

Patient information factsheet

Trial of electrodes for auditory brainstem response (ABR) testing in children

We have given you this factsheet because we have not been able to accurately assess your child's hearing through conventional test methods and we would like to perform an auditory brainstem response (ABR) test while they are asleep. An ABR test is a non-invasive test that uses electrodes (sticky pads) to measure how well sounds reach your child's brainstem.

To ensure this test is suitable for your child, we would like you to trial placing some electrodes on your child's head at home while they are asleep. This factsheet explains how to apply the electrodes and what will happen after the trial. We hope it will help to answer some of the questions you may have. If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact us using the details at the end of this factsheet.

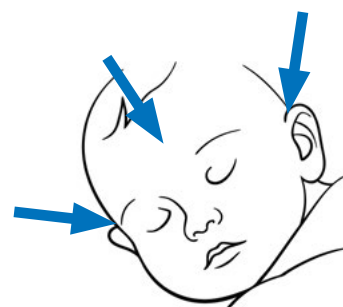
Why do I need to trial using the electrodes?

We have asked you to trial using the electrodes before the ABR test because we have found that some children, even when sound asleep, do not tolerate touch and as soon as we apply the electrodes or earphones, they instantly wake up or become unsettled and try to remove them. This prevents us from being able to complete the test. This trial will allow us to see if your child will tolerate the electrodes.

How do I apply the electrodes?

We will provide you with three electrodes. When your child is fast asleep, you will need to stick one electrode on each of the following places on your child's head:

- on their forehead
- behind their left ear
- behind their right ear



What do I need to do after I apply the electrodes?

You will need to make a note of whether your child was disturbed by the electrodes and, if so, whether they went straight back to sleep or if they woke up and tried to remove the electrodes.

You can then gently remove the electrodes and throw them away in your normal household waste.

What will happen after the trial?

We will call you soon after the trial to ask what the outcome was and discuss how we proceed with your child's ABR test.

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Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us.

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