



# Epilepsy Monitoring Unit (EMU)

Mission Neurosciences welcomes referrals to our Epilepsy Monitoring Unit (EMU). Our EMU is located on the Neurosciences Unit at Mission Hospital and is made up of four rooms equipped with long-term video EEG monitoring. Our EMU accepts patients ages 13 years and older.

Our staff is made up of specialty trained neuroscience nurses, registered neurodiagnostic technologists, neurology nurse practitioners and fellowship trained epilepsy specialists.

The EMU is accredited by the National Association of Epilepsy Centers as a Level 3 Comprehensive Epilepsy Center.

## EPILEPSY MONITORING UNIT REFERRAL PROCESS

- Our Epilepsy Coordinator will obtain authorization with the patients insurance carrier.
- Some insurance companies require an EEG and/or brain imaging prior to EMU admission.
- Our Epilepsy Coordinator will coordinate with the patient for availability, appointment date and time.

## PATIENT EDUCATION AND EXPECTATIONS

- Patients should plan to stay in the EMU for 3 to 5 days. It is a requirement that a certified nurse assistant (sitter) or a family member/caregiver stay with the patient 24 hours a day during the hospital stay. There is no charge for a sitter. This will be discussed and arranged by the Epilepsy Coordinator with the patient and/or family when the inpatient appointment is made.
- Patients should bring comfortable clothing, preferably lounge wear.
- Shirts and tops must button or zip up in the front.
- Patients may bring computers, books, or games. A TV is in the room.
- Meals are provided for the patient. Family/caregivers may use the hospital cafeteria, hospital snack shops, or may bring food in.
- Medications will be ordered by the attending neurologist at the time of admission unless directed otherwise by the referring physician.
- The patient is managed by the Mission Epilepsy team while in-house.
- The final EMU report by the neurologist will be sent to the referring physician.
- Seizure medication may be changed, discontinued or restarted at discharge.

**For additional information, please call  
the Epilepsy Coordinator, Barbara Massey at  
(828) 213-9961 or [barbara.massey@msj.org](mailto:barbara.massey@msj.org).**

