

Pudendalis somatosensory evoked potentials (SEP)

Purpose of the Examination

The examination is used to diagnose functional and somatosensory disturbances in the genital area and genitalia (such as incontinence & impotence).

Preparing for the Examination

- You should have clean and dry hair when coming to the examination. You should not apply hair spray, gel, or any other styling products after washing your hair. If your work includes welding, wash your hair especially carefully. Accumulated metallic dust in your hair can cause several technical disturbances during the examination.
- Wear loose and comfortable clothing, so that it is easy to reveal your legs up to your thighs. Bring along short-legged underwear, if necessary. Avoid oiling your skin on the examination day.
- Try to sleep regularly during the night before the examination. If your work includes shifts, it is recommended to avoid an evening or a night shift on the day before the examination.
- You can take any regularly taken medicine as you normally would. You can also eat normally before the examination.

Examination Process

Measurement labels are attached around the penis for men and on top of the clitoris for women. Sensors are also attached on the skin on your back and on your head. You will rest on a bed during the measurement. Mild and painless electrical impulses are induced via the genital area sensors. The purpose of the examination is to investigate how the information from these stimuli pass to the measurement sensors attached on your head (cortex). In addition, a lower limb sensory nerve tract examination (tibialis SEP) will be performed, where additional sensors are attached on the back of your knee and the impulses are induced in the ankle. The examination lasts for about an hour to an hour and a half.

After the Examination

The conductor paste used to attach the wires is wiped away from your hair and face. Possible residue from the conductor paste will be washed away when you next wash your hair.

The clinical neurophysiologist will analyse the examination and write a report about it. The report is directed to the clinic/ward that ordered the examination. They will inform you of the examination results and any possible follow-ups.