Cleveland Ave.
Westerville, OH 43081
Phone: 614-890-6555
Fax: 614-890-6663

1313 Olentangy River Rd.
Columbus, OH 43212
Phone: 614-890-6555
Fax: 614-294-7810

4420 Refugee Rd.
Columbus, OH 43232
Phone: 614-890-6555
Fax: 614-759-1491

7277 Smith's Mill Rd.
New Albany, OH 43054
Phone: 614-890-6555
Fax: 614-775-1484

Visit our website at:
www.orthoneuro1.com

What Are Possible Risks or Complications?

Most patients tolerate the procedure well and complications are very rare. Infection or bleeding problems are very unlikely to occur. Tell your health care provider if you are taking a blood thinner (Coumadin/Warfarin) or if you bruise easily as this can increase the chance of bleeding. Inform him or her if you have any of the following conditions:

- ◆ Diabetes
- ◆ Pacemaker
- ◆ Defibrillator
- ◆ Skin infection
- ◆ Previous neck or back surgery

When Will I Know the Results of the Test?

In most cases, the physician performing the test will inform you of the results upon its completion. Your test results will be sent to your doctor shortly after completion.

Who Are the Physicians at OrthoNeuro That Perform Electromyography and Nerve Conduction Studies Testing?

Christopher D. Cannell, M.D.
Robert J. Mazo, D.O.
Scott M. Otis, M.D.
Thomas D. Skeels, D.O.
Martin T. Taylor, D.O., Ph.D.
Stephen T. Woods, M.D.
Emily J. Yu, M.D.

The first in focus.

Founded more than 60 years ago, OrthoNeuro was the first private group in central Ohio to provide a multi-disciplinary center specializing in orthopedic surgery, sports medicine, neurology, neurosurgery and physical medicine and rehabilitation.

The foremost in care.

Our focus ensures that our patients receive the highest quality of care in an environment that's committed to personal attention.

Our **SportMed** program provides comprehensive sports medicine care from injury prevention to injury treatment and rehabilitation.

Our **SpineMed** program calls upon a multi-disciplinary team of surgeons, physical medicine and rehabilitation physicians along with therapists to diagnose, treat and rehabilitate spinal injuries.

Our **WorkMed** program provides treatment and rehabilitation for industrial and occupational-related injuries. OrthoNeuro specializes in musculoskeletal and neurological disorders in the following areas:

Orthopedic Services

- Orthopedic Surgery
- Fracture Care
- Foot & Ankle Surgery
- Spine Surgery
- Arthroscopic Surgery
- Sports Medicine
- Hand Surgery
- Joint Replacement
- Spine Disorders

Neurologic Services

- Neurology
- Migraine Treatment
- Occupational Medicine
- Neurosurgery
- Headache Treatment
- Industrial Medicine

Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

- EMG/EEG
- Physical Medicine
- Rehabilitation

Imaging

Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation

Spine**Med**

Sport**Med**

Work**Med**

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