

**UTAS Visual Electrodiagnostic System with EM for Windows**

> **User's Manual Version 2.4**

January 13, 2014

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# **WARRANTY**

*LKC Technologies, Inc. unconditionally warrants this instrument to be free from defects in materials and workmanship, provided there is no evidence of abuse or attempted repairs without authorization from LKC Technologies, Inc. This Warranty is binding for one year from date of installation and is limited to: servicing and/or replacing any instrument, or part thereof, returned to the factory for that purpose with transportation charges prepaid and which are found to be defective. This Warranty is made expressly in lieu of all other liabilities and obligations on the part of LKC Technologies, Inc.*

**DAMAGE UPON ARRIVAL.** Each instrument leaves our plant, after rigorous tests, in perfect operating condition. The instrument may receive rough handling and damage in transit. The shipment is insured against such damage. The Buyer must immediately report, in writing, any concealed or apparent damage to the last carrier as well as to us and issue an order for replacement or repair.

**DEFECTS OCCURRING WITHIN WARRANTY PERIOD**. Parts of the units may develop defects which no amount of initial testing would have revealed. The price of our instruments makes provision for such service, but it does not:

- 1. Provide for transportation charges to our factory for service,
- 2. Provide for services not performed or authorized by us,
- 3. Provide for the cost of repairing instruments that have obviously been abused or subjected to unusual environments for which they have not been designed.

We will be happy at any time to discuss by phone, letter, FAX, or e-mail suspected defects or aspects of instrument operation that may be unclear. We advise you to inform us by phone, letter, FAX, or e-mail of the nature of the defect before returning an instrument for repair. Many times a simple suggestion will solve the problem without returning an instrument to the factory. If we are unable to suggest something that solves the problem, we will advise you as to what parts of the equipment should be returned to the factory for service.

**DEFECTS OCCURRING AFTER WARRANTY PERIOD.** Charges for repairs after the warranty period and within LKC product lifetime policy will be based upon actual hours spent on the repair at the prevailing rate, plus cost of parts required and transportation charges; or you may elect to purchase an extended warranty.

We will be happy to discuss by phone, letter, FAX, or e-mail any problem you may be experiencing.

**LKC PRODUCT LIFETIME POLICY.** The lifetime of a UTAS system is 7 years from the original shipment date of the UTAS system. LKC will service any UTAS system that is within its lifetime.



### **SOFTWARE LICENSE**

The UTAS software is a copyrighted product of LKC Technologies, Inc. and is included with the UTAS system under the following license agreement:

*The software may be used in conjunction with the UTAS system only. The purchaser of the UTAS system may make copies of the software for convenience of use, provided the LKC copyright notice is preserved with each copy. This license specifically prohibits the use of this software in a system that does not include an LKC Technologies, Inc. UTAS Interface Unit. Additional copies of the software may be purchased to produce reports of UTAS data using a stand-alone computer system.*

#### **INTRODUCTION**

LKC's UTAS visual electrodiagnostic test system is designed for electroretinogram (ERG), visual evoked response (VER) (also called visual evoked potentials (VEP)), and electro-oculogram (EOG) testing. It can be upgraded with additional software allowing for multifocal ERG and multifocal VEP. The additional testing software are covered in different manuals. The UTAS is a fully automated system providing features needed for both clinical and research applications. The UTAS meets all the specifications and requirements of the International Society for the Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision (ISCEV).

This manual is divided into three components: the **Hardware Manual**, the **Software Manual**, and the **Testing Manual**. The Hardware Manual covers the setup and calibration of the equipment. The Software Manual covers all aspects of the software. Explicit instruction on testing patients is covered in the Testing Manual. It is important to be familiar with the Hardware Manual and the Software Manual before you go through the Testing Manual.

This equipment is offered for sale only to qualified Health Professionals. The improper use of this equipment may cause injury to the patient.









## **1.0 Introduction**

## <span id="page-8-1"></span><span id="page-8-0"></span>**1.1 Overview**

This UTAS system Manual is divided into three sections; the Hardware, Software, and Testing manuals. The Hardware Manual will explain how the system is connected, the specifications for the system, how to use the hardware features, and how to assist LKC in servicing the system should trouble arise. Subsequent sections, the Software Manual and the Testing manual, will explain how to use the software and the details of performing a patient test.

## <span id="page-8-2"></span>**1.2 Safety**

The equipment has been tested in accordance with IEC EN60601-1-2:2001 and meets all requirements for type B Patient Connections.

## <span id="page-8-3"></span>**1.3 Use**

The LKC UTAS Visual Electrodiagnostic Testing System is an ophthalmic evoked potential system. Its function is to elicit electrical responses from the retina and visual pathways for diagnostic purposes.

The UTAS is designed for the electroretinogram (ERG), electro-oculogram (EOG), visual evoked potential (VEP), and multi-focal ERG tests. These tests are useful aids in the diagnosis of a wide range of visual disorders.

The system also has the capability to run multi-focal electroretinogram (mfERG) and multi-focal visual evoked potentials (mfVEP) tests. A UV stimulus add-on is also possible on a BigShot ganzfeld. *These tests can be purchased as options to the system (contact LKC for availability), and are discussed in detail in a separate user's manuals.*

This equipment is offered for sale only to qualified Health Professionals. The improper use of this equipment may be cause injury to the patient and/or damage to the equipment.

### <span id="page-8-4"></span>**1.4 Essential Performance**

- Correct operation of system components, including visual stimuli, i.e. flash, flicker, fixation, background light and pattern stimulus; data acquisition; data analysis and test result display.
- Accuracy of intensity and timing of various visual stimuli.
- Accuracy of patient amplifier gain, and data acquisition timing.
- Accuracy of data analysis and result display.

## <span id="page-8-5"></span>**1.5 Precautions**

- All servicing of this equipment is to be performed by LKC Technologies, Inc. or by a service center approved by LKC Technologies, Inc.
- Only equipment supplied by LKC Technologies, Inc. should be plugged into the 115 V outlets at the back of the MGIT-100 component.
- The UTAS system needs special precautions regarding EMC and needs to be installed and put into service according to the EMC information provided in this User's Manual.
- Portable and mobile RF communications equipment can affect UTAS performance.
- Input overload can occur with defibrillator or electrocautery if used in the operating room.
- Any device connected to this system must be explicitly approved by LKC Technologies, Inc. and must meet the relevant requirements of IEC60601-1.
- The use of any accessories or replacement of components other than those supplied by or approved by LKC Technologies, Inc. may compromise patient safety.
- Eye infections may result from use of non-sterilized contact-lens electrodes.
- The forehead rest should be cleaned and disinfected after each patient.
- This device is not protected against the ingress of water and should not be used in the presence of liquids which may enter the device.
- This device is not suitable for use in the presence of a flammable anesthetic mixture of air, or with oxygen or nitrous oxide.
- Replacement AC fuses shall only be T2.5A 250 V (Slow-Blow) for 210-230 volt powerline countries, and T5.0A 250 V (Slow-Blow) for  $100 - 120$  volt power-line countries.
- This is an EU/MDD class I device requiring a three pronged grounded outlet.
- WARNING: To avoid the risk of electric shock, this equipment must only be connected to a supply mains with protective earth.
- WARNING: Do not modify this equipment without authorization of the manufacturer.
- Connect the MGIT-100 directly to a wall outlet. Do not connect the MGIT-100 to a wall outlet through an extension cord or a multiple socket-outlet
- The UTAS system is an FDA Class II medical device that incorporates a personal computer. To ensure patient safety, the personal computer and all of its peripherals are powered from an isolation transformer, through the power receptacles on the back of the MGIT-100. All

devices connected to the computer must be powered from these isolated power receptacles. Failure to observe these precautions may endanger the patient and will void the product warranty. LKC Technologies, Inc. will not service a system whose computer is connected to external devices, nor will it give permission for others to service such a system.

> Examples of improper connections include connecting the UTAS computer (whether supplied by LKC or by another party) to a laser printer, or to any other device that is plugged into a wall outlet or that is connected to another device that is plugged into a wall outlet (such as a printer sharing unit connected to another computer). If you have specific questions on this matter, please contact LKC Technologies, Inc. for advice.

- Ensure the amplifier unit battery is fully charged prior to use.
- $\triangle$  A fully charged battery will provide 12+ hours of useable recording time.
- Do not record while amplifier is recharging! This will compromise the quality of recordings and subject isolation.

#### <span id="page-10-0"></span>**1.6 Special Precautions Concerning EMC**





*Warning: The UTAS system should not be used adjacent to or stacked with other equipment and if adjacent or stacked use is necessary, the UTAS should be observed to verify normal operation in the configuration in which it will be used.*



NOTE *U*T is the a.c. mains voltage prior to application of the test level.



NOTE 1 At 80 MHz and 800 MHz, the higher frequency range applies.

NOTE 2 These guidelines may not apply in all situations. Electromagnetic propagation is affected by absorption and reflection from structures, objects and people.

a) Field strengths from fixed transmitters, such as base stations for radio (cellular/cordless), telephones and land mobile radios, amateur radio, AM and FM radio broadcast and TV broadcast cannot be predicted theoretically with accuracy. To assess the electromagnetic environment due to fixed RF transmitters, an electromagnetic site survey should be considered. If the measured field strength in the location in which the UTAS is used exceeds the applicable RF compliance level above, the UTAS should be observed to verify normal operation. If abnormal performance is observed, additional measures may be necessary, such as reorienting or relocating the UTAS.

b) Over the frequency range 150 kHz to 80 MHz, field strengths should be less than 3 V/m.

#### **Recommended separation distances between portable and mobile RF communications equipment and the UTAS**

The UTAS is intended for use in an electromagnetic environment in which radiated RF disturbances are controlled. The customer or the user of the UTAS can help prevent electromagnetic interference by maintaining a minimum distance between portable and mobile RF communications equipment (transmitters) and the UTAS as recommended below, according to the maximum output power of the communications equipment.



For transmitters rated at a maximum output power not listed above, the recommended separation distance *d* in meters (m) can be estimated using the equation applicable to the frequency of the transmitter, where *P* is the maximum output power rating of the transmitter in watts (W) according to the transmitter manufacturer.

NOTE 1 At 80 MHz and 800 MHz, the separation distance for the higher frequency range applies.

NOTE 2 These guidelines may not apply in all situations. Electromagnetic propagation is affected by absorption and reflection from structures, objects and people.

### <span id="page-14-0"></span>**1.7 Warning**



The Ganzfeld is capable of producing intense light, which patient exposure may exceed ICNIRP guidelines. Users should consider the effects of producing stimuli at these intensities.



If the BigShot Ganzfeld contains the optional UV stimulator, the Ganzfeld contains an LED source which provides UV emissions in excess of the Exempt Risk Group as defined in IEC 62471. The Ganzfeld risk categorization is Risk Group 2 (moderate risk). The ultraviolet radiation is centered at 365 nm. The light hazard occurs only if the UV stimulator is used as a bright background light. Brief flashes of UV light from this instrument are not hazardous. If the BigShot will be used to produce UV background light, we recommend that UV-blocking eye protection is worn while looking into the Ganzfeld.

#### <span id="page-14-1"></span>**1.8 Symbols**



Caution! Read instructions before using.



Contains UV stimulator



Power Off



Self-Test



Power On



Battery Check

DC Power







IEC 60601-1 Class I Type BF



IEC 60601-1 Class I Type B



 Fuse Rating: "T2.5A 250V" is for 210-230 VAC power-line countries "T5.0A 250V" is for 100-120 VAC power-line countries



Volts AC



Council Directive Compliance



Earth ground connection point, functional earth terminal



Chassis ground, protective earth terminal

# <span id="page-15-0"></span>**1.9 Approvals**

This product has been tested for EMI and complies with the requirements of EN 60601-1-1- 2:2001 (Group 1 Class A device under CISPR 11). Use of this equipment in the vicinity of other equipment with excessive EMI may interfere with the proper operation of this product.

This product conforms to IEC601-1:1988 with Amendments A1:1991 and A2:1995, and to EN60601-1:1990.

This product has been tested in accordance with AAMI Safe Current Limits Standard and meets all requirements for direct patient connection. The product is an AC line powered device designed to meet the applicable requirements of UL 60601-1 Standard for Safety (Medical and Dental Equipment). This device should only be used according to the manufacturer's instructions and by qualified health professionals.

This product has been approved for both CE and CB certificates

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**EMERGO EUROPE** 

#### **2.0 Functional Description**

<span id="page-17-0"></span>In this section, the function of each equipment group is explained and a block diagram showing equipment interrelationships is discussed. The UTAS system can come with either a SunBurst Ganzfeld (designed for humans and larger animals) or the BigShot Ganzfeld (fits most small animals and primate faces). The BigShot Ganzfeld can be upgraded with a UV stimulator.

#### <span id="page-17-1"></span>**2.1 UTAS System Quick Specs**

#### *SUNBURST GANZFELD STIMULATOR*



#### *BIGSHOT GANZFELD STIMULATOR*



#### **PATTERN STIMULATOR**



*AMPLIFIER UNIT*



## *SYSTEM INTERFACE UNIT*



# *UBA-4204 INTERFACE*



# **POWER REQUIREMENTS**



#### **OPERATING ENVIRONMENT**





#### <span id="page-19-0"></span>**2.2 Computer and Associated Devices**

The computer is either a desktop or notebook PC with a minimum of 1 GHz CPU speed 448 MB of Random Access Memory (RAM), at least 80 GB hard disk drive, and a rewritable CD drive. The computer provides the control of all test and analysis operations.

An additional video card is added to the computer by LKC. This video board sends video signal to the operator's LCD monitor.

