AUDITORY BRAINSTEM RESPONSE (ABR)

An auditory brainstem response (ABR) is a diagnostic test that determines if there is a blockage in the transmission of an auditory stimulus from the inner ear to the lower brainstem.

You are asked to refrain from wearing any base makeup on the day of the test. Your forehead and the area behind each ear will be scrubbed clean and electrodes will be taped to the skin. Earphones will be placed in your ears to present a series of clicks. You will lie still with your eyes closed while listening to the clicks. There will not be any discomfort during the test. Any tension or muscle movement can slow down the testing process, thus it is very important to be relaxed during this test.

A computer will record responses from the auditory pathway. The audiologist will analyze the responses to determine the time it takes for the structures of the auditory pathway to respond to the clicks. A delay in the timing of the response can help identify a benign growth (acoustic neuroma) along the auditory pathway or can diagnose certain other auditory conditions. This test takes approximately one hour.

The audiologist will analyze the test and then send the results to the referring physician.

If you have any questions regarding the test itself or the test instructions, please call our office at (972) 566-7359.

Appointment Date: ________________________  Time: ________________________