



How do I prepare for the MEG?

It is our goal to help you feel comfortable. MEG testing can last for approximately four hours. The day before your appointment, one of the MEG technologists will contact patients with individualized instructions. If you need to reach a MEG technologist earlier, please call the pediatric imaging front desk receptionist at 713.704.2161.

Just like any other medical tests, there are some things we will need you to do to help us get the most accurate and thorough test possible:

- Follow sleep instructions: We will ask you to have four hours of sleep, or even less, the night before the MEG exam, since the activity we are trying to record in your brain increases if you have not had enough sleep.
- Please arrive at the hospital at least 45 minutes before your scheduled appointment time.
- Please come in with a clean head, with your face washed, no makeup, and no moisturizers or lotions on your face. We will also need your hair to be clean and without any products.
- After we finish your scan, we will clean your hair of any paste from the electrodes we use.

Why MEG?

Using magnetoencephalography (MEG) in pre-surgical evaluation for epilepsy

What is MEG?

MEG is a state-of-the-art diagnostic tool for evaluating epilepsy and other conditions. MEG testing involves a special machine to measure weak magnetic fields produced by our brains. A MEG study can be used in many ways, such as to help doctors understand how the brain works or to find the part of the brain where a person's seizures start. The exam is completely silent; there are no loud noises and no strong magnetic fields or any radiation. A patient only needs to lie down comfortably on a bed, relax and try to fall asleep.

FAQ

A trained clinician will look at your recorded brain activity. This activity will show the origination of different brain signals. The clinician will then look at your MRI and MEG together, providing a road map of how your brain works.

Will it hurt?

No. And if at any point you feel uncomfortable, notify the MEG technologist.

How long does it take?

It depends on the purpose of the MEG. When looking for epileptiform activity, the test can take up to four hours. When mapping a functional region of the brain, some of those tests can be under 30 minutes.

Do I have to hold still?

We do ask that you try to be still and fall asleep while the scan is running, but the MEG is not as sensitive to movement as an MRI.

What if I get nervous?

We encourage you to speak with your physician and MEG staff if you are feeling anxious about your test.

What should I wear for my scan?

When you arrive, you will change into hospital clothing that we provide. Patients will be asked to remove all jewelry, including all body piercings. Any undergarments that have metal clasps or wires will also need to be removed.

Questions or concerns?

Please discuss any questions or concerns with your MEG technologist. If you are unable to make your appointment, call 713.704.4000 to cancel as soon as possible. If you have any other questions regarding your MEG appointment, please call 713.704.2161. (over)



What parking garage is most convenient to the MEG? Where do I go on campus once I arrive?

It is recommended to enter the hospital using the Fannin Valet entrance at 6411 Fannin St. Self-park is also available in the Texas Medical Center, Garage 4, at 1406 Cambridge St. From either parking location, follow signs to the Admissions Office in the Cullen Building, first floor. Once you are admitted, you will be directed to Children's Imaging and Procedure Suites.



memorialhermann.org/childrens
 6411 Fannin St.
 Houston, TX 77030