Southern Pain and Rehab, LLC   **Michael J. Kohrman MD**   www.southernpainandrehab.com

Board Certified Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Board Certified Pain Medicine
EMG/NCV's, IME's, Interventional Pain, Non-Surgical Spine, Sport, Shoulders, Hips, Knees & more
Hours by Appointment

Thomas Medical Center   27961 US Highway 98   Suite 11-A   Daphne, Al 36526   Phone: 251-626-0901   Fax: 251-626-0902

ELECTROMYOGRAPHY &
NERVE CONDUCTION STUDIES
Michael J. Kohrman, M.D.

In regards to the EMG (Electromyography) part of the exam, a very thin disposable solid monopolar recording needle is stuck through the skin and into various muscles to analyze muscle electrical activity. Sick or injured nerves or muscles can generate different electrical activity, which can be recorded by the needle. There is no injection and you should not worry about getting Hepatitis or AIDs because the needle is disposable and is NOT used on another person. The test feels like being stuck by a pin for some people. Some muscles are less sensitive than others that numbing medicine is not needed. Little if any blood is drawn from the needle stick, and most people do not even get a welt or a small bruise where they were stuck.

In regards to the NCV's (Nerve Conduction Velocities) part of the exam, surface electrodes are placed on the skin over different muscles or nerves. A small electrical shock is given and a nerve signal is generated and travels down the path of that particular nerve. The signal's speed and amplitude (strength) can be calculated and compared to normal muscles and nerves. The electrical shock is safe and you will not be electrocuted. It can be done on patients with pacemakers or on patients with a seizure disorder. It is often more of a surprise, and a little unpleasant but bearable for most people. It has been compared to static electricity, a spark plug, or even an electric fence on a farm. Each person responds differently.

Together along with a history and physical, which will be done as part of the examination, we can tell if you are having a significant problem with your nerves or muscles. An AMERICAN BOARD CERTIFIED PHYSICIAN SPECIALIZED in PHYSICAL MEDICINE and REHABILITATION will do the test and NOT a therapist or technician. The test results will be explained to you, and a complete typed report will be sent back to your doctor. It typically takes about one week for the report to get back to your doctor. If you have any questions, please ask them.