

Patient Information

Which patient procedure is the child being admitted for?

Admission for long-term EEG monitoring

What is the purpose of the child's admission to hospital?

There may be a number of reasons for admitting the child to the EMU. Some patients will undergo investigation to determine whether or not they have epilepsy. Some patients will undergo investigation to determine what type of epilepsy they have or whether they need surgery for their epilepsy. Other patients will have their sleep cycles investigated. This is also the reason why different types of electrodes are applied. To facilitate monitoring, wherever possible the child should stay in their bed at night.

How should I prepare?

The child's hair must be freshly washed and dried. The investigation period can last up to five days. The child will not be able to have a bath or shower during the investigation period. However, they will be able to have a light wash, except for their hair.

It is important that the child wears loose clothing like jogging gear or sportswear, as electrodes are usually applied to the body. The child must have a top that can be buttoned/zipped up at the front, as it is not possible to pull tops over the head once the equipment has been applied. If needed, patient shirts may be borrowed from the department.

What to bring

You must bring the child's usual medicine that will need to be given during the investigation period, in its original packaging. However, should it become necessary to adjust the treatment along the way, a doctor will discuss this with you during the daily rounds. It is a good idea to bring reading material, craftwork, DVDs/computer, etc. Mobile phones are permitted, but may only be used in the patient's own room.

What not to bring

The child must not use chewing gum during the admission period because it could affect the EEG. There is no Wi-Fi in the EMU because it interferes with the EEG signals. You are welcome to use your mobile data networks. There is a computer with internet access for use by patients in the day room.

Smoking

Smoking is prohibited indoors, but it is possible to go outside on the terrace to smoke in accordance with the department's smoking rules.

Visitors

Visitors are allowed in the EMU, but this must be arranged with the staff in advance. If there is more than one visitor, the visit must take place in the day room. We suggest having as few visitors as possible. It is possible to visit the EMU before the child is admitted. This can be arranged with the child's department.

How is the investigation performed?

The child will have electrodes applied to several locations on the head and body. Once the electrodes are applied, recording begins and continues for 24 hours. We also continuously monitor the child on video screens. Cameras are located in many different places on the ward, in the hallway and in the day room. There are no cameras in the toilets.

Food

Meals are served three times a day. In addition, cake is served in the afternoon. It is possible to make coffee and tea, etc. Relatives accompanying the child can eat for free. Other relatives must provide their own food. It is possible to order a special diet. Please notify the staff of special dietary requirements prior to admission.

Accommodation

Children may have a parent sleeping by them in the room in the EMU. If there is more than one parent accompanying the child, it is possible to rent a room at the Comwell Sorø hotel. Contact Food & Meetings on tel. 58 27 12 03 for reservations.

It is very important that you inform us about seizures:

If the child feels that a seizure is about to occur or knows that one has just taken place, it is very important to tell the staff. Speak out loud for the benefit of the microphone and say what the child is noticing or feeling, or press a button on the equipment. If you are parents accompanying a child, it will often be your job to keep an eye out for any seizures and make note of them.

The EMU staff:

The EMU is staffed 24 hours a day. The staff consists of neurophysiology assistants and nurses.

Rounds and results:

Rounds are conducted by the EMU's consultant. It may not necessarily be the consultant you know from the Department for Children with Epilepsy. The EMU's clinical team evaluates daily whether the objective of admission has been achieved. You will not receive the results of the investigation immediately. You will

be informed of the results by the referring department afterwards.

After the investigation:

When the investigation is complete, the child will be transferred to the Department for Children with Epilepsy or discharged from hospital. We may ask for your permission to use the recordings – which are part of the child’s medical records – for medical conferences. This requires your written permission, and it should be emphasised that the permission is for use of the recordings in closed professional conferences – not public presentations.

FACTS

Venue:

The investigation takes place in the hospital’s “EMU” (Epilepsy Monitoring Unit) in the Neurophysiology clinic. The EMU is a department with four wards with their own washroom and toilet and shared day room and dining room, playroom and computer workspace.

You can read about patient rights at www.filadelphia.dk/patienter

You are also welcome to give us praise or make complaints or suggestions. This can be done by sending an email to filadelphia@filadelphia.dk – please put “for the attention of EMU” in the subject line.