NEUROLOGY & SPECIALIST CLINICS

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Dr Muhammad Aaqib

(MBBS, FRACP) Neurologist

Nerve Conditions Study Request Form

Patient Name (and SJOG UR if inpatient):

Address and/or Hospital Location:

Date of Birth: Phone Number / Contact Details: WC / Insurance:

Clinical Notes:

Clinical Questions:

Is patient taking any blood thinners? NO ☐ YES ☐ If yes, please document here.

Date: Provider number:

Referring Doctor: Copies to:

Signature:

☐ Advised patient no cream or moisturiser to be used on the day of testing.

Information for patients:

Nerve conduction studies and EMG

A nerve conduction study (NCS) involves electrically activating nerves with small safe pulses over several points on the skin, usually on the limbs, and measuring the responses obtained. This gives information about the health of the nerve, muscle, and neuromuscular junction.

Electromyography (also known as needle EMG) involves the measuring of electrical activity within muscles by way of a needle electrode. It is rather like having an electrical microphone at the tip of the needle. Muscles are electrically active organs, and the signals and patterns of signals can lend additional information regarding the state of the muscle as well as the nerve supplying it. As this part is invasive therefore not always employed, unless necessary.

When are NCSs/EMGs used?

There are a wide variety of conditions assessed with this technique. The examination is frequently requested because the patient is experiencing symptoms suggesting problems with the nerves (numbness, tingling, weakness, or pain) or muscles (weakness or pain). These conditions include, but are not limited to:

- Nerve disorders – local (e.g. carpal tunnel syndrome), or generalised (e.g. neuropathy)
- Nerve roots (e.g. cervical and lumbar radiculopathies)
- Plexus (major nerve trunks) in the arm or leg
- Muscle disorders
- Neuromuscular junction disorders (e.g. Myasthenia Gravis)

In nerve disorders, unless it is common focal nerve entrapment, it may not give the complete answer and determine the exact underlying problem in each patient. A full assessment with or without other investigations by your ordinary clinician who referred you is important.

Preparing for an NCS/EMG

Please keep your arms and legs warm since cold limbs may affect the readings of the test.

Avoid applying any creams (such as moisturisers) to your arms and legs.

Please bring with you or wear loose clothes that can easily go above the knees and elbows as these are common test sites.

Results

The results will be analysed after you leave and a report is then sent to the doctor, who will discuss the results with you at your next appointment.

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For more information, please visit www.axonneurology.com.au.