

Needle Electromyography



The Neurodiagnostic Laboratory provides a comprehensive range of diagnostic investigations to help doctors in the evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of epilepsy, stroke, neuromuscular and neurological diseases. Neurology services are also provided at the Specialist Outpatient Clinics, Emergency Department, Intensive Care Unit and as an inpatient service.

What is the purpose of the test?

The test is used for the diagnosis of muscle and nerve disorders.

Your doctor may order a needle EMG (and nerve conduction study) if you have symptoms that indicate a nerve or muscle disease; for example: weakness, muscle pain or cramps. These problems may be due to different conditions, such as those that affect the muscles (like muscular dystrophy or myositis) or disorders that affect the nerve root, such as a herniated disk in the spine.

It is important to identify the level of muscle, nerve injury or irritation before considering any treatment.



How is the test performed?

Needle Electromyography involves the use of a disposable needle electrode to measure the electrical activity from selected muscles.

Precautions

There may be a very small risk of bleeding, infection and nerve injury where the needle electrode is inserted. Some people may have minor bruising afterwards.

In certain circumstances, the test may not be appropriate or needs to be rescheduled:

- Patients with active bleeding and bleeding disorders (e.g. thrombocytopenia, haemophilia).
- Patients on anticoagulant therapy (e.g. warfarin/heparin).
- Patients with wounds or infection at site(s) to be tested.
- Patients with electrical medical devices such as a pacemaker.

Before the test

- No fasting is required.
- Please wear loose clothing if possible.
- Take a shower in the morning.
- Avoid applying lotions or creams before the test.

During the test

- A neurologist will determine and locate the muscles to be studied.
- The specific areas on the skin will be cleaned with an alcohol swab
A sterile, disposable needle electrode will be inserted into the muscle.
- You may experience slight pain during the needle insertion.
- The procedure will last about 45 minutes to 1 hour.

Is the test safe?

The test is generally safe and there are no side effects.

When will I know the results?

The performing neurologist will review and interpret the results. The referring physician will inform you of the test results at your next review appointment.

For more information

Ng Teng Fong General Hospital and Jurong Community Hospital

1 Jurong East St 21, Singapore 609606

www.ntfgh.com.sg | www.jch.com.sg

Clinic opening hours

Monday – Friday: 8.30am – 5.30pm

Saturday: 8.30am – 12.30pm (Selected clinics only*)

Dental Clinic: Monday – Thursday: 8.00am – 5.30pm, Friday: 8.00am – 5.00pm

*Please refer to our websites for more details.

General enquiries & appointments

General enquiries line: 6908 2222 (24-hr)

Fax: 6716 5500 | Email: contactus@nuhs.edu.sg

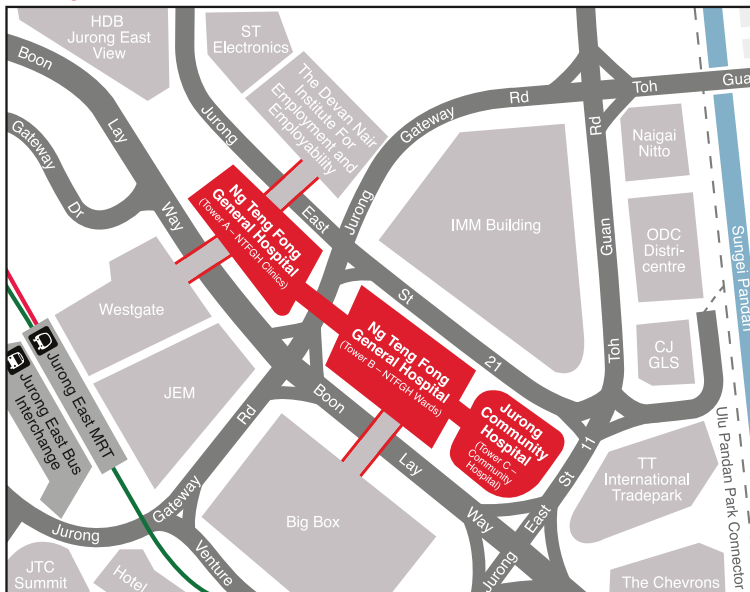
Appointment line: 6908 2222 (Monday – Friday: 8.00am – 5.30pm, Saturday: 8.00am – 12.30pm)

Fax: 6716 2200 | Email: appointment@nuhs.edu.sg

Dental appointment line: 6716 2233 (Monday – Friday: 8.00am – 5.30pm)

Fax: 6716 2200 | Email: JHCampus_Dental@nuhs.edu.sg

Getting there



By train

Alight at Jurong East MRT Station

By bus

Jurong East Bus Interchange

41, 49, 51, 52, 66, 66B, 78, 78A, 79, 79A, 97, 97E, 98, 98M, 105, 143, 143M, 160, 160A, 160M, 183, 183B, 197, 333, 334, 335, 506

Along Boon Lay Way

49, 99, 333, Private bus service 625, 990

Disclaimer:

The information in this brochure is meant for educational purposes and should not be used as a substitute for medical diagnosis or treatment. Please seek your doctor's advice before starting any treatment or if you have any questions related to your health, physical fitness or medical condition. Information is accurate at the time of printing.