## <span id="page-19-1"></span>**2.3 System Interface**

The system interface contains:

- ◆ 24 V Medical Grade Power Supply
- $\bullet$  Interface printed circuit board
- A toroidal high voltage transformer

## <span id="page-19-2"></span>**2.4 UBA-4204 Patient Amplifier and Interface**

UBA-4204 is the patient amplifier board. The electrodes used on the patient plug in the head end of the amplifier. The amplifier converts data from an analog to digital signal and transfers the data to its interface via a fiber optic cable (TOSlink). The data is then converted in the UBA-4204 to go onto the computer via a USB 1.1 connection.



# 2.4.1 UBA-4204 controls

#### <span id="page-20-0"></span>*Powering On/Off*

- $\blacklozenge$  Press the "On" button for at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  second to turn the Amplifier on. The Power Light / Battery Status Indicator will illuminate and the test indicator light will illuminate for 2 seconds. Within approximately one second, it may change color to indicate the remaining battery capacity.
- $\bullet$  If the amplifier is not in use for more than 30 minutes, it will automatically turn off. To turn the power off before this and to conserve battery power, press the "Off" button.

#### *Self-Test*

To verify that the system is working properly, press the Test button. If the associated green light turns on, the Amplifier Unit microprocessor is working properly. If the green light does not illuminate, press the OFF button, then turn the unit back on by pressing the ON button. This will reset the system.

In some UBA models, an error diagnostic has been added to the self-test indicator. If the associated green light turns on and remains on without pressing the Test button, there may be an issue with the amplifier. Please contact LKC Technologies Customer Support if you have any concerns.

*Note: The Self-Test button does not work if the unit is turned off. The Power / Battery Status indicator must be illuminated for the Self-Test to work.*

#### 2.4.2 UBA 4200c Interface

<span id="page-20-1"></span>When the interface is plugged into the PC, the green light will turn on. If the green light is off, check the connection to the PC. In some UBA models, when the interface is transferring data during data acquisition, the light will flicker. If flickering stops during data collection make sure the amplifier unit is turned on and connected to the interface unit. Please contact LKC Technologies Customer Support if you have any concerns.

## 2.4.3 UBA-4204 Inputs

<span id="page-21-0"></span>UBA-4204 has 1.5 mm male DIN safety connectors (which accommodate connections to most electrodes). The channel connections are indicated on the back label of the Amplifier Unit. It has 4 differential inputs and a ground.



*UBA-4204 Inputs (back label)*

# 2.4.4 Battery Charging

<span id="page-21-1"></span>The UBA-4204 Amplifier Unit is powered by an internal rechargeable Lithium-ion battery. A fully charged battery will allow you to collect data continuously for up to 12 hours. The required time to recharge a fully depleted battery is 8 hours, with ~80% of the charge restored within the first 4 hours.

If the battery is fully depleted (unit will not turn on), recharging the battery for 10 minutes should provide enough charge to operate the unit for approximately ½ hour.

The battery charge indicator is the LED next to the Battery Check symbol on the front of the UBA-4204; it indicates the remaining amount of battery charge.



Battery Check Symbol



#### *Warning: Do not charge the battery while the UBA-4204 Amplifier Unit is connected to a patient.*

To charge the battery, insert the Battery Charger Power Supply connector into the Amplifier Unit directly below the DC Power symbol and plug the power cord into a wall outlet or isolation transformer. The Battery Charger Power Supply can be used with inputs from 100-240V and 50/60 Hz.

DC Power Symbol

#### 2.4.5 Changing The Battery

<span id="page-22-0"></span>The battery is designed to withstand approximately 500 discharge cycles. As this number is approached, the operating time per recharge will decline. If a new battery is required, the amplifier unit will have to be returned to LKC Technologies where trained personnel will install a replacement battery. (Battery replacement is not covered under warranty.) Please contact LKC Technologies Customer Support before returning the amplifier for this service.

*Warning: Use only a genuine replacement battery from LKC Technologies. Use of other batteries may be hazardous.*

### <span id="page-23-0"></span>**2.5 Ganzfeld**

The Full-Field Ganzfeld Stimulator is connected to the system interface unit and controlled by the system's computer. The UTAS system can come with either a SunBurst Ganzfeld or a BigShot Ganzfeld.

#### 2.5.1 **SunBurst**

<span id="page-23-1"></span>SunBurst has a compact size 13.5" W x 10.5" D x 8" H (34.3 cm x 26.7 cm x 20.3 cm) - 5.0 lbs (3.7 kg). It has an ergonomic mounting arm which provides easy adjustment to any patient and a quick disconnect feature and built-in handles for easy positioning over prone patient. The inside of the Ganzfeld can be cleaned with a damp cloth and mild detergent.

SunBurst has a built in camera to monitor the fixation of the patient.



SunBurst uses Red (627 nm), Green (530 nm), Blue (470 nm), Amber (590 nm) and white LEDs (for dim flashes) as well as a Xenon flash. It has a total dynamic flash luminance range of 105 dB (+30 dB to -75 dB) in 1 dB steps. All flash durations are less than 5 ms.

The xenon flash luminance range is 2.5 - 2500 cd-s/m<sup>2</sup> (0 dB to +30 dB).

LED flash luminance is of 2.5  $\cdot$  10<sup>-5</sup> to 160 cd-s/m<sup>2</sup> (-50 dB to +18 dB) in any arbitrary color. LED flash luminance is of -75 dB to -50 dB in white. The background light can be controlled from 10<sup>-6</sup> to 5000 cd/m<sup>2</sup> in 0.01 dB increments in white and from 0.005 to 5000 cd/m<sup>2</sup> in 0.01 dB increments in any color (up to  $4000 \text{ cd/m}^2$  in blue). The intensity tolerance increases for background levels below  $10^{-3}$  cd/m<sup>2</sup>.

The flicker stimuli goes up to  $+20$  dB; 1 Hz repetition rate for intensities  $> +20$  dB

SunBurst also has the capability to produce long duration flash (On/Off response) stimuli programmable to 6.5 seconds in 5 ms increments with adjustable intensity and chromaticity.

An arbitrary waveform capability is also built in using RGB stimuli to 2000 points (10 seconds) per cycle.

SunBurst also has 9 red EOG fixation LEDs in  $\pm 15^{\circ}$  horizontally with brightness adjustable over 20 dB range in 1 dB steps.

# <span id="page-24-0"></span>2.5.2 **BigShot**

BigShot is sized to fit larger animals such as dogs, pigs, cats, etc. It has dimensions of  $19.5$ " (50 cm) H x  $15.5$ " (40 cm) W  $x$  12.5" (32 cm) D and weighs 17 lb (7.7 kg). The inside of the Ganzfeld is not washable. Use compressed air to blow dust particles out. Do not use water.

BigShot uses Red (627 nm), Green (530 nm), Blue (470 nm), Amber (590 nm) and white LEDs (for dim flashes) as well as a Xenon flash. It has a total dynamic flash luminance range of 100 dB  $(+25$  dB to  $-75$  dB) in 1 dB steps. All flash durations are less than 5 ms.

The xenon flash luminance range is  $2.5 - 800$  cd-s/m<sup>2</sup> (0 dB to  $+25$  dB).



LED flash luminance is of 2.5  $\cdot$  10<sup>-5</sup> to 25 cd-s/m<sup>2</sup> (-50 dB to  $+10$  dB) in any arbitrary color. LED flash luminance is of

-75 dB to -50 dB in white. The background light can be controlled from 0.005 to 1000 cd/m<sup>2</sup> in 0.01 dB increments in any color and as low as  $10^{-6}$  cd/m<sup>2</sup>. The intensity tolerance increases for background levels below  $10^{-3}$  cd/m<sup>2</sup>. The background UV stimulation has a maximum of 500  $\text{cd/m}^2$ .

The flicker stimuli goes up to  $+10$  dB; 1 Hz repetition rate for intensities  $> +10$  dB.

BigShot also has the capability to produce long duration flash (On/Off response) stimuli programmable to 6.5 seconds in 5 ms increments with adjustable intensity and chromaticity.

An arbitrary waveform capability is also built in using RGB stimuli to 2000 points (10 seconds) per cycle.

BigShot has 3 red EOG fixation LEDs in  $\pm 15^{\circ}$  horizontally with brightness adjustable over 20 dB range in 1 dB steps.

BigShot has an optional UV stimulator that can be used for flash stimuli and background light to stimulate animal S-Cones (contact LKC if interested in upgrading to UV).

### <span id="page-24-1"></span>**2.6 Pattern Monitor**

The pattern stimulator is controlled by the AGP video card installed in the computer and consists of either a color VGA or DVI LCD or CRT monitor for Pattern VEP / Pattern ERG, or a highbrightness monochrome monitor if selected as an option with Multi-Focal ERG/Multi-Focal VEP. Commands sent by the computer to the video card produce changes in the display on the pattern stimulator screen.

The stimuli have three pattern formats: checkerboards, square wave gratings and sinusoidal gratings. Grating pattern stimuli can be presented vertically or horizontally. Pattern alternation rate can be set at 0.25, 0.5, 1, 1.66, 2, 3.8, 5, 7.5, 15, 25 or 32.5 Hz. Pattern blank can be set to the following on:off ratios: 16:1, 8:1, 4:1, 2:1, 1:1, 1:2, 1:4, 1:8, 1:16. All three pattern formats provide red, green, blue, white and black colors (except for the high brightness monochrome monitor for Multi-Focal ERG testing, which is black and white only). In addition, hemifield (¼, ½) patterns can be displayed, and the pattern contrast can be adjusted from 1% to 100%. Patterns can be presented in either alternating pattern or pattern blank.

# <span id="page-25-0"></span>**2.7 CMGS-1 Color Mini-Ganzfeld Stimulator (optional)**

The optional CMGS-1 Color Mini-Ganzfeld Stimulator consists of two units: the control box and hand-held mini-Ganzfeld. The CMGS-1 is controlled by the system computer via a serial port connection.

Various color LEDs are used to produce red, green, blue, or white stimuli. The intensity of white flash/flicker can be set to the following levels:  $+10$  dB,  $+5$  dB, 0,  $-5$ ,  $-10$ ,  $-15$ ,  $-20$  or  $-25$  dB, while color  $R/G/B$  stimuli can reach a maximum intensity of  $+2$  dB. The background intensity can be set to any of three levels for the white, red, green and blue colors. The CMGS-1 also provides On/Off Response stimuli with W/R/G/B color. A dim red LED is mounted at the back of the mini-Ganzfeld for fixation.

# <span id="page-25-1"></span>**2.8 MGS-2 White-Only Mini-Ganzfeld (optional)**

The optional MGS-2 Mini-Ganzfeld consists of two units: the control box and hand-held mini-Ganzfeld. The MGS-2 is controlled by the system computer via a serial port connection.

A number of bright white LEDs are used to produce the stimulus. The intensity of the stimulus can be set to  $+5$  dB, 0,  $-5$ ,  $-10$ ,  $-15$ ,  $-20$  or  $-25$  dB. The brightness of the background light is fixed to 30cd/m² for flash and flicker stimuli. A dim red LED is mounted at the back of the mini-Ganzfeld for fixation.

# <span id="page-25-2"></span>**2.9 Overall Equipment Interrelations**

**Figures 1 and 2** below are the block diagrams of the system in the two versions (desktop and laptop), showing how the various elements of an UTAS system are interconnected.

The functional paths are

- Signal
- Control
- Display

Signals travel from the patient to the amplifier unit where the signals are converted from Analog to Digital and passed on to UBA-4204 interface. In the UBA-4204, the data is converted and sent to the computer via USB 1.1 connection to the computer. The computer collects signals for digital amplification and filtering, averaging, computing, display, and analysis.

The user utilizes the mouse and keyboard of the computer while the computer controls the pattern monitor stimulator, Ganzfeld or Mini-Ganzfeld, and amplifier unit.

There are three displays in the system: the computer operator display, the pattern monitor stimulator display and the printer. The operator display is controlled by the added video card; the pattern monitor is controlled by the video board that is already on the computer motherboard. The printer is connected via a USB connection.







**List of cables used in UTAS (desktop)**



 **UTAS Cable List (Notebook)**

**Warning: The use of cables other than those specified in these lists may result in increased emissions or decreased immunity of the UTAS.**

## **3.0 Setting Up the System**

### <span id="page-30-1"></span><span id="page-30-0"></span>**3.1 Inventory**

The UTAS testing system consists of a system interface unit, an amplifier unit, a pattern stimulator, a Ganzfeld and/or a mini-Ganzfeld stimulator with a control unit, and a computer with its associated peripherals. The equipment should be arranged on workstations or tables.

Make sure that the patient location is as far as possible from power mains or electromagnetic devices to minimize 60 or 50 Hz electromagnetic interference. Additionally the patient should not be seated where he or she can be touching the Interface Unit or other electrical apparatus during testing. Therefore, the Pattern Stimulator and Ganzfeld Stimulator should be placed on the instrument table that does not contain the Interface Unit. The best arrangement for the UTAS system is where interface unit and Computer Unit are placed on one workstation and the Stimulators on a separate instrument table as follows:

- A. Operator's Station on workstation Computer Operator Monitor Keyboard Mouse Printer UTAS Interface Unit UBA-4204 Interface Unit
- B. Instrument/Patient's Station Video Pattern Stimulator Ganzfeld or Mini-Ganzfeld Stimulator with control unit

Note: The amplifier unit is not listed on either station. It will be worn by the patient during testing.

