

Screening Questionnaire for Nerve and Muscle Disorders

- Do you have pain in the neck, back, or extremities?
- Do you have numbness or tingling in extremities?
- Do you have weakness in the arms or legs?
- Do you have any balance problem that is not caused by dizziness?
- Do you have muscle twitching?
- Do you have muscle atrophy (loss of muscle mass)?
- Do you have muscle weakness after exercise?

If you answered "yes" to any of the above questions, you may have a disorder of the nerve or muscle and need EMG testing.

Please contact Dr. Chu's office for specialized care and treatment.

281-537-0171

www.houstonneuro.com



**Houston Neurology &
Sleep Diagnostic Center**

Neuromuscular and sleep disorder specialist

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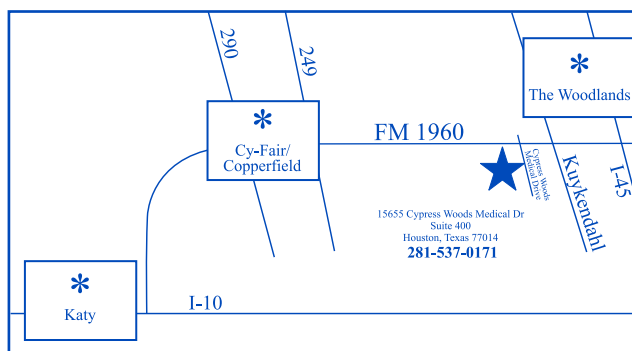
Your appointment is scheduled for

Date: _____

Time: _____

Place: ☐ FM1960 ☐ CyFair/Copperfield
☐ Woodlands ☐ Katy

If you have any questions, they will be answered at the time of your examination, or call: 281-537-0171



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What to Expect During Your EMG Test

An EMG test usually includes electromyography (EMG) and nerve conduction study (NCS). This test is a diagnostic tool for disorders of the nerve and muscle. The results of the tests will help your doctor to make a proper diagnosis and plan of treatment.

Dr. Allen Chu has served as a specialist in Neuromuscular Diseases and EMG in Houston area since 1999. Dr. Chu received his training in Neuromuscular Diseases and EMG at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard University. He is board certified in both Neurology and Electrodiagnostic Medicine (EMG).

Answers to Your Questions



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

You are being sent to the electromyography (EMG) lab because you have symptoms of nerve or muscle problems, such as pain, numbness, tingling, fatigue, loss of balance, weakness, muscle wasting, or muscle cramping.

What disorders are commonly diagnosed by EMG study?

Examples are carpal tunnel syndrome, ulnar neuropathy, radiculopathy (pinched nerve root) in the neck or back; peripheral neuropathy (ie: painful diabetic foot); muscle diseases (myopathy, muscular dystrophy) or motor neuron diseases (Lou Gehrig's disease).

What does EMG consist of?

There are two parts to the testing. The first part consists of the Nerve Conduction Study (NCS). The NCS shows how well the body's electrical signals are traveling to a nerve. Small electrical shocks will be applied to the nerve and responses recorded according to how the nerve works. These shocks cause a quick, mild, tingling feeling. The doctor may test multiple nerves to determine a proper diagnosis. The second portion of the test consists of the needle EMG test. A small, thin needle is put in multiple muscles to see if there are any problems. A new needle is used for each patient and is thrown away after the test. With Dr. Chu's expertise, there may only be minimal, if any, discomfort.

What is my cost for an EMG test?

EMG testing is usually covered by your insurance plan. We will verify your insurance benefit for you. The majority of the time you are only responsible for the office co-pay. Sometimes, your insurance policy requests a portion of cost to be your responsibility under co-insurance or deductible. We can discuss this with you before the test is performed.

How long will these tests take?

The tests usually take 20 up to 60 minutes. You can do any of your normal activities, like eating, driving, taking medicines, and exercising, before the tests. There are no lasting side effects.

How should I prepare for the tests?

Take a bath or shower to remove any oil or body lotion from your skin particularly on the arms and legs. Do not leave or use any body lotion or oils on the day of the test. Tell the EMG doctor if you are taking blood thinners (like Coumadin), have a pacemaker, bleeding tendency or infectious diseases that can spread through needle.

When will I know the test results?

Dr. Chu will discuss the EMG test results with you at the end of this test. Final results will be sent to your PCP or referring physician. As far as the future treatment plan, depending on your disorder and situation, you will be instructed to either return to the referring physician or be managed directly at our center.