



GENERAL ANESTHESIA ABR INSTRUCTIONS

Please Read These Instructions Carefully

Your child has been scheduled for a special hearing test called a threshold Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR), most commonly abbreviated as ABR. The ABR evaluation is a test that evaluates how well the sound travels from the ear to the level of the brainstem. ABR responses are recorded by placing 3 stickers called electrodes on the child, one on his/her forehead and one behind each ear, and then stimulating the ear with brief auditory signals via insert earphones.

By placing electrodes on the child's head, the ABR is testing the neural electrical activity from areas within the cochlea, 8th nerve, and the brainstem in response to an auditory stimulus. This neural activity allows the audiologist to mark responses on the waves recorded in response to stimulation presented at different intensity levels across low and high frequencies or pitches. The lowest level at which neural responses are obtained is considered the threshold of hearing for that particular frequency.

In order to obtain reliable information regarding your child's hearing status, the ABR test will be performed while your child is asleep as noise and movement can affect test results. For children older than 6 months, general anesthesia will be utilized to help your child sleep through the test session. This procedure will be completed at the **Ambulatory Surgery Center at Medical City Dallas (7777 Forest Lane, Suite C-150, Dallas, TX, 75230)**. The Ambulatory Surgery Center will attempt to contact you by phone prior to your scheduled procedure date. **If you have not received a call the day before your procedure, please contact them at 972-566-6171.**

We will need your assistance with the following:

- ❖ **NO solids, milk or formula, etc. up to 6 hours prior to your procedure.**
- ❖ **Your child may have CLEAR LIQUIDS or breast milk up to 4 hours prior to your procedure.**
- ❖ **PLEASE** bring an empty bottle, milk bottle, or a favorite "sippy" cup for your child to use after the procedure if he or she cannot drink from a cup.
- ❖ You should bring a blanket, swaddle and/or comfort toy to the procedure so your child will be comfortable during the testing.
- ❖ If possible, put child in a button-up shirt versus pull over shirt for placement of monitors.
- ❖ Most parents find it helpful to bring a friend or family member to the appointment with them as we will be discussing the results after the test.

Appointment Date: _____

Time: _____