

Division of Colon & Rectal Surgery
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OUTPATIENT ELECTRODIAGNOSTIC SERVICES

Anorectal Manometry Study

Anorectal Manometry Study is used to show the muscle function abnormalities of the rectum and the anal sphincter. The test can show abnormalities of the anal sphincter that cannot be shown with any other examinations. This information will assist your physician in planning treatment for your particular health problem. This study usually takes about 5-10 minutes of actual procedure time.

Your procedure will take place in an examination room. No sedation is used for this exam. A small, flexible tube (about ¼ inch in diameter) is gently placed into the rectum about 3-4 inches. You will be lying on a patient bed during the study. You will have to remove your clothing from the waist down. Linen will be used to keep you covered as much as possible.

During the exam, the tube is moved slightly to record pressures within the rectum and the anal sphincter. The tube is attached to a computer that shows a graph of these pressures.

After the examination, you may drive yourself home, eat and go about your normal activities.

Preliminary findings will be discussed with you immediately after the study. Your physician may ask you to return for an appointment, after a more detailed review of your study can be made. A report will be sent to your referring physician.

We will contact you a few days prior to your appointment to confirm your exam time and to answer any questions you may have. Dr. Madeleine Poirier will be doing the test for you. There is no special preparation needed for the procedure.

Please feel free to contact us for any questions that you may have; both before and after your appointment. You can contact our office by calling (312)413-2708 to speak with our nurse.

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The Pudendal Nerve Study

The Pudendal Nerve conduction study is an electronic test to determine if a nerve is healthy. The Pudendal nerves are small but important nerves that arise from the lower end of the spinal cord. They supply the muscles, which control bowel and bladder function, as well as sensation or feeling in the same location.

Dr. Madeleine Poirier, with the help of her assistant, performs the nerve conduction test. Since there are two nerves,(left and right),each side will be evaluated. The nerve is checked rectally. A gloved finger will be inserted into the rectum and you will feel a brief, very small shock as the response is found. The test usually takes less than five minutes and a report will be sent to your referring physician.

Most patients tell us that the discomfort if any is minimal. There are no significant risks or side effects. Since no medication or anesthesia is administered for the procedure, you will be able to drive yourself home and go about your normal activities.

Please arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled appointment to pre-register. Please bring your insurance card(s) with you. Thank you!