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VEP

What is VEP?

Visual Evoked Potential, also known as Visual Evoked Response, is a test for optic neuritis (nerve inflammation) and demyelinating (destruction of the myelin sheath) events along the optic nerves. The myelin is the fatty protein which wraps around and protects the nerve cells. Demyelinating is the major underlying factor responsible for the symptoms of multiple sclerosis (MS).

The test involves watching a black and white checkered pattern on a TV screen. The black and white squares alternate in regular cycles which generate electrical potentials along the optic nerve and into the brain. Electrodes are placed at specific sites on the scalp to record the potentials. Each eye is tested twice independently while an eye patch is worn on the other eye. Visual Evoked Potential testing lasts about 30 minutes.

BAER

What is BAER?

The Brainstem Auditory Evoked Response (BAER) is a test which records potentials from the central auditory (hearing) pathways of the brainstem.

The test involves listening to clicking sounds through earphones. Electrodes are placed on the scalp to record the potentials produced by the clicking.