

# GENERAL GUIDANCE FOR REQUESTING VISUAL ELECTRODIAGNOSTIC TESTS

The following are some general guidance for requesting electrodiagnostics tests for some of the more commonly presenting conditions. The choice of tests may be modified in any particular case.

- **Inherited Retinal Degenerations:** Mainly ERG; EOG is required for suspicion of Best vitelliform maculopathy or acute zonal occult outer retinopathy (AZOOR).
- **Suspected Retinal Dysfunction in Opaque Media:** Flash ERG, Flash VEP.
- **Retrobulbar Neuritis:** Pattern VEP (or Flash VEP if vision is very poor), in Remission Stage: Pattern ERG and Pattern VEP.
- **Ischaemic optic neuropathies, Glaucoma and Vascular Disease of the Retina:** Electrophysiological testing is not required for all patients but, in selected cases, can be particularly useful for diagnosis.
- **Unexplained Visual Loss:** ERG, Pattern ERG and VEP
- **Nystagmus/Albinism:** Multichannel pattern or flash VEP (to detect increased crossing of optic nerve fibres), Flash ERG.
- **Toxic and Nutritional Eye Disease:** ERG, Pattern ERG, Pattern VEP; in chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine toxicity mfERG.
- **Suspected Intracranial Lesion:** Pattern ERG, Pattern VEP.
- **Paediatric Cases:** Most paediatric patients are able to attempt testing under normal conditions although modifications to the standard test may be required and there may be less information obtained until they reach an age to comply fully.

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