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VEP
Visual Evoked Potential
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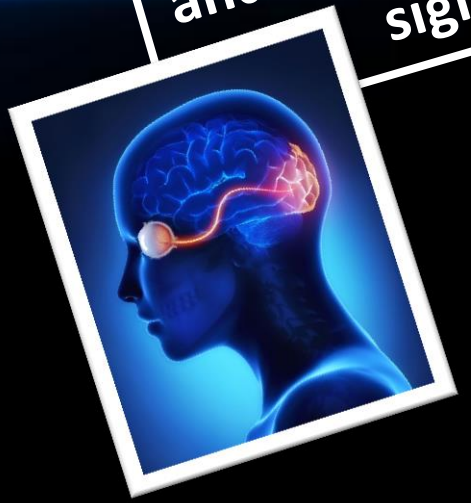
What is a Visual Evoked Potential?

These responses usually originate from the occipital cortex, the area of the brain involved in receiving and interpreting visual signals.



A visual evoked potential is an evoked potential caused by a visual stimulus, such as an alternating checkerboard pattern on a computer screen.

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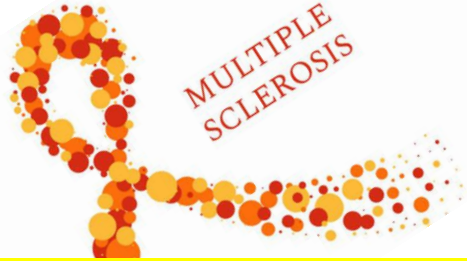
When is the VEP used?

A doctor may recommend that you go for a **VEP test** when you are experiencing **changes in your vision**

These changes are often too subtle or not easily detected on clinical examination in the doctor's surgery. In general terms, the test is useful for detecting **optic nerve problems**. This nerve helps transfer signals to allow us to see, so testing the nerve allows the doctor to see how your visual system responds to **light**.

What does the VEP detect?



The VEP measures the time that it takes for a visual stimulus to travel from the eye to the occipital cortex. It can give the doctor an idea of whether the nerve pathways are abnormal in any way. For example, in *Multiple Sclerosis (MS).*

What happens during a VEP test?

The procedure is very safe and **non-invasive**.

1. Firstly, some **wires** will be glued to the top of your head to detect the brain waves.

2. A technician will give you further instructions on what to do during the test. Normally, each eye will be tested separately.

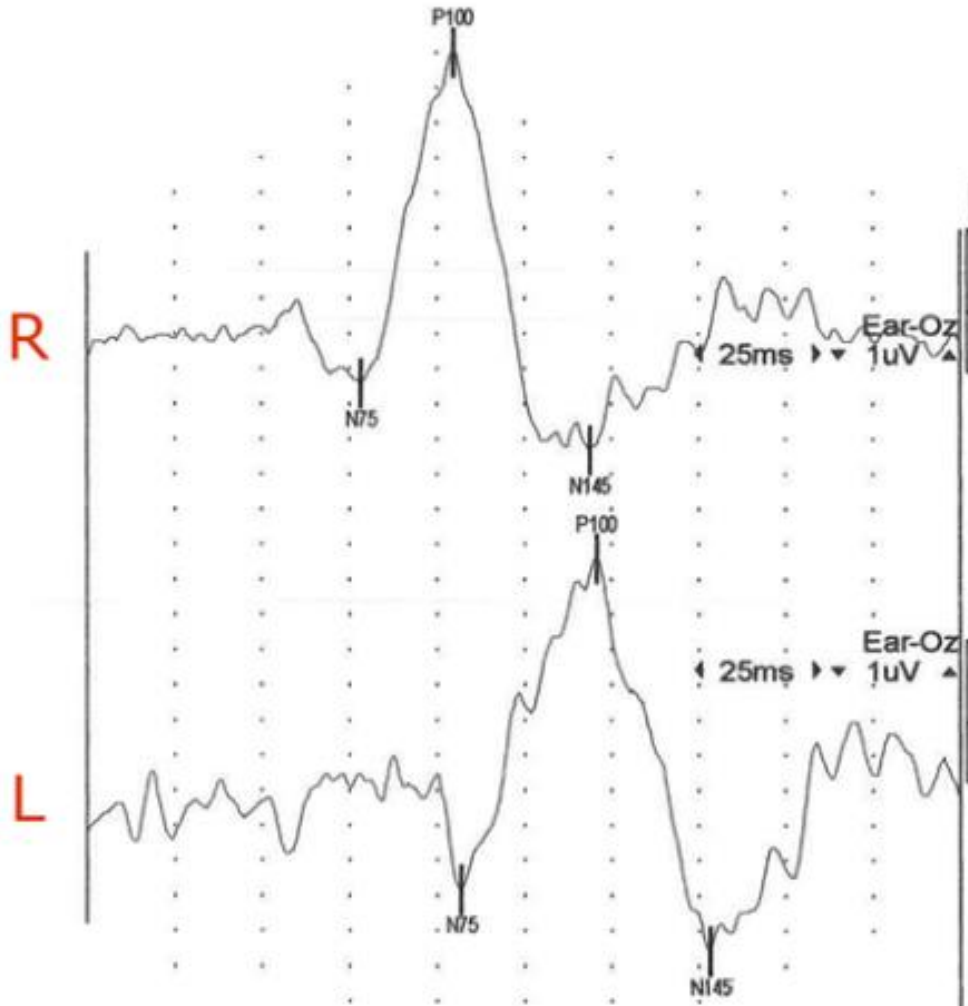
3. Readings will be recorded through the wires on top of your head.

4. After the procedure, the glue and wires are removed from your head. The doctor may discuss the results of the test with you after they have been analyzed; otherwise the referring doctor will.
Usually the procedure takes about 45 minutes.

What the results of the VEP may show

The VEP is particularly useful in detecting inflammation of the optic nerve, associated with swelling and progressive destruction of the sheath covering the nerve. As the nerve sheath is damaged, the time it takes for electrical signals to be conducted to the eyes is prolonged, resulting in an abnormal VEP. This may be seen in multiple sclerosis.

Early Optic Neuritis Nerve Asymmetry



RIGHT Eye VEP

Text	Lat N75 ms	Lat P100 ms	Lat N145 ms	PP Amp 75-100 uV
	1.1:N75	1.1:P100	1.1:N145	1.1:N75 P100
Oz	78.0	105	144	9.48

LEFT Eye VEP

Text	Lat N75 ms	Lat P100 ms	Lat N145 ms	PP Amp 75-100 uV
	2.1:N75	2.1:P100	2.1:N145	2.1:N75 P100
Oz	106	145	178	9.47

Interocular Comparison

Text	LatDiff LT-RT	PP Amp Ratio LT-RT
	40.8 msec	99.8 %

KEEP EYE ON YOUR *EYES*