### <span id="page-30-3"></span><span id="page-30-2"></span>**3.2 Precautions**

### 3.2.1 Power Main Interference

The principal external interfering signal is electrical noise generated by power lines or by electrical equipment connected to power lines. The typical electrical outlet provides a ready source of 110-220 Volts, which is about a million times greater than the amplitude of the ERG. Examples of equipment that generate electrical interference include fluorescent lights, motors (including motorized chairs), and power transformers. Power transformers radiate primarily third harmonic (e.g., 180 Hz). These items produce powerful electromagnetic fields that can induce or couple power line interference into the recordings. The closer the patient and the equipment are to these sources, the more interference will be introduced into the recording equipment. LKC's revolutionary Universal Biomedical Amplifier will cancel most of this interference; however, if the patient leads or amplifier are close enough to power lines or

electrical equipment, power mains interference may be seen in the recordings. Therefore, care should be taken to locate the testing equipment and subject away from any major source of electrical interference.

## 3.2.2 High Frequency Electrical Noise

<span id="page-31-0"></span>Beyond the power lines or equipment such as motors and transformers, electrical noise can be produced by equipment generating noise at radio frequencies. Although one might expect such signals to be filtered out by the amplifier filters, it is possible for this type of noise to generate low frequency artifacts by nonlinearities in the recording equipment and by mixing with other signals. Therefore, care should be exercised to keep the recording equipment and subject away from strong sources of radio frequency interference.

Noisy signals can come from nearby MRI systems. This will create noise and/or unrecordable data.

## 3.2.3 Shielding

<span id="page-31-1"></span>If a location which is free of interfering apparatus cannot be found, it is possible to create simple shielding which can usually control the interference. A shielding material, such as copper or aluminum can be placed below the patient and covered with an anti-static mat or placed around interfering apparatus. The screen and mat, if used, should be securely connected to electrical ground.

# <span id="page-31-2"></span>**3.3 Equipment Interconnections**

The equipment is interconnected as shown in **Figure 1** for a desktop version of the UTAS system and **Figure 2** for a laptop version system. Make certain that the power is off before making any connections. All of the equipment in your UTAS must be connected for the system to function properly.

**Computer to Operator's Monitor**. The desktop system version comes with connections for two monitors. They will be labeled *User's Monitor* and *Pattern Monitor*. Plug the operator's monitor into the connection labeled *User's Monitor*.

**Computer to Pattern Stimulator.** Plug the pattern monitor into the connection labeled *Pattern Monitor*.

**Computer to Printer.** Plug the printer into the labeled USB connector on the computer's rear panel using a standard USB cable.

**Computer to Keyboard.** A cable connects the keyboard to the computer. The keyboard end is permanently attached; the computer end is a plug that can connect to a receptacle or to a USB connector on the back of the computer.

**Computer to Mouse.** A flexible cable connects the mouse to the computer. The mouse end is permanently attached; the computer end is a plug that can connect to a receptacle or to a USB connector on the back of the computer.

**Computer to UTAS System Interface Unit.** A serial port extension cable connects the computer to the UTAS system interface unit. The female end goes to the 9-pin RS232 connector on the back of the computer, and the male end goes to the interface rear panel. A USB cable connects into the back of the interface unit. The other end connects to the labeled USB port on the computer.

**UBA-4204 to UBA-4204 Interface Unit.** Connect using a fiber optic cable (TOSlink). The two ends are interchangeable.

**UBA-4204 Interface Unit to Computer.** Connects via USB 1.1 cable to the back of the computer.

*WARNING: The USB cable should be in the USB port that was specifically labeled for the interface unit. If the USB cable is plugged into another USB port, the computer won't recognize the device*.

**System Interface Unit Ganzfeld (SunBurst or BigShot).** An 8 foot, fiberglass-sleeved cable connects the Ganzfeld's interface to Ganzfeld. The 16-pin plastic connector on the cable goes to the back panel of the system interface unit.

**Computer to CMGS-1/MGS-2 Control Unit (optional).** If the optional CMGS-1 or MGS-2 is included with the system, then a splitting serial cable will be furnished. The female end of this cable goes to the 9-pin RS232 connector on the back of the computer, while one of the two male ends goes to the interface rear panel, and the other goes to the CMGS-1 or MGS-2.

**CMGS-1/MGS-2 Control Unit to Color/White Mini-Ganzfeld (optional)** The Control box end of the mini-Ganzfeld cable has a 25-pin connector, which connects to the rear panel of the box. The other end is permanently attached to the hand-held mini-Ganzfeld head.

**Power Connections**. The equipment requiring connections to AC power of the MGIT include:

- Computer
- Computer Monitor or AC/DC Adaptor if LCD Monitor is used and DC powered
- Printer or AC/DC Adaptor for Printer
- Pattern Stimulator Monitor
- System Interface Unit
- Battery Charger for Patient Amplifier (UBA-4204)
- CMGS-1/MGS-2 Control Unit (optional accessory)

# **IMPORTANT**

*An isolation transformer (MGIT-100) is included to provide additional isolation from the power line ground system. The transformer will limit leakage current to inconsequential levels should there be a failure in the grounding system.*

*NOTE: The Transformer is required to limit the leakage current to established safe levels if there is a failure in the grounding system. No part of the system, except the Isolation Transformer Unit, should be plugged into an A.C. primary (wall) outlet. Other subsystems should be connected to the power receptacles on the Isolation Transformer Unit.* 

*The MGIT-100 should be plugged directly into a designated wall outlet, and not through an intermediate power strip.*

*---*

**WARNING: The installation of any software on the UTAS Windows based computer that is not provided directly by LKC can cause the system to stop functioning, crash unexpectedly, or disrupt the timing of the stimulus presentation and data collection.**

The LKC UTAS Visual Electrophysiology System is a precision standalone medical device. The computer provided with the system has been specifically manufactured and configured for this specific purpose. It is absolutely essential that the timing of the stimulus presentation and data collection not be impeded by any non-LKC provided software products.

The warranty on the UTAS system does not cover problems caused by installation of nonapproved software on the computer. The UTAS system is a medical device that uses a Windowsbased computer. Installation of additional software on the UTAS computer may result in improper operation of the UTAS system. It is the customer's responsibility to ensure that any additional software installed on the UTAS computer does not affect the performance of their UTAS system. LKC is not liable or responsible for improper operation of the UTAS system caused by customer-installed software.

#### **Therefore, LKC strongly recommends that the system be used as a standalone medical device. LKC also strongly recommends that:**

- **1. The user does not change any user privileges or software settings.**
- **2. No non-LKC approved software products be installed on the system**

### **4.0 Before System Use**

<span id="page-34-0"></span>The UTAS system comes with a PC that contains a hard disk drive. All of the UTAS software has been installed on the hard drive, and the recordings will be stored on the hard drive as well. Unfortunately, hard disk drives sometimes fail, and when they do, there may be no way to recover the lost information. For this reason, it is recommended to occasionally backup all important information on disks.

In addition to the UTAS software on hard disk, the software program, EMWin (as well as the MFERG/MFVEP, if applicable) is supplied on one CD-ROM. This is a backup copy in the event that the program on your hard disk becomes corrupted. As a precaution, an additional backup copy of this disk may be made using the rewriteable CD-ROM drive on the system computer. It is recommended that a copy is kept near the UTAS system, and the original is stored in a safe place, preferably in another location.

#### **5.0 Checking UBA-4204 (Amplifier) Response**

<span id="page-35-0"></span>Using the black plastic VerifEye box that was shipped with the system, it is possible to check if the UBA-4204 is working properly.

- $\bullet$  Plug the box's red wire into channel 1+ and the black wire into channel 1-
- $\cdot$  Turn the switch on the box up for ON
- Gently place the box in the Ganzfeld to avoid scratching the paint
- Turn UBA-4204 ON
- $\bullet$  On the computer, start EMWIN -> Perform Test -> ERG -> Standard ERG
- Go to step 2 (0dB scotopic flash)
- In SunBurst Parameters turn the IR LED OFF (Skip this step for BigShot as it doesn't have IR LEDs)
- Click on Baseline and Record Stop Baseline and then Record
- Once the test is finished, remember to turn the IR LED back ON
- Turn switch OFF

The Ganzfeld will deliver a 0 dB flash that will trigger the photo sensor of the pulse box and should show as a 150  $\mu$ V  $\pm$  5% pulse of 35 ms width (see picture below). The IR LEDs are automatically turned on as the system is powered up. They are used in conjunction with the mini webcam to see the eyes of the patients in the dark while recording. The IR LEDs, however, saturate the photo sensor of the check box; hence, they need to be turned off while checking for the pulse.


# **UTAS Hardware**

# **6.0 Checking Ganzfeld Calibration (for SunBurst and BigShot)**

## **6.1 Overview**

The UTAS with SunBurst comes with a calibration checking application. Original calibration values are stored in the memory of the system. The calibration check software allows the user to check new calibration measurements and compare them to the original factory calibration data. Note that there is no way for the user to calibrate any of the light sources; the unit needs to be returned to the factory if such recalibration is determined to be required. Also note that this application is NOT available for BigShot.

SunBurst and BigShot have three different light sources that are used for background and/or flash purposes. Those include dim white LEDs, the red/green/blue LEDS, the amber LEDs and the Xenon Flash.



# **IMPORTANT**

*Calibration check should be performed in a dark room with the Ganzfeld cover on. Also make sure that the fixation LED is turned off during calibration.*

The photometric measurement of most relevance to clinical electrophysiology is the luminance. Luminance is a measure of light per unit area emitted from an extended source or reflecting surface. This measure is independent of distance. Intuitively, one can think of luminance as roughly equivalent to brightness, and as an object is approached, its brightness does not change appreciably. The Système Internationale (SI) unit of luminance is the candela per square meter  $(cd/m<sup>2</sup>)$ . The relation between this measure and older measures of luminance is shown in Table 1 below. For brief flashes of light, such as those used for the flash ERG and VEP, the luminance of the stimulus must be weighted by flash duration, since temporal integration of the neuronal visual pathways is longer than the duration of the flash. Thus, the appropriate unit of timeintegrated luminance for brief flashes of light is  $cd-s/m<sup>2</sup>$ .



1  $\text{nit} = 1$  candel a $\text{cm}^{-2}$ .

#### *Table 1: Luminance Conversion Factors*

Another measure of importance to clinical electrophysiology is retinal illuminance, an estimate of the effective stimulus at the retina. The standard measure of retinal illuminance is calculated by multiplying stimulus luminance by pupillary area. The unit of retinal illuminance is the Troland (td).

The Troland is defined as the retinal illuminance obtained when a stimulus of 1 cd/m<sup>2</sup> is viewed through a pupillary area of 1 square mm (diameter of 1.128 mm). Scotopic Trolands (td') can also be measured using V'*λ* to calculate stimulus luminance.

Flash intensities are often referred to in decibels (dB). The term dB is a relative one, as shown in the equation:

$$
dB = 10 \log \left( \frac{I(x)}{I(0)} \right)
$$

Where  $I(0)$  is the intensity at 0dB and  $I(x)$  is the intensity at x dB. The intensity at 0 dB for all ganzfelds is  $2.5 \text{ cd-s/m}^2$ .

## **6.2 Checking Calibration Using Zenith Software (for SunBurst Only)**

Zenith software will allow the user to run a calibration check. It will measure values of all of the SunBurstSunBurst light sources 10 times and alert the user if the value varies from the initial factory calibration value. If there is more than 1 dB difference in calibration values please contact LKC Technologies.

Note: This is not available with the BigShot Ganzfeld.

Follow the instructions displayed by the Zenith prompt

## **UTAS Hardware**



## Step 1: SunBurstSunBurst ON with cover, Lights OFF Step 2: Click on Test Ganzfeld



Step 3: Review Calibration Values

# **UTAS Hardware**

# **6.3 Checking Calibration On Your Own**

In order to check calibration, the following is required:

 A Model 2550 Digital Radiometer/Photometer for calibrating the dim white flashes as well as the Xenon flashes. Other photometers are acceptable for calibration if they measure light intensity in either candelas per square meter  $(cd/m^2)$  or in foot-Lambert (ft-L). The photometer must also be capable of integrating its response to measure candela-seconds per square meter  $(cd-s/m^2)$  or foot -Lambert-seconds (ft-L-s).

Conversion:

$$
3.426 \frac{cd}{m^2} = 1 ft - L
$$

 A CS-100 Minolta Chroma Meter to check calibration of the Red, Green and Blue LED flashes and background (0-5000 cd/m<sup>2</sup>) and the Amber background.

## 6.3.1 Checking Calibration of Dim White LED

In order to check calibration for the dim white flashes, the DR-2550 should be used in integrating mode. The dim white LEDs have such low luminance that they have to be integrated over a large period of time.

- Place the photometer probe pointed at the back of the Ganzfeld and set it to integrating mode
- Set background light to -50 dB
- Turn off the lights and cover Ganzfeld with its cover.
- Measure background light

## 6.3.2 Checking Calibration of Xenon Flash

In order to check calibration for the dim white flashes, the DR-2550 should be used in integrating mode.

- Place the photometer probe pointed at the back of the Ganzfeld and set it to integrating mode
- Turn off the lights and cover the Ganzfeld with its cover.
- Fire the Xenon flash at 10dB and measure in ft-L-s

# 6.3.3 Checking Calibration of Color LEDs

In order to check calibration for the color LEDs, the CS-100 Chroma Meter is needed.

Colors green, red and blue LEDs are used for background light and flash. It is fair to assume that if the calibration of intensity and color coordinate is correct for background light, it will also be correct for flashes.

- Set the background light of Ganzfeld to the coordinate that is to be measured (intensity and x, y coordinate for color)
- Turn lights off
- Place the Chroma Meter inside of the Ganzfeld, making sure the image is in focus and set on cd/m 2
- Read measurement and compare it to the intensity and color coordinate desired.

# **6.4 Replacing Background or Flash Lamps/LEDs**

LEDs and Xenon tubes can only be changed in factory at LKC Technologies, Inc. Please contact the LKC support line to get information on how to send your system.

