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Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) Instruction Sheet

Appointment Date: _____ Time: _____

The ABR test is an assessment of your auditory pathways. The ABR can be used in two different ways. First, the test will help to determine if there is damage or blockage along the auditory pathway from the inner ear to the brainstem. Second, the test can determine the sensitivity (or hearing levels) of the auditory system.

This test is a painless procedure in which sticker electrodes are placed on or behind each ear and on the forehead. You will hear rapid clicks through insert earphones. The audiologist will monitor the response to these clicks by measuring the neural activity of the auditory pathway.

Please do not wear makeup or moisturizing lotion as it will interfere with the test. For infants, do not use baby lotion.

Adult patients should eat prior to the testing. We recommend that you schedule the test at a time you will be relaxed, and if possible, able to nap. A relaxed or sleeping patient has reduced muscle activity which results in a faster and more reliable test. Infants should be brought to the appointment hungry and tired (scheduling the start of the appointment just before your child's normal nap time often works well). Once we place the electrodes we will ask you to feed your child and attempt to have them sleep.

Feel free to use the rest room prior to testing.

Testing requires about an hour and a half to two hours, depending on the procedure.

Please feel free to contact the audiologist if you should have any questions about the test and test procedures. Our office number is (614) 891-9190.