

 **WVU** Medicine Children's

Pediatric

EPILEPSY MONITORING UNIT





 WVU Medicine Children's

Welcome to the Pediatric
Epilepsy Monitoring Unit!
We are excited to be part
of your care. Let's take a
look at how your stay
with us will go...

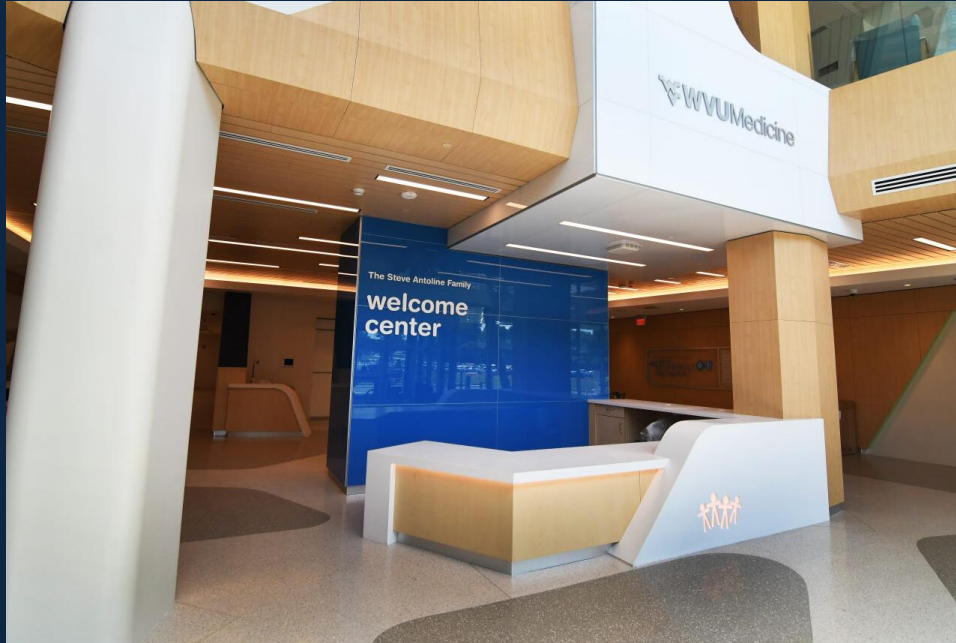
ADMISSION PROCESS

Please call the Pediatric Epilepsy Monitoring Unit at 304-554-8521 the morning of your appointment between 7a-8a to begin the admission process.

*As this can take several hours due to bed availability, we kindly ask you do not begin traveling until you are called back by our staff.



ADMISSION PROCESS



You will receive instructions specific to your admission. Please make sure to follow those instructions closely.

You will also receive a reminder call 48 hours prior to the admission.

You can call Pediatric Epilepsy Monitoring Unit at 304-554-8521 for questions.



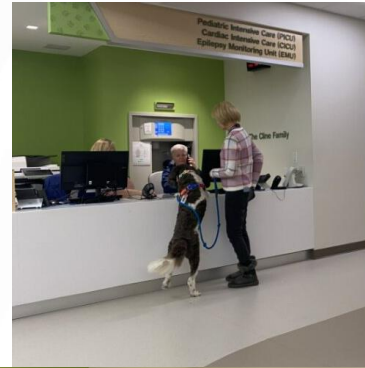
6th Floor - PICU/CICU/EMU

Welcome to the 6th floor!

This is the home of the **Pediatric Epilepsy Monitoring Unit, or EMU**, as we like to call it!

There are other units on this floor, too, so you may see other patients, families, and visitors.

When you arrive at the **front desk**, one of the unit **clerks** will notify your **nurse** and direct you to your **room**.



YOUR ROOM



This is what your room will look like. There is a **television**, **big windows**, and **colorful light options**. You will also have your own **private bathroom with shower**.

We keep a few **snack items** and **beverages** in the unit, and you will also have access to **room service** to order food from the **cafeteria**. You may also purchase guest trays. More information about the cafeteria's hours and options will be provided in your **welcome packet**.