# **UTAS Hardware**

# **7.0 External Triggers (Input and Output)**

The rear of the LKC Interface Unit contains two BNC connectors labeled Trigger In and Trigger Out. These connectors allow for the connection of external stimulators to the UTAS system. This section will provide some information necessary to connect external stimulators to the UTAS system.

Trigger In and Trigger Out are default to positive going TTL unless specified otherwise at time of purchase. Contact LKC for information on how to change trigger polarity.

## **7.1 Triggering External Equipment – Trigger Out**

The BNC connector marked Trigger Out on the back of the Interface can be used to trigger an external piece of equipment. The trigger signal is a positive going TTL compatible output of approximately 1 ms duration.

A signal appears at the Trigger Out BNC whenever SunBurstSunBurst or BigShot produces a flash. In case of an ON/OFF response, the trigger will go low at the start of the stimulus and will go high again once the stimulus is over.

**Note that the Trigger IN should be providing the voltage through a 1k resistor to the UTAS Interface.**

## **7.2 Receiving Triggers from External Equipment – Trigger In**

If you have a stimulator that can provide a trigger signal to the UTAS Interface, data may be recorded using that stimulator. The BNC connector marked *Trigger Out* on the back of the interface can be used to receive triggers from an external piece of equipment. Note that the Trigger IN should provide the voltage through a 1k resistor to the UTAS Interface.

*Please contact LKC Technologies, Inc. before connecting any external equipment to the Trigger In or Out connector of the Interface Unit.*

*Warning If the stimulators are not connected properly to the Interface Unit, damage may result to either the Interface Unit or to your stimulator. If there are any doubts, please contact LKC before proceeding.* 

# **UTAS Hardware**

# **8.0 Cleaning The System Between Patients**

# **8.1 Cleaning Reusable Burian-Allen Contact Lens Electrodes**

Clean the electrode with a 50/50 mixture of liquid Tide detergent (or any mild detergent) and distilled water (note that letting tears dry on the lens after testing makes them very difficult to remove!). The water used to soak them should not be acidic (i.e. "hard" water), as it will cause the electrolysis between the solder (tin/zinc), which will turn the silver black. If left over a weekend it will fall apart and have to be reconditioned. The electrode may then be rinsed off with tap water. Rinsing will not cause electrolysis, as soaking for extended periods of time in hard water will.

After cleaning the Burian-Allen electrode, it can be disinfected with 1:10 bleach method for 5 minutes (no longer). Using the same soapy water mixture, the silver on the electrode can be scrubbed lightly with a toothbrush (only the silver, make sure not to scrub the wire spring). This should be followed by a thorough rinse. Note that the electrode should not be exposed to the bleach for more than 5 minutes (longer can cause the silver to turn brown), and the concentration of the bleach should be 0.5%, not 5% (straight Clorox is 5.25%). Also note that some deterioration of the electrode will occur over time, even when this method is used properly.

The Burian-Allen electrode can also be disinfected with activated dialdehyde (Glutaraldehyde), sold under the trade names Cidex, CabcoCide and Sporcide. All of these will have usage instructions on the containers, which should be followed. Note that LKC quality control engineers have soaked the electrode in activated dialdehyde for over 4 days and noticed no visible effects.

A third method of disinfecting is to use Ethylene Oxide at 125 degrees Fahrenheit. The heat will not harm the electrode.

To check the electrode for damage, check the ring, the speculum inner edge, the speculum outer edge, the speculum surface, and the lens edge (for chips). If the electrode is damaged and needs repair, please contact LKC.

## *Note: ERG-Jets and DTL electrodes are disposable. This cleaning method does NOT apply to them.*

## **8.2 Cleaning the Forehead Rest**

The patient's forehead will come into contact with the Ganzfeld forehead rest during testing. The forehead rest should be cleaned and disinfected between uses to prevent the spread of skin infections.

The simplest method of cleaning and disinfecting the forehead rest is to wipe it thoroughly with a 70% isopropyl alcohol solution. Using a disinfecting wipe is a good way to do this. You may also clean the forehead rest using a glutaraldehyde solution.

## **9.0 Introduction**

The software permitted to run the system is called EMWIN; it handles all of the details of performing a test – presenting a stimulus, collecting and analyzing the data, storing results, and printing a report. This section of the manual details the use of the EMWIN software system, version 9.4.0.

This manual assumes familiarity with the basic operations of Windows  $XP^{\circledast}$ . If this is not the case, please refer to the manual that came with the computer.

## **10.0 Using the System**

## **10.1 Starting and Quitting the System**

To start using the system, first turn on the power of the MGIT-100 (Medical Grade Isolation Transformer). Then make sure all peripherals are on (pattern monitor, printer, user monitor, CMGS-1/MGS-2 if applicable), and turn on the computer.

Once the computer boots the EMWIN software will automatically open up to the main menu.

To turn off the system click on **QUIT** in EMWIN main menu, turn off the computer by going to Start -> Turn OFF Computer -> Turn OFF.

Once the computer has powered down, power off the MGIT-100 this will turn all the peripherals off as well.

#### **10.2 The Main Menu**

The **Main Menu** is used to access all of EMWin's features. The four sections are Perform Tests, Create Reports, Design and Manage Protocols and Utilities.

While the Protocols or Utilities functions may not be used on a daily basis, it is still necessary to understand their functions.

*TESTS***:** Clicking on this button will allow the user to perform all visual electrodiagnostic tests that the instrument is configured for. This segment of the program



allows for the collection and storage of data and will be the most frequently used function of EMWin.

*REPORTS***:** This module allows the user to not only print reports, but also analyze the data. Stored data can be recalled and displayed before being analyzed and the reports printed out.

*PROTOCOLS***:** EMWin allows the user to design their own testing protocols. This part of the program allows for the specification of the individual parameters to create specific protocols.

*UTILITIES***:** This section of the program allows the user to change the practice information, edit data and databases, and change the system setup.

## **10.3 Setting Preferences in Utilities**

Although the software and hardware for the LKC Visual Electrodiagnostic Test System are, for the most part, set up at the factory before shipping, there are a few tasks that must be performed to complete the setup procedure.

## 10.3.1 Entering the Report Header

EMWin will print out up to four lines of text at the top of each printed report. This text is normally the name and address of the practice, but it may be any other four lines of text wanted. In order for EMWin to print out this information, the information must be provided in this section.

From the Main Menu, click on **Utilities** and choose **Change Practice Information.** A Text Fill-In menu will appear that will allow the user to specify the name and



address to appear at the top of the report. (If this information is left blank, no information will be printed.) Each line may have no more than 32 characters in it, so plan the header carefully. Because this information will appear at the top of every report that is printed, make sure that there are no errors.

## 10.3.2 Creating the Storage Database

EMWin allows for the creation of Access **databases** in which waveforms can be stored. All of the waveforms in one database are hidden from the waveforms in other databases. One method for organizing the files is to create different databases to store them. EMWin will allow the user to specify which database is to be used to store and retrieve waveforms. All of the waveforms in this database are unique and different from those in other databases. For example, it is possible to

have several subdirectories called data2007, data2008, data2009, etc. Waveform number 1 in data2008 is totally unrelated to waveform number 1 in data2009.

Although each database can theoretically hold an unlimited number of waveforms, the search performance of the computer slows when there are more than a few thousand waveforms in a single database. Therefore, it is recommended to take some time to decide how to organize the storage of waveforms. Depending on how many waveforms will be recorded per month, there can be different database for each month or each year, or per different studies…

Select **Utilities** from the **Main Menu**, and then choose **Create New Database** and **Standard Database** from the popup menu. A screen will then allow for the naming of the new database.

## **NOTE: The database should only contains letters A-Z or a-z and/or numbers 0-9 (no spaces allowed)**

Once the database has been created, don't forget to select it to start storing waveforms in the created database. See the next section for selecting a database.

## 10.3.3 Selecting the Storage Database

EMWin allows the user to store waveforms in different databases. To select which database to work with, select **Utilities** from the **Main Menu**. Choose **Select Database and Standard Database** from the popup menu. A screen appears that lets the user choose the database desired and also informs them of the current database. This selection determines the location where test data will be stored, as well as which database

will be called when reports are created.



EMWin's Main Menu automatically displays the current database in use.



## 10.3.4 Selecting the Date Format

The date format is defaulted to MM/DD/YYYY; however, the date format may be changed to DD/MM/YYYY by going into Utilities and System Set-Up.



## 10.3.5 Selecting the Screen Size

The software can be matched to the current screen resolution to maximize the waveform display. See preferences window in section 10.3.4

## 10.3.6 Selecting the OP Filter

The software can be used with custom OP filters. The software is preloaded with the following OP filter frequencies: 45 Hz (Mouse), 75 Hz (Human), 100 Hz, 125 Hz, and 150 Hz. To use any of the filters, select them from the dropdown list (see preferences window in section 10.3.4). If user defined filters would like to be used (up to 500 Hz), simply type in the drop down box the filter frequency desired.

## **10.4 More on Utilities**

Initial set up of preferences for Practice Information, Database and Date format are covered on section 10.3.

The next section of the manual will be devoted to covering the remainder of the Utilities menu.



# 10.4.1 Backing Up Databases

**Utilities -> Database Tools -> Backup Current Database**. It is good practice to frequently backup the data. How often depends on how much data is willing to be lost. To backup a whole database, go to Utilities -> Backup Database. Select the database to backup (the currently used database is displayed on the bottom part of the main menu).

Highlight the database to be backed up and then select which location it should be saved in by using the "save in" dropdown list at the top (CD, USB dongle…). The data can be burned onto a CD or copied to a memory USB dongle.

# 10.4.2 Editing a Database / Patient Information

**Utilities -> Database Tools -> Edit Current Database.** It's possible to change the information in the database; to delete waveforms and edit patient information. For example, if a patient was tested and the patient's last name was accidentally misspelled, the problem can be fixed by going to edit current database, finding the waveform of the patient (by using the waveform number) and clicking on edit patient information. There, it is possible to edit: first name, last name, date of birth, label of the eye (R, L, OD, and OS), diagnosis and comments. Then proceed to the next waveform that needs editing.

# 10.4.3 Editing the Diagnosis List

When entering the patient information, it is possible to select a diagnosis to associate with the patient data. A new diagnosis can be selected from the drop down list or typed directly in the patient information window (the program will automatically add to the diagnosis list). However, if you need to edit or delete some of diagnosis you will need to go to **Utilities -> Edit the Diagnosis List**.

10.4.4 System Preferences

The following can be changed to the system preferences:

*Print Font Style (Difference Row)* - This specifies the difference row of the cursor printout in bold or italic. Note that the choice is possible only when Print Cursor with Label is not checked

#### *Print Cursor with Label*

If "with label" is not selected then labels will not be able to be placed on the cursors. If it is selected, the labels will appear next to the cursors on the printout.



If "save to file" is selected, then the cursors labels will be saved. Each time the cursor window is opened, the last label entered will automatically be written in the label area.

#### *Remote*

This would enable the remote function. This will allow the user to automatically step through steps of the protocols (any of the standard protocols or one of the user defined protocols).

This function has to be used wisely, if not enough time is given for the recording to occur or to save, the remote function will not work properly



System Setup contains all information specific to the system and should not be changed unless indicated by an LKC Technologies engineer.

## **10.5 Performing a Test**

This section covers procedures that are common to all tests run using the UTAS.

## 10.5.1 Selecting a Test

To perform a test with the EMWin system, click on **Tests** from the Main Menu, and choose the test to be performed. The options are:

- Electroretinogram
- Electro-oculogram
- Visual Evoked Response
- User Defined Protocol

After the type of test that you wish to perform has been selected, another menu will appear asking for the specific test to perform. Click on the appropriate test from that menu.



## 10.5.2 Patient Information

After the test has been chosen, EMWin will provide a screen to enter patient information. It is important to stay consistent in the format of entered information, otherwise, data analysis and retrieval could be more difficult.

If more than one test is going to be run, the demographic information from the last patient tested will appear as the default values for the next test. To clear this information, simply click on the **Clear** button at the bottom of the menu. This will delete all information and allow new patient information to be stored. Fill in all of the items deemed appropriate (it is not *required* that all fields be filled).

Depending on whether the test subjects are animals or humans, there can be two different patient information windows. EMWin is defaulted to the human information window. If the animal version is required, go to **My computer -> C:\EMWIN**, open the **temp** folder, and rename the file **Animal\_Demographics.txt** to **Demographics.txt**.



When the data is retrieved after testing, the patient information entered can be used to make data retrieval easier. The searchable items are marked with an asterisk. (\*)

*Last Name\*, First Name\*, Middle Initial\* -* The first letter of names does not have to be capitalized, since EMWin will automatically capitalize them when data is stored. There is space for 16 characters in both **Last Name** and **First Name** and 2 characters in **Middle Initial**.

*Sex\* and Birthdate\* -* The **Sex** field should be entered with either M or F. The **Birthdate** field should be in the following format: MM/DD/YYYY. See section 10.3.4 on instructions how to change the date format to DD/MM/YYYY. EMWin will flash an error message if the Birthdate is incorrectly formatted. Note that if an impossible date (such as 02/32/1975) is entered, EMWin will not alert the user.

*Identification\* -* There is space for 16 characters in the **Identification** field. Any alphanumeric combination can be used for this information. It could be the patient's Social Security number, or their medical ID code.

*Pupils Dilated -* Record in this field whether the patient's pupils were dilated with mydriatic for this test.

*Diagnosis -* A diagnosis can be typed into this field or choose one from the pull-down menu. The typed diagnosis will be automatically remembered and added to the list. The list can be edited to add or remove or correct spelling by going into **Utilities** and **Edit the Diagnosis List** (see section 10.4.3).

*Electrode Type -* For ERG testing, choose the type of the electrode used in the test from the drop down list.

