

INSTRUCTIONS FOR EMG TESTING

You may go to any testing facilities of your choice. The choice you make depends on many factors: insurance coverage, quality of facility, reading physician, and convenience. Houston Neurology & Sleep Diagnostic Center is directed by Dr. Allen Chu (HNSDC), a board certified EMG specialist and neurologist.

If you choose Houston Neurology and Sleep Diagnostic Center, the advantages are the following:

Physician Expertise: Dr. Allen Chu is a specialist in EMG and Neuromuscular diseases. Dr. Chu's training and education was at Harvard University and Massachusetts General Hospital and he is board certified in both neurology and EMG testing.

Comfort: Houston Neurology & Sleep Diagnostic Center is a state of the art diagnostic laboratory with most of the comforts of home and very friendly staff. For your convenience, you may learn more about HNSDC at www.houstonneuro.com

Convenience: We will verify your insurance coverage and notify you of any financial responsibility you may have prior to making your referral. Your insurance policy (not our diagnostic facility) determines the allowed fee for EMG testing.

Billing: Dr. Chu provides the interpretation of your EMG testing. All charges will be submitted to your insurance company. Any balances not paid by insurance will be the patient's responsibility. It is the patients responsibility to check with your insurance company to make sure we are in network and find out details of what is covered for your sleep study.

Ease of Scheduling: Your referral is made directly from this office and the staff at HNSDC will contact you to schedule an appointment that is most convenient for you. Insurance verification can take seven business days. If you have not been contacted by HNSDC for an appointment time within seven business days, please call our office and inquire about the status of your appointment.

If you prefer another facility, inform our staff and you will be given a written order to schedule with the facility of your choice.

HNSDC Other Diagnostic Facility (please indicate) _____

Thank you,
Dr. Allen Chu

I understand the above options and have marked my preference of EMG testing.

Patient signature

ABOUT YOUR APPOINTMENT

Why am I being sent to the EMG lab for testing?

You are being sent to the EMG lab because you are experiencing numbness, tingling, pain, and or weakness in a specific area of your body. The testing will help physician determine what may be causing your symptoms. Based on the results a plan of care and treatment can be designed.

How long will the EMG testing take?

The test usually takes 30 to 45 minutes. You can do any of your normal activities, like eating, driving, and exercising, before the tests and after testing. There are no lasting side effects.

Where are you located?

Our diagnostic testing center is located in the Kelsey Seybold Medical Building across from the Northgate Country Club. We are approximately ¼ mile west of the intersection of FM1960 and Kuykendahl. We also have three satellite locations where testing is performed. Please contact office to schedule an appointment at a facility closest to you.

When do I arrive for my appointment?

Please arrive 30 minutes prior to your appointment time to allow for completion of paperwork and medical questionnaires.

How do I prepare for my test?

To prepare for your EMG testing we ask that you adhere to the following instructions.

- Do not apply body lotions, body oils, body sprays or perfumes.
- Tell the EMG doctor if you are taking aspirin, blood thinners, have a pacemaker, or have hemophilia.
- Take a bath or shower to remove oil from your skin.

ABOUT THE PROCESS:

What is the actual procedure consist of? There are two parts to the EMG testing. The first part consists of a Nerve Conduction Study. NCS will allow the doctor to see how well the body's electrical signals are traveling to a nerve. This is done by applying small electrical shocks to the nerve and recording how the nerve works. These shocks cause a quick, mild, tingling feeling but do not cause pain. The EMG portion of the test consists of a small, thin needles being inserted gently into several muscles to see if there are any problems. The doctor will test only the muscles necessary to determine what is wrong. The doctor will be able to hear and see how your muscles and nerves are working by the way electrical signals travel from the needle to the EMG machine. The majority of patients say the procedure is not painful and few if any complain of any discomfort.

Is this covered by my insurance?

We will verify your benefits and obtain any necessary authorizations regarding your EMG study prior to your testing. This process usually takes 2-3 days. You should know your payment portion (if any) before proceeding.

Our physical Address is 15655 Cypress Woods Medical Drive #400 Houston, Texas 77014

Please Contact our office if you have any questions or any delays in scheduling @ 281-537-0171.

Frequently Asked Questions

