

Auditory Brainstem Response Test (ABR)

Your infant has been scheduled for an ABR test. An ABR is an objective test that measures “brain waves” produced when the ear hears sounds. This test assesses the function of the hearing pathway from the ear to the brainstem. Electrodes will be placed on your infant’s forehead, on top of the head, and on the skin behind or in front of both ears. Earphones will be placed in your infant’s ears that will present different tones and clicks. There will not be any discomfort during the test. In order to perform this evaluation, your infant must sleep through the duration of the test.

In order to better help your infant sleep during the test, please follow the instructions below:

1. Withhold the feeding that is closest to the appointment time, but bring it with you. We will allow you time during the appointment to feed your infant.
2. Do your best to try to keep your infant awake for a few hours prior to the test. Do not allow your infant to nap during the car ride to the appointment.

We realize that it is difficult to not allow your infant to sleep or eat; however, it is very important for the success of the evaluation and allows the audiologist to obtain the most reliable results. Again, once you arrive for the appointment, you will have time to feed your infant and rock him/her to sleep prior to the test. The test typically lasts about an hour; however, please plan for two hours for test preparation, testing and counseling.

Upon completion of the test, the audiologist will discuss the results. A report will be written to you as well as the referring physician discussing the results and any recommendations.

You must have a referral from your child’s physician for the ABR test. You may either bring that referral with you or it may be faxed to 724-225-9874.

If you have any questions regarding the test itself or the test instructions, please call our office at 724-225-8995

Appointment Date and Time: _____