*Dark Adapt Time -* Record the amount of time that the patient was dark adapted before ERG testing.

*Other\* -* This field allows any additional information to be recorded. When the records are retrieved, this field is searchable. Thus, it may be useful for recording information such as participation in studies.

*Database –* This window show the current database where the data will be stored. Another database can be selected from the pull down menu. However, to permanently store the data in a database other than the one defaulted; it must be changed in the **Utilities** tab. Refer to section 10.3.3 for instruction on how to "Select the Storage Database".

*Comment -* Enter comments here about the patient that will be stored with the data. There is no restriction in length. Typical comments might include symptoms the patient presented with, referring physician, or classification in a study group.

*The "Continue" button -*When you have completed all of entries, click on this button to continue.

*The "Cancel" button -* This will return the screen back to the main menu.

*The "Clear" Button* - This will clear out all of the information in the fields.

*The "Search + Fill" button –* This will search the current waveform database for matches. Fill in the patient's Last Name and click on this button. If the system finds a match, it will fill in the remaining items based on the information stored in the database. If no matches are found, a notice will appear, and the information may be entered manually.

# 10.5.3 Channel Information

Once the patient information has been entered, click the continue button, and the channel information menu will appear. Select the number of channels to be recorded from and place the Label for each channel.

The software defaults R in channel 1 and L in channel 2 for ERG and Oz in channel 1 for VEP. Note that for VEP testing you will also need to select the eye to be tested.



**If only one eye is tested, channel 1 should be used regardless of which eye is being tested.** 

## **10.6 Icons and Menus**

## 10.6.1 Parameters

By clicking on parameters in the upper menu bar or the large A icon, or the light bulb icon, the parameter window will open.



The parameters window contains four tabs: SunBurstSunBurst Flash, Averaging, Amplifiers and Timebase.

## *SunBurstSunBurst/BigShot Flash Parameters*

This window allows the user to change the flash color, intensity, flicker rate as well as the background light intensity and fixation light.



There are 4 different options for the Ganzfeld flashes:

- 1. Single Flash
- 2. Double Flash
- 3. Flicker
- 4. On/Off

The range of the intensities depends on the stimulus source (LED, Xenon or UV if applicable) For LED flashes, the x, y coordinate of color can be entered according to the CIE color diagram below. Note that only colors within the inner triangle can be achieved.



## *CIE Color Diagram*

In order to produce:

- Pure red LED stimulus enter  $x = 1$ ,  $y = 0$
- 
- Pure blue LED stimulus enter  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 0$ <br>- Pure green LED stimulus entre  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 1$ - Pure green LED stimulus entre

## *Pattern Parameters*



In the case that a pattern stimulator is being used, the icons above will appear. The Checkerboard icon will open the pattern parameters.

**Seconds of Pre-Adapt** specifies how long the pattern will alternate before the actual recording starts.



# *Averaging Parameters*



The Averaging Menu will appear, allowing the modification of the following options:

- Number of sweeps to average
- The number of seconds to delay between sweeps. At least 5 10 seconds between flashes is necessary for scotopic testing to avoid light-adapting the subject during averaging. To manually reject waveforms, it is recommended that this be set to at least 2 seconds.
- Number of sweeps to acquire between screen displays of averaged waveform data.
- Threshold for rejecting artifacts. This option allows automatic rejection of waveforms during averaging that exceed an amplitude criterion. If zero is entered, the artifact reject option is disabled. If the artifact reject threshold is set to a value that is higher than the input range of your chosen amplifier gain setting, EMWin will instruct the user to lower the artifact reject threshold.

- Whether or not to display each waveform as it is acquired. For single flash ERGs, each response is usually viewed as it is generated. However, for VEP tests, each individual response is typically meaningless since it is usually embedded in noise. To manually inspect waveforms and reject them individually, each waveform must be displayed as it is acquired.
- Store individual sweeps. Typically, EMWin only stores the final average of all sweeps from one test, and the raw responses that make up the average are discarded. If **Store Individual Sweeps** is selected, all raw responses will be stored in the database as well (up to 30 responses). In Report mode the raw responses be included or rejected from the averaging process. Using this feature adds an additional step of manually choosing each response when preparing reports.

Setting any of these parameters to "0" disables that option.

## *Amplifier Parameters*



This selection is used to change the amplifier gain or filter settings for the protocol.

# **If the default values of the High Cut and Low Cut filters are changed, the waveform may significantly be altered.**

The "Notch Filter" will selectively reduce 60 or 50 Hz powerline interference. Typically, excessive powerline interference can be reduced by better electrode placement or by moving the patient away from powerline sources. However, the notch filter can be turned ON if all other noise reduction techniques fail.

## *Timebase Parameters*



 *Sample Rate and Sweep Frequency* - This screen allows the user to control the sampling frequency (default is 2 kHz). This sample rate can be entered in Hertz or in Sweep length (milliseconds). A single recording sweep always includes 512 samples.

If the Sample Rate is changed, the Sweep Length will automatically be updated and visa-versa.

 *Pre-Stimulus Baseline* - A Pre-Stimulus Baseline allows the user to adjust the amount of data to be collected before the stimulus is presented. Typically, this is used to indicate the amount of baseline noise present just prior to a flash stimulus.

#### **A "Pre-Stimulus Baseline" cannot be entered when performing a flicker test and the software will automatically set this parameter to 0 if attempted.**





*Brightness* - If the patient is having trouble seeing the Red LEDs, the brightness of the LEDs can be set to a higher setting.

*Duration* - The duration of the recording time is 15 sec, meaning that the LEDs will alternate from right to left for every first 15 sec of each minute.

*Frequency* - If the patient has problems following the LEDs, the alternation frequency can be slowed.

*Auto Save Sweeps* – The raw data of every sweep can be saved to file. The files will be saved under C:\EMWIN\EOGData. The sweeps will be saved as sweep 001.txt and so on up to sweep\_999.txt

The settings in EOG recording time are preset to the ISCEV standard and usually do not need to be changed. However if the patient has reached the lower value in the dark adapt time, the time may be shortened while the test is being run. If the patient has reached the peak in the light-adapt phase, the test can be stopped; all information needed has been recorded.

The EOG backgrounds are set to low for Pre-adapt and Medium for Light-adapt. According to ISCEV standard the eyes of the patient must be dilated for EOG, so it is not recommended to use the high intensity background on dilated eyes.

*Display Scale* - If the data seems too large for the window, change the display scale to a lower setting.

*Custom Intensity Background Light* - for UTAS SunBurst and BigShot user, the light adapt phase can be set to a custom intensity; just select Custom in the Light Adapt drop down list and type in the desired value.



## 10.6.2 Analyze

Once waveforms are displayed, many analysis features can be implemented. For each function, the system will ask which waveforms are to be acted on.



#### *Smooth* –



*Smoothing* can be achieved by going to *Analyze -> Smooth* or by clicking on the following icon.

The smoothing algorithm is useful for removing excess high frequency noise from a waveform. The smoothing procedure consists of replacing each point in the waveform by the average of the surrounding 11 points (five on each side plus the point itself). This process acts as a high-cut filter that preserves the latency of all of the features of the waveform. If smoothing the

waveform once does not provide sufficient noise reduction, the smoothing operation can be performed multiple times.

## **Warning: Smoothing a single flash ERG waveform will remove any oscillatory potentials and may change the initial slope of the a-wave.**

#### *Baseline Correct*

*Baseline Correct* can be achieved by going to *Analyze -> Baseline Correct* or by clicking on the icon.

The purpose of baseline correction is to remove any slope or ultra-low frequency noise from the data that might interfere with estimating amplitudes. Baseline correction is accomplished by performing a linear regression on the data and subtracting the resulting line from the waveform. If the stimulus is flickering, the slope of the line is estimated from the entire waveform; otherwise it is estimated from the pre-stimulus baseline. Thus, if a waveform has an overall upward slope, baseline correction will remove it. If the waveform goes first up and then down (or vice-versa), the baseline correction function may not be useful.

*Invert* î⇒l

*Invert* can be achieved by going to *Analyze -> Invert* or by clicking on the icon.

A waveform may be inverted (make positive-going potentials appear below baseline and negative-going potentials appear above baseline). This feature is useful if you wish to make the waveform appear as if you had interchanged the + and - connections to the patient amplifiers. It is also useful for subtracting waveforms. (See Add Waveforms)

## *Add Waveforms*



*Add Waveforms* can be achieved by going to *Analyze -> Add Waveforms* or by clicking on the icon.

Two or more waveforms may be added together by selecting Add Waveforms. All of the waveforms chosen will be added together and will replace waveform 1 on the screen. (The original waveforms will be removed, leaving only the summed waveform.)

Two waveforms can be subtracted by first inverting one of them (see Inverting Waveforms above) and then adding the two together. For example, it is possible to subtract a Scotopic Red ERG from a matched Scotopic Blue ERG to remove the cone contribution and obtain a good estimate of the isolated rod ERG.

## *Off-Line Average*



*Off-Line Average* can be achieved by going to *Analyze -> Off-Line Average* or by clicking on the icon.

It is possible to retrieve and average waveforms that have previously been stored to disk. This process is called off-line averaging. First, open all of the waveforms to be averaged, placing all of them on the screen at one time. Then select Off-Line Average. All of the waveforms chosen

will be averaged together and will replace waveform 1 on the screen. (The original waveforms will be removed, leaving only the averaged waveform.)

*Remove Interference* - Sometimes, despite all precautions, a recording will contain some power line interference. If desired, EMWin will estimate the amount of power line interference in the waveform and remove it. Of course, after the waveform is stored, there's no way to know how much of the signal at the power line frequency (60 or 50 Hz) is noise and how much is part of the original signal, so EMWin subtracts all of it out. Except for 30 Hz flicker (where there may be a substantial real component at 60 Hz), this subtraction should cause no problems.

Removing power line interference after the test has been performed can clean up a waveform that has some noise in it, but it will not rescue an otherwise uninterpretable waveform. If the power line interference is larger than the original signal, the waveform should be discarded.

## *Analyze Oscillatory Potentials*



Analyze Oscillatory Potentials can be performed from *Analyze -> Oscillatory potentials* or by clicking on the icon.

Oscillatory potentials (OPs) are fast wavelets on the ascending edge of the b-wave of the flash ERG. They have been shown to be a good predictor of progression of neovascularization in patients with diabetic retinopathy or with central retinal vein occlusion (CRVO). There are two methods to obtain OPs from the EMWin system.

The first method that can be used to extract OPs (and the one that LKC recommends) is to record the flash ERG with the low-cut filter set normally, and use the software filtering system to extract the OPs. The software filtering method results in a more accurate representation of both the amplitude and latency of the individual OP wavelets.

To use the EMWin software to determine oscillatory potentials, record the OPs using the either the Standard or the Bright Flash ERG protocol (The Standard protocol follows the ISCEV guidelines for recording oscillatory potentials, while the Bright Flash protocol more closely approximates the technique of Bresnick et al.). Store the raw waveforms. Click on *Analyze* and select *Analyze Oscillatory Potentials*. After the waveforms from which to extract Ops have been chosen, EMWin will filter the waveforms and display them on the screen. The waveforms may then be stored again.

After the waveforms have been filtered to extract OPs, EMWin will ask if to automatically place cursors on the OP wavelets. If this is desired, click *Yes*. The program will then place cursors on the oscillatory potentials (at its best guess for the maximum and minimum for each one) and will determine the summed OP amplitude. EMWin will place up to 10 cursors on up to 5 OP wavelets. To access the cursors of these wavelets, use the *Cursors* option from the Reports Menu. The summed OP amplitude will be reported at the top of each analyzed waveform.

The second method is to record the flash ERG with the low cut filter of the patient amplifiers set to 75 Hz. The 75 Hz filter will remove the low-frequency components of the ERG, leaving only

the higher frequency components, including the oscillatory potentials. (Step 3 of the Standard ERG Protocol implements this filtering.)

The cursors may also be manually placed on the Ops by selected Cursors from the Reports tab or the button bar.

#### *Flicker Amplitude and Timing*

*Flicker Amplitude and Timing* can be performed from *Analyze -> Flicker Amplitude and Timing* or by clicking on the following icon.

EMWin provides a means of determining the implicit time and amplitude of the flicker electroretinogram. This technique only works for flicker rates of 20 Hz or faster. The implicit time estimates are derived somewhat differently from the normal technique of placing the cursor at the peak of the response. The technique used by EMWin estimates implicit time based on finding the center of the response; this technique has been proven effective in prediction of neovascularization of the iris in central retinal vein occlusion. (CRVO)

To automatically determine implicit time and amplitude of a flicker ERG, click on *Analyze* and select *Flicker Amplitude and Timing*. Select each waveform to analyze. The analysis will then be performed.

After the analysis is complete, the estimates of Amplitude and Implicit Time (abbreviated *Ampl.*  on the screen) will be displayed. This technique does not affect the placement of cursors on the waveform, nor does it place any cursors of its own.

#### *Retinal Ischemia Monitor*

#### This can be found under *Analyze -> Retina Ischemia Monitor*

The *Retina Ischemia Monitor* (RIM) algorithm developed under a grant from the National Institutes of Health, analyzes 30 Hz flicker ERG waveforms to provide information about the extent of ischemia (inadequate blood supply) in the retina. Implicit time provides more information than amplitude. The implicit time reported by Retinal Ischemia Monitor is not the same as the implicit time of the peak of the waveform.

## *Fast Fourier Transform*

*Fast Fourier Transform* can be performed from *Analyze -> Fast Fourier Transform* or by clicking on the following icon.

The Fast Fourier Transform is computed for selected waveforms, giving information on specific frequency components of waveform data. It is possible to determine the amplitude and phase of a specific component using the mouse.

