

ASSISTANCE NEEDED FROM PARENTS
TO MAKE YOUR CHILD'S EPILEPSY MONITORING
AS SUCCESSFUL AS POSSIBLE

Our primary goal for this admission is to record your child's behaviour or episodes of concern with our special 24 hour video-EEG monitoring equipment. As such, we depend on parents to identify and help us document these episodes when they occur. Parent participation can be the difference between whether or not an admission provides your child's doctor with the valuable information needed. Please take time to carefully review the steps listed below that you need to take to make this admission as successful as possible.

Steps for parents to take to assist with video-EEG monitoring:

1. A parent must sleep in the child's room to identify episodes of concern. You are our expert on your particular child's episodes. Please note that your child needs to be attended to at all times and cannot be left alone.
2. Keep your child in view of the camera at all times (except while in the bathroom). Do not allow your child to run back and forth through out the room.
3. Keep your child facing the camera as much as possible.
4. Do not stand in front of your child, this blocks the camera's view. Stand to the side of the child.
5. When your child has an episode, push the "EVENT" button which will mark the video and alarm the nurse to come and observe your child during the event. (If you forget to push the "EVENT" button immediately, push it as soon as you remember. If you do not push the button, it can be very difficult for us to locate the episode on the video).
6. Remind doctors, nurses and visitors not to block the view of the camera.
7. We need to see your child's face, both hands, and both feet clearly on the camera during an episode. You may need to turn your child to face the camera better. Remove blankets, sheets, bedside tables, or toys etc. which may block full view of your child during an episode.
8. Your child will have his/her head wrapped with gauze and/or a bandage to keep the EEG electrodes secure. Keep your child from pulling at the electrode wires. The nurse may need to check your child's EEG electrodes to ensure proper functioning.

9. Any time your child has an episode, you must let the nurse know so that a note can be made in the record book. You will need to note the time the episode starts and stops, the type of episode you observed, and any special comments about the episode. Also note when your child goes to sleep and wakes up.
10. Your child's meals will naturally be provided as part of the hospital admission. Parents/care givers can purchase meal tickets at the reception desk for R17.50 per meal. You are also welcome to bring along your own food or there is the hospital's local Dulci Café. If your baby is still on formula please bring along your own supply and in such situations, as with breast feeding mothers, meals will be provided for you at no charge.
11. Let the nurse know when you need a break. Although the idea of being confined to a room for an extended period of time can be daunting, I have found that it can be an incredible opportunity to spend quality time with your little one. Bring along things that the two of you can do together and use the time wisely. Very few of us get the chance to spend one on one time with our kids in this way... just a thought.

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