

BRAINSTEM AUDITORY EVOKED RESPONSE (BAER) AND VISUAL EVOKED RESPONSE (VER) INSTRUCTIONS

To prepare for a BAER/VER:

- Wash your hair the night before or the day of the test, but don't use any conditioners, hair creams, sprays or styling gels.
- Avoid anything with caffeine six hours before the test.
- Take your usual medications unless instructed otherwise.

What to Expect

You'll feel little or no discomfort during procedures. The electrodes don't transmit any sensations. They just record your brain's responses to auditory or visual stimuli. During the test:

- **A technician measures your head and marks your scalp** with a type of pencil, to indicate where to attach the electrodes. Those spots on your scalp may be scrubbed with a gritty cream to improve the quality of the recording.
- **A technician attaches flat metal discs (electrodes) to your scalp** using a special adhesive. The electrodes are connected with wires to an instrument that amplifies — makes bigger — the brain waves and records them on computer equipment. Once the electrodes are in place, the studies typically takes 15 to 20 minutes.
- **During the Brainstem Auditory Evoked Response (BAER), you will be asked to wear a headset and listen to a series of clicks and noises.**
- **During the Visual Evoked Response (VER), you will be asked to stare at the center of a computer screen while a checkerboard pattern alternates on the screen.**

After the test

After the test, the technician removes the electrodes or cap. You should feel no side effects after the procedure, and you can return to your normal routine.