

Video Telemetry Test (VT)



Barnes Building
Neurophysiology
0161 206 3141

**Saving lives,
Improving lives**

Introduction

Video Telemetry is an extended EEG (brainwave) test taken over a period of several days. With your consent, you will be videoed (sound and pictures) so that the doctor can look at what happens to your brain wave activity when you experience a symptom / event or seizure. Most patients require five days monitoring although a few may require a shorter period. Only medical staff involved in your care may access this information (please see Privacy section).

Why perform VT?

VT when combined with a history, examination and scan results may help to diagnose your events / symptoms of which you've been suffering, or confirm the area of your brain from where your seizures (fits) start if you suffer from epilepsy. Your referring consultant will be able to explain why it is important for you to have this test.

How is VT performed?

VT takes place in hospital. You will attend the Neurophysiology department on the day of your appointment where you will have electrodes placed on your head and shoulders using a sticky paste and special glue. The electrodes on your shoulders record your heart rate.

You will be taken to the ward where you will remain in a single side room with en-suite bathroom for the duration of your test. It is important that you are "On camera" as much as possible so that your events / symptoms / seizures are not missed.

Toilet and bathroom breaks are not recorded on video.

There are specially trained nurses on the ward to look after you if you should have an event / symptom / seizure and a technician will check on you daily.

You will be able to move around your room, wash yourself, watch TV or use personal CD / DVD players, ipods, Laptop mobile phones etc. (There is a charge for Patient Line TV / internet package)

You will not be allowed to smoke in hospital. You will have the opportunity to see the smoking cessation nurse who will provide you with nicotine patches / inhalator for the duration of your stay.

At the end of recording the electrodes are removed and most of the glue and paste is cleaned from your head. Any residue will wash out after a few washes.



What are the side effects and risks?

There are no side effects to having the Video Telemetry EEG itself. It is painless. In exceptional cases, people with sensitive skin may experience redness at one or more of the electrode sites.

The doctor may want to reduce or stop your medication and / or sleep deprive you to increase the chance of you having an event / symptom / seizure. There is a risk that you will experience events / symptoms / seizures for which you've been referred.

You may drink and eat normally throughout the day.

What happens if I decide to have VT?

You will be invited to a pre-admission appointment where you will have the opportunity to ask the doctor or technician questions about the information in this booklet before you decide whether or not to have VT. Your written consent is required in order to go ahead with this test.

What to bring with you (please prepare for five days stay)

- Day and night time clothes, we suggest that you try to bring shirts, blouses and pyjama tops that button up the front
- Slippers and dressing gown.
- Soap, facecloth, toothpaste, toothbrush etc. (You will be unable to shower, bathe or wash your hair during your admission but you will have a private en-suite bathroom where you can wash)
- Books, magazines, puzzle books etc
- Personal CD / DVD players, ipods, laptop, mobile phone etc

Your referring doctor will usually see you with the test results at a later date.

What if I decide not to have VT?

Your referring consultant will need to discuss the likely consequences of this decision. For example, he / she may find it difficult to diagnose and / or treat your condition.

After the test

There is a lot of information to look at. It can take a few weeks for the consultant Neurophysiologist to look at it properly and finalise the report. Your referring consultant will then discuss the results with you.

Is there anything else I should know?

Please remove all nail varnish before admission.

Please arrive in good time for your appointment. If you think you will be late please ring us as soon as possible.

Visitors can attend at any reasonable time because you will be required to remain in your room for the duration of the test.

Please inform the department if you are pregnant.

The test can't read your thoughts or emotions.

Please note: There are no facilities for childcare while you are having your test.

If you are currently taking any medications you should continue to do so, unless otherwise advised by a doctor. Please bring your medications with you.

If you require an ambulance you should contact your own GP to make the arrangements. Please let us know if you will be coming by ambulance.

Don't hesitate to ring us if you have any further concerns or questions on:

 **0161 206 3141**


Privacy

We take issues regarding your privacy extremely seriously and will not show your videos to anyone who is not authorised to look at it. We treat the videos as part of your confidential medical record. We always ask for your consent before showing videos at clinical meetings, for publication in medical journals or for teaching / research purposes as with medical students.

Contact details

Telephone:

 **0161 206 3141**

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Notes

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For further information on this leaflet, its references and sources used, please contact **0161 206 3141**.

Copies of this leaflet are available in other formats (for example, large print or easyread) upon request. Alternative formats may also be available via www.srft.nhs.uk/for-patients/patient-leaflets/

In accordance with the Equality Act we will make reasonable adjustments to enable individuals with disabilities to access this service. Please contact the service/clinic you are attending by phone or email prior to your appointment to discuss your requirements.

Interpreters are available for both verbal and non-verbal (e.g. British Sign Language) languages, on request. Please contact the service/clinic you are visiting to request this.

If you need this information leaflet translated, please telephone:

Polish Jeżeli potrzebne jest Państwu to tłumaczenie, proszę zadzwonić pod numer.

Chinese 如果需要翻译，请拨打电话

Urdu اگر آپ کو اس ترجمانی کی ضرورت ہے تو مہربانی کر کے فون کریں۔

Farsi اگر به ترجمه این نیاز دارید ، لطفاً تلفن کنید

Arabic إذا كنتم بحاجة الى تفسير او ترجمة هذا الرجاء الاتصال

0161 206 0224 or Email: InterpretationandTrans@srft.nhs.uk

Under the Human Tissue Act 2004, consent will not be required from living patients from whom tissue has been taken for diagnosis or testing to use any left over tissue for the following purposes: clinical audit, education or training relating to human health, performance assessment, public health monitoring and quality assurance.

If you object to your tissue being used for any of the above purposes, please inform a member of staff immediately.

Salford Royal is a smoke-free organisation including all buildings, grounds and car parks to improve our environment for patients, visitors and staff.

For advice on quitting smoking contact **0161 206 1779**.

This is a teaching hospital which plays an important role in the training of future doctors. The part patients play in this process is essential to make sure that we produce the right quality doctors for all of our futures. If at any time you would prefer not to have students present please inform the doctor or nurses and this will not affect your care in anyway.

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