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AUDITORY BRAINSTEM RESPONSE (ABR CPT CODE:92585)

You have been scheduled for an AUDITORY BRAINSTEM RESPONSE (ABR) examination by your physician. This procedure may be one of many tests that may be recommended for the evaluation of dizziness, balance problems, hearing loss, ear pressure and/or ear noises (tinnitus).

The ABR test allows u to determine how well electrical impulses are generated by the inner ear and travel to the brainstem. Specifically, the test helps to determine whether or not there is a blockage in the transmission of electrical signals to the brain. A small percentage of patients may have benign growths on the nerve leading from the ear to the brain (acoustic neuroma). This test can help determine if such a benign growth is present or if your symptoms are due to other causes.

The ABR test is administered by placing electrodes in your ear canal and on your earlobes and on your head and forehead. Sounds called acoustic clicks are presented to each ear individually. The electrodes are used to pick up the electrical responses of the ear to sounds as they travel from the ear through the hearing and balance nerve and up into the brainstem. The test is similar to a brain wave test (EEG) except that we are measuring the EEG response to a special auditory stimulus during the examination. The procedure is painless and you may sleep during the examination. It usually takes about 45 minutes to apply the four electrodes and perform the test.

Please remember that proper identification of the cause of your symptoms is important in order for your physician to determine the best course of medical treatment. The test has been ordered in your best interest and should be performed as soon as possible. If requested, please be sure to fill out the dizziness questionnaire which can be found on our website at swvahearing.com

Casual, comfortable clothing is recommended and patients are advised to wear slacks. There are no other special instructions for this examination and you may resume your normal activities immediately following the examination. If you have any questions regarding this information or about scheduling your appointment, please call our office at (540) 315-9859