

YOUR CHILD'S NCS/EMG APPOINTMENT: What to Expect



What is a NCS/EMG?

A NCS/EMG, also known as a Nerve Conduction Study/Electromyography test, can be used to find nerve or muscle damage.

There are two parts to the test:

1. **Stimulating the nerves and recording the response** (the “shocking” part). This feels like you hit a funny bone or had a rubber band snapped against you lightly.
2. **Using a special wire/thin needle to listen to the electrical activity in your muscles** (the “needle” part).

Both parts of the test are necessary to answer questions your doctor has about your child's nerves and muscles.

Here is how to plan for your child's appointment day:

1. Your child may bathe or shower (as he usually does), but do not apply any skin lotion following.
2. You may eat and drink normally up until your appointment time.
3. Come prepared to have your child change into a hospital gown that we will provide. (He will keep on his undergarments.)
4. Consider bringing ONE item of comfort (such as a stuffed animal, blanket, or tablet with a video to watch). Please note that large electronics may interfere with the test and may have to be turned off.
5. Plan to stay for the duration of the two-hour appointment. The actual test takes approximately 90 minutes.

Have questions?

If you have additional questions about your child's EMG, contact your Child Neurology Consultants of Austin team at 512-494-4000.