## 10.6.3 Undo

This will remove all the analysis that was performed on the waveforms prior to saving (smooth, analyze OP, auto scale….)

# 10.6.4 Graph Properties

These options control how the data is displayed on the graph.

*Show Normal* - This function will write the upper and lower normal limits of the standard ERG adjusted to the age of the current patient. This function is toggled on/off to add/remove the normal data from the waveforms. LKC only provides normal values for the standard 5 step ERG protocol.

*Auto Scale -* This will expand all waveforms to fit closely within the waveform's axes. Although the Auto Scale feature make waveforms look larger in amplitude, these large amplitudes can be deceiving, since even small-amplitude signals will be expanded to fit the entire graph. Please use this feature with caution when analyzing waveforms.

*Line Thickness -* This option allows the user to choose from among Thin, Thick, and Extra Thick for the thickness of the line. The default is Thin. Thicker lines may be useful for easier visualization, especially on printouts and faxes.

*Data Layout* - This allows the data to be displayed as separate data sets or overlapping data sets.

*Setup Normal Data* - This allows practice-specific normal data to be entered for the standard 5 step ERG protocol so that it displays when "show normal" is selected. It is recommended that each institute develop their own normal data. Normal data differs for each electrodes type (ERG-Jet, Burian Allen…) particularly in amplitudes. Only use this feature for 5 step ERG protocols.





*Show Flicker Labels -* Choose whether the data displayed as separate data sets or overlapping data sets. This is a check ON/OFF options. It is set as always ON; hence each flash will be represented by an upside down triangle on the flicker waveform.

# 10.6.5 Retrieve

*Search -*This option returns the screen back to the Patient Information Screen and allows a new search to be performed.

*Next* - Selecting Next will display the next waveform(s) stored in the current database.

*Previous -* Selecting Previous will display the previous waveform(s) stored in the current database.

*Re-Read* - Clicking on Re-Read will redisplay the current waveform. This is especially useful when analyzing data and the original, unedited data is needed.

*Add More* - Clicking on Add More will open the search waveform window and allow adding more waveforms to the report.

## 10.6.6 Record

This will open a window streaming the real time data: baseline.

Running the baseline is the first action to do when starting a test. Once this button is clicked, real time acquisition of data is observed. A good baseline be reasonably flat and should not have 50/60 Hz cycle noise.

*Baseline* – starts streaming real time data, click stop to stop the baseline recording.

*Record* – From the baseline menu it is possible to start recording immediately by clicking on Record Data



*Impedance Test (ONLY AVAILABLE ON EPIC-4000 and UTAS-3000 SYSTEMS)* – allows the impedance of the electrode to be tested. This is useful once the electrodes are placed on the patient. The lower the measured impedance is the better the electrode-patient contact, which relates to a better recording. If there is a high impedance value (higher than 40 kΩ), consider reapplying the electrodes, adding more gel or cream, or cleaning the skin as appropriate.

## 10.6.7 Store

This stores the waveforms in the currently selected database. Choose to save all displayed waveforms or select the one to be saved. The waveforms are saved back to back and l rom I given a number. The latest saved waveforms will be the waveform with the highest waveforms number in the database.

10.6.8 Step

To proceed to another step in the protocol, click on step. Select **Step Forward** to proceed to the next step in the protocol, or select **Step Backward** to proceed to the previous step. The appropriate stimulus conditions and step number for the step will appear at the bottom of the screen.



There are several ways to move forward and backward. Use either

the big arrow icons, pointing left to move backward pointing right to move forward or by clicking on Step then Forward or Backward or Step To to jump to any of the steps in the protocol. Finally, it is possible to use the keyboard F3 to go backward and F4 to go forward.



The text at the bottom of the screen indicates if the current waveforms have been stored.

## 10.6.9 Place Cursors

 $\frac{1}{2}$ In order to measure the amplitude and time of specific locations of waveforms, use the **Place Cursors** feature. It is possible to place up to 10 cursors on each waveform, although only two or four cursors for a single response are typical.



- A new box (picture above) will be shown at the bottom of the screen, which indicates that the cursors will be placed on **Waveform 1**. Also, notice that a set of cross hairs is placed on the first (top) waveform on the screen.
- Left-Click on the waveform on which you want to place cursors on.
- EMWIN will automatically select **Cursor 1** to start with, which indicates that cursor 1 is the cursor to be placed on the waveform.

- Use the Left Arrow  $(\leftarrow)$  and Right Arrow  $(\rightarrow)$  keys to slowly scroll through a waveform. As the cross-hair moves, the amplitude and time data will automatically update. Hover the mouse arrow over the point to place the cursor and left click on the mouse, this will also place the cursors.
- To move through a waveform faster, use the **Page Up** and **Page Down** keys.
- When the cross-hair is located at the data point of your choice, press the **Enter** key. This will place a marker on that waveform. Use the **Place Cursor** button at the bottom of the screen.
- After **Enter** is pressed, notice that the selected option is now **2**, since EMWin assumes the cursors will be placed in sequential order.

#### 10.6.10 Print

The currently displayed waveforms can be printed to any standard Windows printer. After clicking Print (from either the menu option or the toolbar button), a Print Preview of your data will appear, showing how the data will appear when printed. Words that may appear jumbled on the preview screen will be expanded to appear normal on the printout. Double-click the image to zoom in or double-click the right mouse button to zoom out. To print the data, click on the **Print** button.

The first page will have the patient name, their birthdate, the waveform pictures, and the first few cursors for each waveform. It also shows amplifier settings, number of average waveforms and other stimulus information. If many cursors have been placed they will show on the second page named Waveform Details. The third page contains all the patient information, comments entered and all analysis routines that have been performed on each waveform.

The user also has the option of printing the report to a pdf format. After clicking the Print (from the menu option or toolbar button), the same Print Preview appears. Click on the Print button at the bottom of the screen after the pages desired have been selected. Another window will appear, where the printer to be used can be selected. The program CutePDFWriter has been preinstalled on the computer and should be used to save the report as a pdf. Select the CutePDFWriter as the printer in the scroll down menu, and press print. Instead of printing, a save as box will appear where the destination and name of the report can be entered.



#### *Note:*

*If printing data from two different patients on the same printout, the patient information at the top of the printout (name, date of birth, etc.) corresponds to the data from the first waveform only.*

*If printing with the purpose of faxing the waveforms, the lines will need to be thickened (see section 10.4.4). Graph Properties -> Line Thickness -> Thick*

#### 10.6.11 Update Patient Information

This allows the user to change the patient information or enter comments during recording. The changes need to be made before the waveform is saved to the database.

#### 10.6.12 Change Eye



This icon allows the user to view the number of channels that are being used at that time. From this window, the labels for the channels (automatically filled in as R in channel one and L in channel two) can be changed.

# 10.6.13 Measure Interference



The measure interference button collects one sweep of data from each channel and determines the amount of main interference (50 Hz or 60 Hz, depending on configuration); measured in µV. (Higher numbers are worse.) The information will dictate whether a good recording from the patient can be obtained. Excessive interference is often caused by poor electrode contact, so if the interference value is high, check the electrode contact and re-measure.

## 10.6.14 Red Background Light



This will turn the background light of the Ganzfeld on red as well. This is meant to help assist the technician when placing the electrodes without ruining dark adaptation of the patient.

# **10.7 Creating Reports**

## 10.7.1 Selecting Patient's Data

The first step in generating a report is to select the waveforms that will be displayed. From the main menu, go to *Create Report*. EMWin will put up a Patient Information Screen to fill in and search through the waveforms with. The more filled in, the fewer waveforms that must be searched through to find the desired ones.

In the Action window, View Waves is selected as default, allowing the waveforms to be displayed in order to create the reports. Export Waves and Export Cursors will be discussed in the export data section 10.10.1.



 *Patient Information Screen*

In many cases, filling in the patient's last name will be sufficient to search through the large database.

Filling in the Age Range as **45 - 55** would select all patients aged 45 to 55. Note that this computes the age of the patient at testing, not the present age of the patient.

Filling in Test Date as **11/1/1990 - 11/30/1990** would select all tests performed in November, 1990.
Any menu item which is left blank is assumed to match all items. As an example, to find the ERGs of all patients named Smith who were tested in July of 1990, fill out the menu as follows:



If EMWin reports *No Matches Were Found*, either the name was either misspelled in the search or the patient name may have been mistyped when the test was performed. It is also possible that the waveform is stored in a different database or has been deleted. Use wildcards (\*) to help reduce errors. For example, the search term: Sm<sup>\*</sup> will find "Smith", "Small", "Smythe," etc.

EMWin will search through all of the waveforms and display on the screen all of those that match the items filled in on the menu. Select the waveforms to display by clicking anywhere on the line of the appropriate waveform. If a mistake is made, click on the box again to deselect it.

Notice the list of waveforms in the "Search Results" box. The waveforms that selected will be displayed on the next screen.

### 10.7.2 Selecting the Display View

Once the search parameters have been entered, the search result box will appear as follows:



It has two main windows that contained the data waveforms. Left-hand Graph refers to the left half page of the report; Right-Hand Graph refers to the right half page of the report.

There are two different ways to display the data:

Option 1: Select waveform 2 (in this case L eye ERG) in Left-hand Graph and waveform 1 (in this case R eye ERG) in Right-hand Graph then the data will display as below.



*Option 1*

Option 2: If the two waves are selected in the Left hand Graph window then they will appear on top of each other in the report.



Both options have advantages and inconveniences.

In option 1, up to 5 waveforms can be selected on each side, however only the first 4 cursors will be displayed on that first page. All additional cursors will print out on the second page. Also the waveforms will appear a lot smaller since it is only using half of the page.

In option 2, the waveforms are more visible because they are using the whole width; all of the cursors will display on that first page (no need to print an extra page); however, there is a maximum of 5 waveforms that can be displayed with this option.

#### 10.7.3 Adjusting the Data Display

There are several things that can be done to adjust the display of the data on the reports. Along the right and left time axis, the waves can be zoomed in on. (see example below)



To adjust the time scales (for display purposes only) first click on the waveforms and then move the Xmin and Xmax tabs to the desired location.

The gain buttons allows the user to zoom in and out in amplitude. To change the amplitude of one curve and have the second one match:

Select one of the waveforms, adjust the gain and click on the  $\equiv$  icon. This will set all waveforms currently on display to the same amplitude scale.

The position buttons allows the user to move the waveforms up and down on the displays.

#### 10.7.4 Retrieving data

Once the first report is done, use the retrieve menu to select the next waveform to avoid going back to the main menu. See section 10.6.5 about the retrieve menu.

### **10.8 User-Defined Protocols (UDP)**

#### 10.8.1 Creating user-defined protocols

To write a User-Defined Protocol, choose **Design Protocols** and choose **Design** from the **Main Menu**. The option of writing a new protocol, editing an existing User-Defined Protocol, deleting a protocol, or printing out a summary of a protocol will appear.

To create a new protocol, click on **CREATE NEW PROTOCOL**. To create a new protocol that closely resembles one already existing, click the protocol you want to clone and choose **CREATE PROTOCOL FROM.** This will copy all the information from the selected protocol and with the opportunity to make changes to it.



If creating a new protocol, then the screen below will appear. This screen is used to enter the **Protocol Name**, **Test Type**, and **Stimulator Type**.

The **Protocol Name** must be unique or the system will be ask to replace the existing file. At this time, ERG and VEP are the only available options for **Test Type**. Only the stimulators that the equipment is configured for will be offered as choices under **Stimulator Type**. The other stimulators will be grayed out. Depending on which stimulator is used, the appropriate parameter window will open. See section 10.6.1 on parameters. Be sure to check all 4 tabs and select the values desired (stimulator parameter, amplifiers, timeframe and averaging).

#### **Note: All flicker stimuli should have a pre-stimulus baseline of 0 in the timeframe tab**

Once all the tabs for the first step of your protocol are checked, click continue, and the choice to add another step or finish the protocol (which would create a one-step protocol) will come up. If add another step is selected, the software will automatically use the values selected in the previous as default.

#### 10.8.2 Editing user-defined protocols

UDPs can edit any user defined protocols by going to *Design Protocol -> Design* selecting the protocol to be edited and clicking on *Edit*.

The choices given are to add, edit, insert or delete steps.



### 10.8.3 Using user-defined protocols

To use the UDP that has been created, go to *Perform Test -> User Defined Protocols* and select that protocol from the list.



### 10.8.4 Changing Standard Protocols

EMWIN comes with a preset number of ISCEV standard protocols such as On/Off, standard, double flash, etc. It is possible to change those protocols to fit the specific clinic's needs using the methods described above.

The standard protocols are stored in C:\EMWIN and have .PRO extensions. See appendix 3 for the list of all standard protocols, their names and parameters. If the settings of a standard protocol are changed, the extension of the protocol file must also be changed from .UDP to .PRO. The protocols will then be able to be edited as described in section 10.8.2. Once done editing the protocol, don't forget to change the extension name back to .PRO

### 10.8.5 Printing Standard and User Defined protocols

To print protocols go to Design Protocol -> Print. A list of protocols will appear. The files with .UDP extensions are the user defined protocol, the .PRO are the standard protocols. All the UTAS protocols have a capital U as the last letter of their name such as stdergU.pro for the standard ERG.

#### **10.9 SunBurstSunBurst / BigShot Error Sounds**

SunBurstSunBurst and BigShot have a built in speaker. It will play music when it is first turned on. There are some occasions where the Ganzfeld might emit sounds.

Ganzfeld Sounds and Meanings:

- 1. Ganzfeld is playing the Jeopardy theme song "Think". This means the Ganzfeld is overheating. SunBurstSunBurst will keep playing the music and not respond to any other commands until the temperature goes down enough.
- 2. Single Beep. This indicates a wrong command was sent to the Ganzfeld.
- 3. Two Beeps. The two beep scheme is used to signal that the flash or background light that is commanded is either out of the possible color or luminance range.

