



Hackensack  
Meridian *Health*  
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Medical Center

## Stat LTM/Video EEG On Call Protocol for Adult patients

### Medical Staff Policies & Procedures

**Document Owner:** Medical and Dental Staff of JSUMC      **Date Approved by MEC:** 09/12/2018

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#### **Purpose:**

To establish a protocol outlining the guidelines for stat EEG services and off hours EEG Technologist coverage.

#### **Scope:**

To establish the guidelines for stat LTM/Video EEG services.

#### **Indications for stat LTM/Video EEG**

The only legitimate and universally accepted indication for a stat EEG is to evaluate the possibility of non-convulsive status epilepticus (NCSE), because this type may in itself be harmful to the brain and affects prognosis.

The succinct and appropriate indication for considering stat EEG is “an unexpected decline in the patient’s consciousness.” Therefore, the stat EEG will only be utilized for identifying patients in non-convulsive status epilepticus (NCSE).

#### **The following are not indications for a stat LTM/Video EEG:**

- The patient had a seizure and is recovering
- The patient is obviously seizing
- Abnormal mental status or coma that is readily explained (stroke, subarachnoid hemorrhage, intracerebral hemorrhage or traumatic brain injury)
- Confirmation of brain death

#### **Transfer patients**

Patients that are unresponsive and transferred to JSUMC for continuous EEG monitoring will only be hooked up to the EEG monitoring during off hours if they are suspected to be in NCSE. Other patients that are responsive will be hooked up to the EEG monitoring the following morning.

1. General Indication for stat LTM/Video EEG (stEEG)

The patient has suffered an unexpected decline in consciousness.

Examples:

- The patient does not awaken within 30 minutes of ending a convulsive seizure.
- The patient does not awaken from anesthesia following a craniotomy.
- The patient is comatose with a mild drug overdose.
- The patient has a stable intracranial hemorrhage, but develops a decline in neurologic function.
- Patients that are admitted to the Neurosurgical ICU.
- Neurosurgical post op patients.
- Patient's suspected to be in convulsive status epilepticus or non-convulsive status epilepticus (NCSE) and not responding to treatment.

2. Ordering the stat LTM/Video EEG

- The physician attending assesses the patient's mental status
- Neurology consult must be placed prior to ordering the stat EEG
- Neurologists must approve if the stat EEG is necessary during off hours
- The order must be placed into the system
- Confirm that the stat order is processed
- Call the EEG Technologist on call

**ICU Patients ordered for a stat LTM/Video EEG**

1. Confirm that the patient is not scheduled for any other testing such as CT or MRI scans before the on-call EEG Technologists is called to place the stat EEG continuous monitoring.
2. Surgical- All dressings and bandages must be removed or reduced as much as possible prior to the on-call EEG Technologists performing the stat EEG. This will reduce turnaround time for getting the study completed.