

# Cerebral Function Monitoring

## A Guide for Parents

### What is cerebral function monitoring?

This is a way to check on the health of baby's brain. Brain cells use electrical impulses to communicate with each other. Cerebral function monitoring uses a monitor to measure this electrical activity. We call the monitor an aEEG (say the letters a-e-e-g) or Brainz Monitor.

The monitoring helps baby's healthcare team diagnose and manage conditions that affect the brain.

If you have any questions about this monitoring, you can ask your baby's doctor.

### How does it work?

We place small sensors with thin wires (called electrodes) in baby's head.

The sensors connect to the monitor. The monitor shows the electrical activity in baby's brain as it is happening, as wavy lines.

When baby's healthcare team decides baby no longer needs the monitoring, we remove the electrodes and clean baby's head if needed.

Baby's healthcare team uses the wavy lines to decide on the best treatments and medicines for your baby.

### How long does it take?

Every baby and situation is different. Some babies need monitoring for a few hours and others need it for longer. Baby's doctor can update you about baby's health and talk to you about how long baby needs this monitoring.

### Does it hurt?

No. Baby might feel a slight pinch when their nurse places the sensors.

### How can I help?

You can help keep baby comfortable and calm by talking in a quiet, soothing voice.

You can let baby know you are with them by touching them gently. One way to do this is with hand hugs.



Scan this QR code to learn more about hand hugs and skin-to-skin cuddling.

Or, visit [patienteduc.fraserhealth.ca](http://patienteduc.fraserhealth.ca).

Then, search "s2s nicu".

### Can I breastfeed or chestfeed baby?

This might not be possible while we do this monitoring. You can hand express or pump your milk.

We can give small amounts of your milk into baby's mouth. This is called oral immune therapy. We can keep the rest of your milk until baby is ready to start feeding.



Scan this QR code to learn more about oral immune therapy.

Or, visit [patienteduc.fraserhealth.ca](http://patienteduc.fraserhealth.ca).

Then, search "oral immune therapy".

Ask your baby's nurse any questions about feeding, pumping, and keeping your milk.