



JEWETT ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC EMG/NCV PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS

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DURATION OF THE TEST:

The duration of the EMG/NCV test is different for each person, depending on what part of your body is being tested. The EMG/NCV test normally takes between 45 minutes and 1 hour to complete. However, please plan to be at our office for approximately 1 and 1/2 hours, as extra time is usually needed for checking in at the front desk, explaining the test to you, and in some cases, explaining results and/or recommendations after the test. In the event that there are unexpected delays, please allow 2 hours at our office prior to scheduling other appointments (such as MRI) after an EMG/NCV test.

PRECAUTIONS:

The physician performing your test will need to know if you have certain medical conditions. Tell the EMG scheduler, as well as the technician and /or physician performing your test, if you:

*have a pacemaker, cardiac defibrillator, spinal cord stimulator, or other implanted electrical device

*take blood thinning medications such as Plavix, Coumadin, Xarelto, Eliquis, Pradaxa, aspirin or others


*have hemophilia, ITP, or blood clotting disorders or other bleeding disorders *have lymphedema or severe swelling in the extremity we are testing

INSTRUCTIONS:

You can take all your normal medications prior to the test. Medications will not affect the test results. Even anti -inflammatories, pain medicines and nerve pain medicine (such as Gabapentin or Lyrica) will not affect the test results. Please tell the technician or physician if you are taking blood thinners, but do not stop taking them as scheduled.

You can eat as normal before the test, no fasting is needed.

Please DO NOT apply any lotions, creams or oils to the skin on your extremities for 48 hours prior to the test. This significantly interferes with NCV testing, and occasionally, repeat testing at a later date is required, if there is still residual lotion on your skin.



Please dress in clothing that permit full access to the area being tested. This may include shorts with an elastic waist, if we are testing your legs, or, a loose fitting short sleeve or tank top shirt if we are testing your arms. If you are asked to remove clothing, we will give you a gown to wear.

If you normally wear compression stockings on your legs, please wear them all day, up until your appointment time. We can remove them for you at the time of the test. Any excess swelling can interfere with your test results, and occasionally, EMG/NCV testing cannot be performed if there is severe swelling.

COMPANIONS DURING THE EXAM:

The EMG/NCV exam room is small, and no noise or distraction is permitted during the EMG/NCV test. In general, your test will be more accurate, thorough and complete if your family and friends wait in the lobby. Children and infants are not allowed in the exam room, for safety reasons.

PHONES IN THE EXAM ROOM:

Phones may be allowed in the exam room if turned on silent. Phones or other electrical equipment cannot be on the exam table during the exam, for safety reasons, and because the electrical signals emitted by any electrical device can significantly interfere with the test results. No filming or recording of the electrodiagnostic exam are allowed. The test results will be shared with you after the test, either by the physician performing the test, or at a follow up visit, by the referring provider who ordered the test.

Please also visit our website for detailed information about EMG/NCV testing, and instructions for preparing for your test, at www.jewettortho.com/electrodiagnostic-studies

