



## Manchester Royal Infirmary

# Single Fibre EMG

Neurophysiology Department  
0161 276 4564



## What Is Single Fibre EMG?

- Single Fibre EMG stands for Single Fibre Electromyography.
- Single Fibre EMG is an extremely sensitive test of the function of the neuromuscular junction (the connection between the muscle and the nerve).

## Why Do I Need Single Fibre EMG?

Single fibre EMG is used to assess particular types of muscle weakness or fatigue (tiredness) when other types of tests have been inconclusive.

## The Single Fibre EMG Test

### Before the Single Fibre EMG test

No special preparation is needed before the test and you should take any medication as prescribed unless we specifically tell you not to.

**If you have either a defibrillator or pacemaker fitted or if you take Warfarin medication then you must phone the department as soon as possible on 0161 276 4564 as we may need to make some adjustments to the test.**

Please do **not** take any of the following medications on the day of the test

- Mestinon
- Pyridostigmine

You **can** continue to take Azathioprine. Please bring your medication with you so that you can take your morning dose as soon as the test is finished.

### **During the Single Fibre EMG test**

- The test will be performed by a Consultant Neurophysiologist and may take up to 2 hours.
- Firstly, you will be asked some questions about your medical history (mainly about your symptoms and medication) and the test will be explained fully. You will also have chance to ask any questions that you have.
- During the test you will be asked to lie down and relax, and a very fine needle electrode will be placed into the muscle in your forehead above your eye brow. The needle electrode will stay in place throughout the test, to record activity from the muscle.
- Though you will feel the needle, it is unlikely to cause you too much discomfort. Nothing will be injected into you and no blood will be taken.

### **After the Single Fibre EMG test**

Once the Single Fibre EMG test is complete you can go home and carry on as normal straight afterwards. There may be some slight bleeding or bruising where the needle was positioned, however this is unlikely to bother you for very long. Other than this, Single Fibre EMG has no side effects.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Will I get the results straight away?**

No. The information collected needs to be reviewed by the Consultant Neurophysiologist, which takes some time. A report of the findings of the examination will be sent to the doctor who referred you. This doctor will then call you in for a follow up appointment in the next few weeks and discuss the results with you there.

### **Will I feel anything?**

You will feel the needle when it is in place, but it is unlikely to cause too much discomfort.

### **Why do I have to come to Manchester Royal Infirmary for the test?**

Single Fibre EMG testing is not available at all hospitals, therefore though you may have originally seen a doctor at another hospital you have been referred to Manchester Royal Infirmary for this test. The results will be sent back to the doctor that originally referred you.

## Further Information About Single Fibre EMG

The department is open Monday to Friday between 8.00am and 5.00pm. If you require further information about Single Fibre EMG or neurophysiology then feel free to call us on **0161 276 4386** or **0161 276 4564**. Alternatively you could consult:

Hospital website: [www.cmft.nhs.uk](http://www.cmft.nhs.uk)

NHS direct website: [www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk](http://www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk)

## Getting To The Neurophysiology Department

- The Neurophysiology Department is located on the **Ground Floor** in the Manchester Royal Infirmary.
- The closest entrance to the department is **MRI Entrance 2** located on the hospital Boulevard.
- There are two multi-storey car parks at the hospital (Hathersage Road and Grafton Street). You should allow 10 to 15 minutes to get from the car parks to the Neurophysiology department.
- Parking for patients who require access to Drop-off areas (30 minutes maximum) is also available. These areas are barrier controlled and accessed from the Hathersage Road entrance, which is signed "Access for Drop-off and Blue Badge Holders only".
- If you require ambulance transport to the hospital then you should arrange this with your GP as soon as you know your appointment date.

## Zero Tolerance Policy

We are committed to the well-being and safety of our patients and of our staff. Please treat other patients and staff with the courtesy and respect that you expect to receive. Verbal abuse, harassment and physical violence are unacceptable and will lead to prosecutions.

## Suggestions, Concerns and Complaints

If you would like to provide feedback you can:

- Ask to speak to the ward or department manager.
- Write to us: Patient Advice and Liaison Services, 1st Floor, Cobbett House, Manchester Royal Infirmary, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9WL
- Log onto the NHS Choices website [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk) - click on 'Comments'.

If you would like to discuss a concern or make a complaint:

- Ask to speak to the ward or department manager – they may be able to help straight away.
- Contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) –
- Tel: 0161 276 8686 e-mail: [pals@cmft.nhs.uk](mailto:pals@cmft.nhs.uk). Ask for our information leaflet.

We welcome your feedback so we can continue to improve our services.

## Contact Details

Neurophysiology Department  
Manchester Royal Infirmary  
Oxford Road  
Manchester  
M13 9WL

Tel: 0161 276 4564

Fax: 0161 276 6054

## No Smoking Policy

Please protect our patients, visitors and staff by adhering to our no smoking policy. Smoking is not permitted in any of our hospital buildings or grounds, except in the dedicated smoking shelters in the grounds of our Central Manchester site.

For advice and support on how to give up smoking, go to <http://www.nhs.uk/smokefree>.

## Translation and Interpretation Service

It is our policy that family, relatives or friends cannot interpret for patients. Should you require an interpreter ask a member of staff to arrange it for you.

تتص سیاستنا علی عدم السماح لافراد عائلة المرضى او اقاربهم او اصدقائهم بالترجمة لهم. اذا احتجت الى مترجم فيرجى ان تطلب ذلك من احد العاملين ليرتب لك ذلك.

ہماری یہ پالیسی ہے کہ خاندان ، رشتہ دار اور دوست مریضوں کے لئے ترجمہ نہیں کرسکتے۔ اگر آپ کو مترجم کی ضرورت ہے تو عملے کے کسی رکن سے کہیں کہ وہ آپ کے لئے اس کا بندوبست کر دے۔

ইহা আমাদের নীতি যে, একজন রোগীর জন্য তার পরিবারের সদস্য, আত্মীয় বা কোন বন্ধু অনুবাদক হতে পারবেন না। আপনার একজন অনুবাদকের প্রয়োজন হলে তা একজন কর্মচারীকে জানান অনুবাদকের ব্যবস্থা করার জন্য।

Nasze zasady nie pozwalają na korzystanie z pomocy członków rodzin pacjentów, ich przyjaciół lub ich krewnych jako tłumaczy. Jeśli potrzebują Państwo tłumacza, prosimy o kontakt z członkiem personelu, który zorganizuje go dla Państwa.

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我们的方针是，家属，亲戚和朋友不能为病人做口译。如果您需要口译员，请叫员工给您安排。



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