



## NELSON NEUROPHYSIOLOGY SERVICES LTD

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[www.nelson EEG.net](http://www.nelson EEG.net)

### Available Investigations and Clinical Indications

#### Routine EEG

A routine EEG usually involves the patient spending about one hour in our clinic. The recorded data is then analysed and the report written after the patient has left and would usually be available on the Hospital network by the start of the next day.

Video is recorded alongside the EEG for the purpose of analysing the EEG data and this video is not retained once the report is issued.

The more specific the question on the [request form](#), the more specific will be the report.

EEG has a broad range of indications including:

- documentation of sub-clinical seizures
- classification of seizure type, ie generalised or focal
- differentiating between 'blank/daydreaming' episodes and absence seizures
- differential diagnosis of seizure vs syncope
- quick evaluation of possible encephalopathies
- differential diagnosis of seizure vs pseudo-seizure/FND
- differential diagnosis of seizure vs behaviour manifestations
- other unexplained alterations in awareness
- diagnosis and evaluation of sudden-onset dementias such as CJD
- differentiating between dementia and seizure based episodes
- exclusion of seizure components in psychiatric disorders
- evaluation of sleep disorders
- evaluation of efficacy of anticonvulsant therapy over the long term
- pre-screening prior to removal from anticonvulsants
- screening prior to commencement of pilot training (RNZAF)
- forensic screening on behalf of NZ Police

An EEG can be of considerable use where an unexplained alteration in awareness has been reported. Where a formal diagnosis is yet to be made, an EEG within four hours of such an 'event' may show post-ictal changes and/or seizure activity and provide some diagnostic direction.

If an 'event' *is* electrocephalic in origin, a post-ictal disturbance will likely be recorded and so the EEG can be particularly useful to discriminate between cephalic and functional episodes. Please note that if an on-demand EEG is required for this purpose, we *may* be able to oblige at very short notice – please [contact](#) us.

If the use of anticonvulsants is contemplated, an EEG prior to the commencement is indicated as the modern group of drugs appear to be very effective at normalising the EEG. To that end, we are often able to arrange urgent EEGs prior to treatment.