You can have up to two (2) **adult family members** stay with you **overnight**.

Please plan to come to your appointment with clean, dry hair and a preferably button-up shirt that can be removed without going over the head. We have gowns available if needed.

You will be able to sponge bathe during your admission and shower and wash hair **AFTER** the completion of your testing.



GETTING SET UP

- A trained Neurodiagnostic Technologist, or “EEG Tech,” will perform the set-up.
- This process usually takes approx. 60 – 120 minutes but can vary based on patient needs.
- The process should not be painful! 😊
- Your job is to try to **stay very still!** You can watch TV or play with a small toy, phone, or tablet to help pass the time.

Let's take a look at the process...



SUPPLIES



These are the supplies that will be used to complete your electroencephalogram (EEG). We will use a **measuring tape**, a **crayon**, **cotton swabs**, special **soap**, **wax**, **glue**, **tape**, and **gel**.



GETTING HOOKED UP



You will meet your nurse and a member of the pediatric neurology team when you arrive. After their intake process is finished, the EEG Tech will proceed with their set-up.

The first step is to measure your head with a long **measuring tape** and make small marks on your head with a special **crayon**.



Once placed on your head, each electrode will be covered with a small piece of **gauze** with the special **glue** and dried in place using a small **air hose**.



Each mark will be cleaned with special **soap**. A small color-coded **electrode** will be placed using the special **wax**.



GETTING HOOKED UP (cont'd.)



After repeating this process with all twenty-three (23) electrodes, the EEG Tech will cover your head with a stretchy mesh-like **hat** to protect the electrodes.



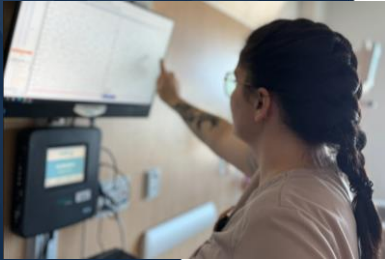
The EEG Tech will also apply one (1) **EKG sticker** on your chest or back to record your heart rate during the study. This is why it's important to wear a button up shirt or a gown.



The electrodes will be connected to a **box** and long **cord** that is attached to the computer. The EEG Tech will place this box in a small **backpack** to keep near you at all times and for you to wear when you are out of bed.

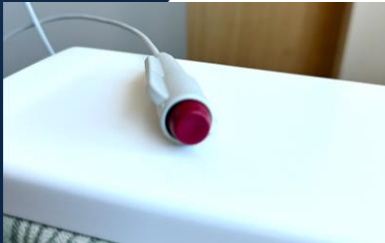


GETTING HOOKED UP (cont.)



The EEG Tech will **begin the study** on the computer which will begin the EEG recording as well as **audio/video recording**.

*(The cameras installed in the rooms allow technicians to follow the patient's location and physical behaviors. The cameras can **NOT** see inside the private bathroom located in the room.)*



The EEG Tech will take a few minutes to ensure all electrodes are in the correct places by gently “**tapping**” each electrode and reviewing the recording. The EEG Tech will also show you the “**Event Button**” and how/when to use it and answer any questions you may have.



You can now move around inside the room.

Always remember to keep your backpack close and be cautious of the many cords and equipment inside your room.



While you are in your room...

You can **play games**, watch television or movies, do **crafts**, or play with **toys** during your EEG.

Some families like to bring **fun things** from home and **snacks** to keep them busy while they are at the hospital.

You can bring your own **pillow**, **blanket**, or special **stuffed animal** to keep you comfortable!

*A **child life specialist** can answer any questions you have or help find other activities for you while you are here.*



Going to the Playroom...

