

SEP (Somatosensory Evoked Potential) and preparations

The **SEP (Somatosensory Evoked Potential)** examination uses electrical stimuli to gain information on the passage of nerve impulses along nerves and nerve pathways from the location of the stimulus to the cerebral cortex.

The examination takes 1-2 hours.

Before the examination

Adults:

- Take a shower on the morning of the examination.
- Do not put ointment on your skin before the examination.
- For good sensor contact your hair should be clean and dry. Avoid using hair care products.
- Before the examination you can eat and drink normally and take any prescribed medicines.
- When the legs are examined, socks and trousers must be removed. Short underpants should be worn.
- It is good to go to the toilet before the examination.

Children

- To achieve good sensor contact, the hair should be clean and dry (no gel, hairspray, or oil).
- The examination succeeds best if the child is calm and relaxed.
- The child should not be hungry. For suckling babies and toddlers it is good to have a juice or milk bottle, a pacifier or a favourite toy.
- The child must always be accompanied, preferably by the mother or father.
- Siblings should be cared for somewhere else while the examination is taking place.

During the examination

At the beginning of the examination, sensors are attached to the scalp and skin of the body. You will be in a reclining position in a bed. Light electric impulses are given to the wrist and ankle, and the reactions are measured with the help of sensors attached to the head, body, and extremities.

The examination has no after-effects.

After the examination

You will receive the results of the examination from the doctor who treats you. If you do not know how to find out the results, please contact the outpatient clinic or ward that referred you to this examination.

Other things to note

Please take your Kela-card or identification with you.

You will not be charged for the examination separately.

Cancel the appointment if you cannot come.

If you do not cancel, you will be charged a fine.