Short Beep of Medium Frequency followed by Short Beep of Higher Frequency: Color out of bound

> Long Beep of Medium Frequency followed by Short Beep of Lower Frequency: Luminance out of allowed range

### **10.10 Other Features**

#### 10.10.1 Exporting Images

Exporting the patient data for analysis or visualization in other programs is very simple. When a graph of data is on the screen (either in Test Mode or Report Mode), click anywhere on the white background of the graph (left side or right side) with the right-mouse button. A pop-up menu will appear with a list of features. Select the item labeled "Export Dialog" and the Exporting Electroretinogram window will appear.



The picture can be exported in Metafile or Bitmap format to the Clipboard, a specific file of the user's discretion, or the printer.

10.10.2 Batch Exporting Waveform Data and Cursors

EMWIN has the capability to export up to 1000 waveform and cursors of 1000 waveforms into a .CSV file format.

In order to export the waveforms, Cursor, and patient information into this type of file, go to *Report* and select *Export Waves* in the *Action* window.





Then click on *Continue*, this will bring up the list of all waveforms.



Use the Ctrl or Shift key to select multiple waveforms to export. The default name of the export file is Export.CVS. If needed, the name can be changed by typing the desired new name in the *Export File Name* window.

Once Continue is clicked, the export file will be created and saved under *C:\EMWIN\Export.*

Note: if multi-data (created a protocol where in one step the software will automatically collect more than 1 waveform and save all individual waveforms) are recorded, all the waveforms will be exported back to back; however, only the cursors on the first waveform will be exported.

#### 10.10.3 Importing Data From Your DOS LKC System

Previous users of any version of **EM for DOS** software may also convert older data to the **EMWin** format. This allows the user to exploit the powerful report making features that are not available in previous versions of LKC software.

In the "EMWin" folder of the hard drive of the computer (c: drive), there is a program named "CONVERT.EXE". Double-click this icon with the left-mouse button to open this conversion utility. Data from all versions of EM for DOS are named "WAVEFORM.xxx", where xxx is a number from 001 to 999. Select the disk drive that contains these waveform files. Typically, these files would be copied from an older EPIC or UTAS system to a floppy or zip disk (if files are stored on floppy disks, please contact LKC to purchase a floppy disk to USB adapter). Now, select the appropriate directory and sub-directory to copy them to.

Before converting the data, you must first determine the target database for the waveforms. The default option for the "Convert" program is the currently selected database for **EMWin**, which is displayed at the bottom right of the menu. Waves will be added to the end of this database in chronological order. From this menu, a different database can be selected or a new one created for this data.

For example, to create a new blank database for all **EM for DOS** data:

- 1. Click the "Create New Database"
- 2. In the text box, type "EMDOSDATA" (or any other name) and click "OK."
- 3. Now click the "Select Database" button, and choose "EMDOSDATA" from the list.
- 4. Click "Continue".

At this point, all converted data will be added to the new EMDOSDATA database.

On the right side of the Conversion utility screen, multiple waveforms can be selected using the <Shift> and <Ctrl> keys. Holding down the <Shift> key allows a range of waveforms to be selected at once. Holding the down the <Ctrl> key allows individual waves to be selected. Once all desired waveforms are selected, click the "Go" button. After it has completed (this may take a few seconds), a message will appear indicating a successful conversion.

#### **11.0 Introduction**

This portion of the User's Manual contains instructions for testing patients with LKC's UTAS system. The manuals for hardware and software components of the system should already be understood. This section will focus only on how to use the instrument to test patients

### **12.0 The Electroretinogram (ERG)**

### **12.1 Overview**

The electroretinogram (ERG) exposes the patient to some visual stimuli and measures the electrical response of the retina. The most commonly used stimuli are a flash of light (either bright or dim) or an alternating pattern of light flashes.

In clinical testing, the electrical response of the retina is measured by placing one electrode on the cornea and a second electrode on a reference location, usually the forehead, and measuring the electrical difference between the two. This difference is measured by a sensitive amplification system which can detect millionths of a Volt (called microvolt, and abbreviated as  $\mu$ V). In contrast, a typical wall outlet produces more than 100 Volts, more than a million times greater than the typical ERG signal.

Typically, ERGs are performed with a flash of light that covers the entire retina. To ensure that this happens, a device called a *Ganzfeld* is used. A Ganzfeld is a device that resembles a bowl covering the patient's vision field and is coated with highly reflective paint. The flash of light stimulus evenly illuminates the interior of the Ganzfeld and allows the most penetration of light into the patient's eye.

The flash ERG can be used to separately measure the response of the retinal rods and cones. The response of the rods is measured by first dark adapting the patient and then stimulating the eye with dim flashes of light. Using a bright flash of light tests both the rod and cone response. The rod function is suppressed when the patient's eyes are exposed to an adapting light so that only the response of the cones is measured. Rapidly flickering lights is also used to measure cone function. The most commonly used flash ERG test is the "standard ERG" which encompasses all of the above tests.

Other types of ERGs include the multifocal ERG (measures the function of the macula) and the pattern ERG (measures the function of the inner retinal layers, including the ganglion cells). The Standard ERG is the most commonly used, so we will focus on it for most of the section while also mentioning some of the other types.

### **12.2 ERG protocols**

If the system contains a mini Ganzfeld with the SunBurstSunBurst or BigShot, some of the protocols will be the same; such as the Standard and Standard with Mini-Ganzfeld protocols. The only difference is the instrument used to deliver the stimuli and the fact that with the mini-Ganzfeld unit, it is possible to only test one eye at a time.

### 12.2.1 Standard ERG Protocol

This protocol currently recommended by the International Society for the Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision<sup>1</sup> (ISCEV); they explain:

> In 1989 a basic protocol was standardized so that ERGs could be recorded comparably throughout the world. This standard was updated most recently in 2008. Standards for five commonly obtained ERGs were presented: (1) ERG to a weak flash (arising from the rods) in the dark-adapted eye (2) ERG to a strong flash in the dark-adapted eye (3) Oscillatory potentials (4) ERG to a strong flash (arising from the cones) in the light-adapted eye (5) ERGs to a rapidly repeated stimulus (flicker)

The rod response is particularly useful to determine hereditary night-blinding disorders as well as conditions that involve peripheral retinal function, such as diffuse inflammatory disease. The cone response is used to diagnose cone dysfunction in hereditary or acquired disease. Flicker responses document ERG timing that can help diagnose vascular disease or discriminate between dystrophies and acquired degenerations. The maximal response provides an overall indication of the retina function, and can be used to diagnose conditions such as traumatic retinal damage or evaluate visual impairment in infants. The oscillatory potentials are used to determine disorders that cause retinal ischemia, such as diabetic retinopathy.





<sup>1</sup> 1 International Standardization Committee. Standard for clinical electroretinography (2008 update). *Documenta Ophthalmologica* **118:** 69-77, 2009.

Unless specified otherwise in the protocol, 10 sweeps will be averaged for 30 Hz flicker (stimulus condition 5).

### **20 minutes of dark adaptation is required in the Standard Protocol prior to any stimulation**

# 12.2.2 Extended ERG Protocol

In the 2008 update of the ISCEV Standard for full-field clinical electroretinography, it is recommended that an additional flash is performed while the patient is dark adapted. This flash stimulus is called the Dark-adapted 10.0 ERG and occurs after the standard step 3 in the protocol at an intensity of 6dB. The purpose of the additional gives is to produce a response with a larger, more defined a-wave and identifiable oscillatory potentials. The more intense stimulus can also be useful for eliciting a maximal response from patients with denser opacities who would normally not be able to produce the response to step 2.



## **ERG Conditions – Extended Protocol**

# 12.2.3 Classic ERG Protocol

Until the adoption of the Standard Protocol by ISCEV, the Classic Protocol was the most commonly utilized ERG diagnostic protocol. It also consists of 5 steps, as follows. (1) The *Scotopic Blue* stimulus. Since rods are more sensitive to short wavelength light (blue), this step isolates the rod response. (2) The *Scotopic Red* stimulus, displays both the rod and cone response on a single waveform. Interpretation of this waveform may be difficult. (3) The *Scotopic White*  stimulus provides a maximal response of both the rod and cone systems. This is the same stimulus as step 2 of the Standard Protocol. (4) The *Photopic White* stimulus is designed to suppress rod participation. This is the same stimulus as condition 4 of the Standard Protocol. (5) The *30 Hz Flicker* stimulus isolates the cone response because the flicker is too fast for the rods to follow. This stimulus is done without background light.

# **ERG Conditions - Classic Protocol**



Unless specified otherwise in the protocol, 10 sweeps will be averaged for 30 Hz flicker (stimulus condition 5).

### **30 minutes of dark adaptation are required in the Classic Protocol.**

## 12.2.4 Bright Flash ERG Protocol

The Bright Flash protocol presents a stimulus that is much brighter than the intensity of the standard flash. It is normally used for subjects with sufficiently dense media over the eye that the standard flash cannot elicit a response from. The Bright Flash protocol should *not* be used to attempt to elicit a larger response from subjects with relatively normal media (unless attempting to determine the asymptotic PI, amplitude, or measure the photoreceptor kinetics). The Bright Flash Protocol may also be used to elicit oscillatory potentials. If the Bright Flash receives maximum amplitude Ops, use a conditioning flash followed by the recording flash 30 seconds later.

When testing a subject with one relatively normal eye and one with opaque media, the normal, dilated, eye should be patched to prevent severe discomfort from the bright flash stimulus.

### 12.2.5 Photopic Negative ERG Protocol

The photopic negative response (PhNR), originating from the inner retina, appears after the bwave (and if the flash duration is long enough, it appears again after the d-wave). The PhNR arises as a consequence of the spiking activity of the retinal ganglion cells. PhNR may be a sensitive measure of retinal dysfunction in patients with diseases that affect the inner retina such as glaucomatous damage.

The photopic negative response is elicited using a 200 ms red (630 nm) stimulus with a blue background (470 nm).



## 12.2.6 S-Cone ERG Protocol

S-Cone ERGs facilitate the determination of enhanced S-cone syndrome, a rare disorder related to mutation in NR2E3. By enabling a more detailed assessment of the relative involvement of Scones in other genetically determined disorders, they contribute to a more accurate description of the phenotype.

S-Cone recording requires a bright photopic background to suppress the rod and L-cone and Mcone function. The typical protocol uses a blue flash (470 nm) on a bright amber (590 nm) background.



### 12.2.7 On/Off Response

The L- and M- cones cells signal via both ON- (depolarizing) and OFF- (hyperpolarizing) bipolar cell pathways. Rods do not communicate with OFF- bipolar cells, and no S-Cones OFF bipolar cell have been identified. Long duration stimulation enables the functional separation of the cone ON- and OFF- responses.

ON- and OFF- response recording enables an assessment of the post-phototransduction cone pathways. This may reveal abnormalities not usually indicated by a more conventional cone ERG protocol and may therefore contribute to an accurate determination of the site and nature of the cone system dysfunction. This knowledge may help in the management of both inherited and acquired retinal disease.



### 12.2.8 Flicker ERG Protocol

The flicker ERG protocol is one that measures cone response by presenting a flickering stimulus that is too fast for rods to respond to. The protocol presents flickering stimuli at 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, and 40 Hz. It is used mostly in research investigations.

### 12.2.9 Pattern ERG Protocol

This protocol uses an alternating checkerboard pattern to elicit a retinal stimulus, unlike the flashing light stimuli in other protocols. Because equal amounts of the retina are stimulated as the checkerboard alternates, the response is a measure of neuron and ganglion cell activity of the inner retina rather than the rod and cone activity. As such, the pattern ERG is useful in diagnosing inner retina disorders.

The pattern ERG is a photopic test, so dilation and dark adaptation are not necessary. Because the edges of the checkerboard are important components of the stimulus, any refractive error should be corrected. If cycloplegic drugs are used, a one diopter plus added should be used to compensate for the typical screen distance of one meter.



#### 12.2.10 Double Flash ERG Protocol

The double flash protocol is used to study the recovery of photoreceptors. It consists of a bright conditioning flash followed by a measurement flash. The amplitude of the measurement flash as a function of time will provide the information needed. The recovery time of the photoreceptors, such as between the two flashes, is affected in several retinal disorders including retinitis pigmentosa.



## 12.2.11 Retinal Ischemia Monitor (RIM) Protocol

The RIM protocol can be used to asses ischemic retinopathies such as Diabetic Retinopathy, Ocular Ischemic Syndrome, Central Retinal Vein Occlusion (CRVO), Branch Vein Occlusion (BVO), Central Retinal Artery Occlusion, and Sickle-Cell Retinopathy. RIM has been shown to be 92% accurate in predicting the outcome in CRVO and has a strong correlation to the severity of Diabetic Retinopathy.



# **12.3 Patient Preparation**

### 12.3.1 Standard ERG

The first step in the standard ERG is to dilate the patient's eyes with a mydriatic (any mediumduration cycloplegic, such as Tropicamide, will be sufficient). If the patient is already dilated

from ophthalmoscopy, no further dilation is required. It is more comfortable for the patient if a few drops of local anesthetic are administered to the eye before the mydriatic dilating drops.

The next step is to dark adapt the patient. This step is **critical** to obtaining good results. The patient should be dark adapted for at least 20 minutes before the test is administered (dark adapting for longer than the 20 minutes will not alter the results, but dark adapting for less than 20 minutes will create problematic responses). To dark adapt the patient; simply place them in a completely darkened room (such as the room in which you will perform the ERG). Another method to dark adapt the patient is to securely patch the patient's eyes so that no light can get through and return them to the waiting room.