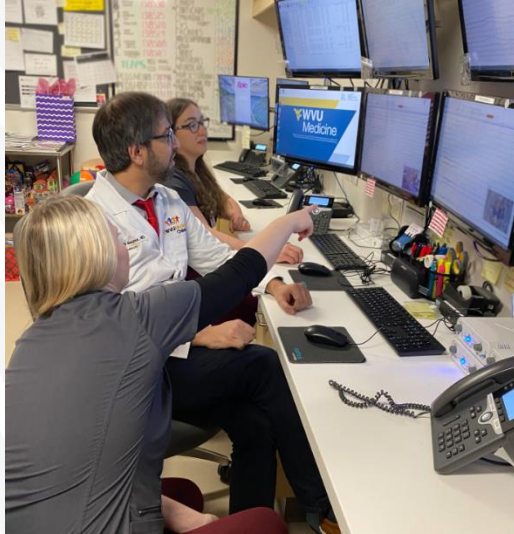
The EMU has its own special **playroom** you can visit during your stay.

The playroom has fun **sensory activities** such as bells, lights, etc.

An EEG Tech will help you **disconnect your backpack** before you go.



ABOUT YOUR EEG



An electroencephalogram (EEG) is a recording of your brain's electrical activity.

The electrodes placed on your head pick up the activity and record it on the computer making all the “squiggly lines” appear on the page. This can look many ways depending on your age, if you are awake or asleep, etc.

During your study, a trained EEG Tech will monitor your recording continuously ensuring the technical quality of the study, and a qualified neurologist will read the entire EEG and provide your care team with the report.



ABOUT YOUR EEG (cont'd)



An electroencephalogram (EEG) can be used to diagnose seizure disorders and brain dysfunction.

Many patients with known disorders are ordered an EMU admission for routine follow-up, medication adjustments, or surgical evaluations.

Other patients may have an EMU admission ordered to assess certain behaviors or movements (i.e. jerking, staring, abnormal breathing patterns, abrupt behavioral changes, etc.) to evaluate for an underlying cause of these events related to the brain's electrical activity.



ABOUT YOUR EEG (cont'd)



During your electroencephalogram (EEG), your nurse and EEG Tech will monitor you closely.

The EEG Tech may ask you questions or give you simple commands to follow using the overhead speaker in your room . They may also perform a photic stimulation (flashing lights) or hyperventilation (breathing) tests. All of these activities help assess your brain activity.



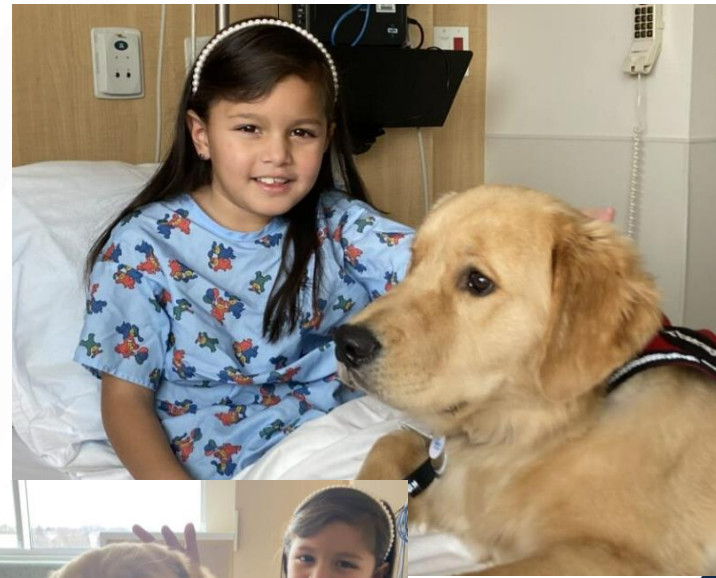
When your EEG is finished...

An EEG Tech will **disconnect** all cables after stopping your study and remove the electrodes from your head using a special **spray-on remover** created especially for the glue used to place the electrodes.

This process only takes a few minutes and should not generally cause any damage to the hair or scalp, but some irritation depending on the length of stay can be normal.

You can **wash your hair** normally after all electrodes have been removed.

Your nurse will go over any **discharge instructions** and medications before you leave.





 WVU Medicine Children's

Thank you for taking the time
to learn about our Epilepsy
Monitoring Unit!

We have in-house staff
present 24/7. If you have any
questions, please call our unit
at **304-554-8521**.

We look forward to seeing you!