Auditory Brainstem response testing (ABR)

Patient Information

Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) is a widely used objective test to assess hearing sensitivity and auditory nerve function. Auditory neural activity in response to auditory stimuli (using inserts or headphones) is recorded using electrodes taped to the forehead and ears. Patient participation is not required during the test. The entire test procedure takes approximately one hour.

Test Instructions: Please do not apply any make-up or face cream on the day of testing. For the placement of the electrodes, your forehead and ears will be scrubbed with an alcohol wipe and an abrasive pad (to clean all oils and dead skin). This might cause a mild irritation to the scrub site and scabbing may rarely occur. Vitamin E cream can be used until resolved. You will hear a series of loud clicks through the inserts and you do not need to respond. The best results are obtained if you are relaxed. You may even take a nap during the test. Reading is not permitted. The entire procedure takes approximately 45 minutes. The results are analyzed by the audiologist and discussed with the doctor. You should schedule a follow up appointment to obtain these and any other test results from your doctor.

Should you have any further questions about the ABR testing, please do not hesitate to call our office.