

## Electromyography (EMG) Testing – Patient Information Guide

### EMG Testing

The Neuromuscular Center provides high-quality, state-of-the-art electrodiagnostic testing to patients with suspected entrapment neuropathies, radiculopathies, peripheral neuropathies and other neuromuscular disorders.

### Description of Testing

EMG testing is a diagnostic examination of the peripheral nervous system, which includes nerve and muscle functions. The EMG test includes nerve conduction studies and a muscle needle examination. The nerve conduction studies are performed by placing electrodes on the skin, over certain nerves and muscles, and recording the responses when electrical impulses are applied to the nerve. The muscle needle examination involves direct recording of muscle activity at rest and during contraction by inserting a very thin needle electrode into various muscles. Pain is minimal and there are no aftereffects of the EMG test. Testing can take 1-1 ½ hours to perform and the patient is able to return to his or her usual activities directly following.

### Referrals

All EMG patients need a physician referral to obtain testing. The referring physician should complete the UH Electromyography requisition. Occasionally, the patient may have to obtain precertification from his or her medical insurance company before testing can be scheduled. The patient's medical insurance information will be taken at the time the appointment is made.

### Preparation

For the EMG appointment, the patient's skin should be clean without lotions, oils or creams. No special preparation is required. The patient can take all medications as prescribed by his or her referring physician. However, if the patient is on Coumadin, Mestinon or Botox, please notify us and the referring physician at the time the appointment is made.

### Results

It is the EMG Lab's policy to handle all test results in a secure and confidential manner. All EMG test results are sent to the UH Case Medical Center Department of Health Information Services to be included in the patient's medical record. In addition, a copy of the test results are mailed and/or faxed directly to the referring physician. The referring physician is responsible for explaining the test results to the patient. Most test results are available within one to two days of testing. Additional copies of all EMG reports, with proper patient authorization, may be obtained in the Department of Health Information Services at 216-844-3555.

### Locations

**EMG testing is available at the following locations:**

#### Main EMG Lab:

**University Hospitals Case Medical Center**  
Bolwell 5th Floor  
11100 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44106

#### Satellite EMG Labs:

**University Hospitals Chagrin Highlands Health Center**  
3909 Orange Place, #2000, Orange Village, OH 44122

**University Hospitals Westlake Health Center**  
960 Clague Road, #3120, Westlake, OH 44145

**University Hospitals University Suburban Health Center**  
1611 South Green Road, #300A, South Euclid, OH 44121

**University Hospitals Richmond Medical Center**  
First Floor  
27100 Chardon Road, Richmond Heights, OH 44143

**University Hospitals Bedford Medical Center**  
44 Blaine Avenue, B-100-83, Bedford, OH 44146

**To schedule an appointment at any of our convenient locations, please call 216-844-1923.**