After the patient has been dark adapted for at least 20 minutes, they should be brought into the testing room. The testing room must be completely dark (*a dim red* light is acceptable which may be provided by the Ganzfeld's background red LED if needed)

# 12.3.2 Pattern ERG

For the pattern ERG protocol, do NOT dilate the patient's eyes, as the patient must be able to focus on the pattern stimulus (dilation paralyzes the patient's ability to focus). The patient should not be exposed to bright lights, such as sunlight or a slit lamp, for at least 10 minutes before testing. Use the patient's best lens correction while running the test (with either the patient's glasses or trial lenses).

# 12.3.3 MultiFocal ERG

Dark adaptation is not required for the multifocal ERG protocol because it tests only cone function. However, the patient should not be exposed to bright lights, such as sunlight or a slit lamp, for at least 10 minutes before testing.

It is best to perform this test with the eyes dilated; although it doesn't largely affect the test results, it will make the technician's job much easier. To dilate the eyes, apply a cycloplegic agent and allow the patient to sit for about 15 minutes for the drug to take effect. If the patient is already dilated from a previous procedure, no further dilation is needed.

This test is only available if you have the multifocal ERG upgrade.

# 12.3.4 Other ERGs

There are several other types of ERGs, such as the intensity-response ERG, the flicker ERG, and the bright flash ERG. All of these tests require dilation of the eye and dark adaptation (the exception to this is if the eye to be tested is damaged by trauma in which a cycloplegic may be contraindicated). After applying dilating drops in the eye, dark adapt the patient for the amount of time shown in the table below.





## **12.4 Electrodes**

After the patient has been dilated and dark adapted (if needed), the next step is to attach the electrodes to the patient. All ERG tests require two different electrode connections; the corneal electrode and the reference/indifferent electrode. Use only electrodes enumerated in Appendix 1.

### **Note: If the protocol requires that the patient be dark adapted, the electrodes must be applied in the dark room, lit with only a dim red bulb (the Ganzfeld's dim red background light may also be used).**

To apply the electrode, anesthetize the cornea with several drops of a medium duration anesthetic, such as proparacaine hydrochloride (do not use a short-duration anesthetic - it will wear off before the test is over). While waiting for the anesthetic to take effect, apply the electrodes to the locations other than the eye.

### 12.4.1 The Indifferent/Reference Electrode

The indifferent/reference electrode should be applied first. It is a separate electrode, often an ECG (EKG) electrode, such as the Silvon® electrode. The Burian-Allen electrode has the indifferent electrode built in (making it a *bipolar* electrode and does not require a separate indifferent electrode).

The indifferent electrode is applied to the center of the forehead and used as a reference for both eyes. With an **electrode prep pad,** scrub the center of the forehead to remove all traces of skin oils and makeup. Let the alcohol dry off



for a few seconds. Before the indifferent electrode is applied, check it to make sure the center gel is still wet (if it has dried out, discard the electrode and get a new one as it won't be able to obtain a sufficient signal from the patient).

If you are testing two eyes, connect a splitter to the - inputs of recording channels 1 and 2 of the UBA-4204. (A splitter is a Y-shaped cable with plugs on two sockets and an arm on the third.) Connect the indifferent electrode to the splitter.

12.4.2 The Ground Electrode

The ground electrode, typically a gold cup ear clip electrode, should be applied after the indifferent electrode.



The electrode is applied to the patient's ear lobe. With an **electrode prep pad,** scrub the ear lobe to remove all traces of skin oils. Let the alcohol dry off for a few seconds. Fill both cups of the ear clip generously with electrode gel and clip it onto the ear lobe. Plug the ground electrode into the appropriate ground channel of the amplifier.

## 12.4.3 The Corneal Electrode

Finally the corneal electrodes should be applied. The most common corneal electrodes are the ERG-Jet electrode and the Burian-Allen electrode (shown below). Other types of electrodes include the DTL electrode (also shown below).



**ERG-Jet Electrode Burian Allen DTL Electrode** 





## Contact Lens Electrode

Before inserting the contact lens electrodes, place several drops of a lubricating solution that contains methylcellulose (such as Goniosol or Liquid Tears) in each of the contact lens electrodes. If you are using the ERG-Jet electrodes or the Burian-Allen electrodes, Liquid Tears may minimize damage to the cornea.

Gently insert a contact lens into the eye. Leave a small loop of excess electrode wire (about 1" - 2" in diameter), and tape it to the patient's cheek. Repeat the procedure for the other eye, if appropriate.

### DTL Electrode

DTL Electrodes are used with patients that cannot tolerate the ERG-Jet contact lens electrode. They are single use, silver nylon thread electrodes. They should be placed on the eye so that the fiber is running gently across the cornea (not too tight to avoid corneal abrasion).

### Gold Foil Electrode

The gold foil electrode is used to avoid blurring the patient's vision, where contact lens use is not possible (such as in eyes with keratoconus), or where topical anesthetic is not desired. The gold foil electrode has a thin coating of gold deposited onto a Mylar substrate.

To insert the electrode into the patient's eye fold the electrode in half lengthwise with the foil side out, so that it forms an inverted "V". Gently retract the patient's lower lid and insert the end of the electrode into the space between the lower lid and the sclera. Tape the electrode wire to the patient's cheek to hold the electrode in place.

Note that blinking or rapid eye movements easily dislodges the gold foil electrode. It is important that the patient looks straight ahead and does not blink excessively once the electrode has been inserted.



**Monopolar Electrode Placement (ERG-Jet, DTL...)**

Always connect the corneal electrodes (active electrode) to the + input of each channel and references to the – input of each channel of the UBA-4200. Connect the ground electrode into the ground channel.



 **Bipolar Contact Lens Electrode Placement**

# **12.5 Recording Data**

After the electrodes have been inserted, the test may be started. The patient information may be inserted into the program before the electrodes are placed on the patient to minimize the amount of time the patient must have the electrodes inserted and to speed up the total testing time.

In this section, the Standard ERG protocol will be used. Other protocols are very similar. In order to understand this section, familiarity with the UTAS Software manual is necessary.

12.5.1 Setting up the test

- From the main menu select *Tests* -> *Electroretinogram* -> *Standard*
- Fill in the patient information (see section 10.5.2 for more info on the patient info window) and click on *Continue*
- Select the number of channels to be used and label them. Label the channels with the eye to be tested. If testing both eyes, select two channels (the convention is to have Channel 1 labeled as Right Eye and Channel 2 as Left).

You are now ready to start the test. Be sure the patient is seated comfortably with their face in the Ganzfeld. Instruct the patient to look straight ahead at the red light.

12.5.2 Record – Checking the baseline



Click on Record (which is the first icon of the toolbar). The baseline is a check to make sure that everything is working correctly; that the electrodes are connected properly and making good contact with the patient, that the patient isn't clenching their face muscles, that no power line interference (maybe from the laser next door) is being detected, etc.

An example of a poor baseline is shown below. This baseline has a large amount of power line interference in it. If the baseline looks similar to this one, suspect a bad connection in the system. The indifferent electrode may not be making good contact with the forehead or there may be a problem with the contact lens electrode. Of course, there are other potential sources of interference as well. For more information about interference see **Appendix 2: Artifacts in Electrophysiology.**

Also shown below is an example of a good baseline. Attempt to make the baseline as close to this horizontal line as possible. If the baseline does not look good, if it has a lot of vertical lines or other noise and occupies most of the screen – it needs to be fix the problem before continuing with the test.



Bad ERG Baseline



#### **Good ERG Baseline**

# 12.5.3 Recording Data

### *Step 1: Rod Response*

At the bottom of the screen there should be a line reading "Scotopic White 24 dB Single Flash".

Click on **Record** (this can be found on the top menu or the record Icon)**.** Once the baseline is stable, click stop and then click on record. If the response looks good (examples of good waveforms are shown in the *Analysis* section below), click on **Store** (using the diskette icon)**.** If the response does not look good (at this point, usually because of a blink or other reflex motion), wait at least two seconds before repeating the flash.

### **Note: Always wait at least 2 seconds between dim flashes (if required) of step 1 to avoid light adapting the subject.**

After storing a good waveform, move to the next step. Click on the **Step Forward** icon**.**



### *Step 2: Maximal Response*

The bottom of the screen should now read "Scotopic White 0 dB Single Flash".

Again, click on **Record** to measure a baseline and make sure noise hasn't developed. If the baseline looks OK, click **Stop** and then **Record.** The response will look different this time - it will be larger and less rounded. An example of a good response for the second step in the protocol is shown in the *Analysis* section below. If the response is good, click on **Store** to save the waveforms. If they're not good, wait at least **15** seconds before trying again to avoid light adapting the patient.

After storing a good waveform from step 2, click the **Step- Forward** icon to proceed to Step 3.

## *Step 3: Oscillatory Potentials*

The stimulus description at the bottom of the screen won't change for this step since the stimulus isn't different for oscillatory potentials, only the recording technique. Again, click on **Record** to make sure no noise has developed.

To record oscillatory potentials properly:

- Click on **Record.** Do not store this waveform.
- Wait 15 seconds, as counted by the clock at the top right of the screen.
- Click on **Record.** If this waveform looks good, store it. If not, wait another seconds and repeat the steps.

The first flash is called *a conditioning flash.* It is used to sensitize the retina to maximize the oscillatory potentials recorded with the second flash, which is measured to give the waveform to be stored.

### *Step 4: Photopic response*

When you click on **Step Forward** to move to step 4 of the protocol, the background light inside the Ganzfeld will turn on. For this step, the patient needs to be light adapted using this background light so be sure the patient doesn't close their eyes for extended periods. The bottom of the screen should now read "Photopic White 0 dB Single Flash".

# **Wait 10 minutes for light adaptation before recording.**

Repeat the **Record,** and **Store** sequence performed above in step 3.

### *Step 5: Flicker response*

This is the last step of the protocol. The bottom of the screen should read "Photopic White 30 Hz Flicker". Click on the **Record** button**.** The remainder of this step is automated, so the program will automatically start the flash flickering at 30 flashes per second, waiting 5 seconds, then averaging the 10 sweeps. The result will be displayed on the screen. To save the waveforms, click **Store.**

The test is now finished. Click on **Return** until to reach the Main Menu.

### 12.5.4 Cleanup



### **12.6 Reports and Analysis**

To prepare a report for a specific patient:

- Retrieve the patient's waveforms (see section 10.6.5 on how to retrieve waveforms).
- Place cursors on the waveforms or use another method to analyze them (see section 10.6.9 on how to place cursors using EMWIN).
- $\blacklozenge$  Print out the reports (see section 10.6.10).

#### 12.6.1 Retrieving the waveforms

In order to retrieve the waveform, go to the main menu and select Create Reports. Fill in the necessary information to search for the waveforms. For more detailed information about searching for waveforms, see section 10.6.5

#### 12.6.2 Step 1: Rod Response Analysis

Retrieve the first two waveforms, labeled "Scotopic -24 dB". Next, click on the **Place Cursors** icon**.** Place two cursors on the waveform as shown in the figure below. Place



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Cursor 1 on a flat spot in front of the waveform and place Cursor 2 at the peak of the waveform (see section 10.7 on how to create report and place cursors). The calculated difference between cursors 1 and 2 gives the amplitude of the b-wave. B-wave latency is represented by the timing of cursor 2.

After the cursors are placed properly on both waveforms, click on **Store** to save the cursor positions with each waveform.



12.6.3 Step 2: Maximal Response Analysis

After storing the cursors with the waveforms, click **Return** to return to the Reports Menu. Next, retrieve the following pair of waveforms (either by clicking on **Retrieve -> Next** by clicking on the **Search For Waveforms** icon or by clicking on Next). These waveforms should say "Scot W 0 dB SF." Place the cursors as described below:



Cursor 1 should be placed on a flat spot of the waveform before the amplitude decreases in the a-wave. Cursor 2 and 3 should be placed on top of each other at the trough of the a-wave. Cursor 4 should be placed at the peak of the b-wave. If there is a small bump at the top of the b-wave, place the cursor to one side of the bump, not directly on the top.

The calculated difference between cursors 1 and 2 represents the amplitude of the a-wave, while the calculated difference between cursors 3 and 4 represents the amplitude of the b-wave. After the cursors are placed properly on both waveforms, click **Store** to save the cursor positions with the corresponding waveforms.



12.6.4 Step 3: Oscillatory Potential Analysis

Retrieve the next set of waveforms that correspond to step 3. These waveforms should read "Scot OPs 0 dB." They will be the recorded measurements of the oscillatory potentials and will resemble the one shown below.

With this particular waveform, the program will automatically place cursors. Click on the **Analyze Oscillatory Potentials** icon or use the menu tool bar and select **Analyze** -> **Oscillatory Potentials.** When the program asks, tell it to place cursors on the Ops. The results will be similar to the ones on the waveform below.

Note that the cursors placed by the program will not be saved on the original waveforms; instead, a new waveform with the oscillatory potential cursors will be created in the database.



12.6.5 Step 4 Photopic Response Analysis

Retrieve the next set of waveforms, from step 4, labeled "Phot W 0 dB SF." Place cursors (and store them) as dictated below. The Photopic waveform is generally faster and smaller than the Scotopic waveforms because only cone function is being tested.

Cursor 1 should be placed on a flat spot of the waveform before the amplitude decreases in the a-wave. Cursor 2 and 3 should be placed on top of each other at the trough of the a-wave. Cursor 4 should be placed at the peak of the b-wave. If there is a small bump at the top of the b-wave, place the cursor to one side of the bump, not directly on the top.

The calculated difference between cursors 1 and 2 represents the amplitude of the a-wave, while the calculated difference between cursors 3 and 4 represents the amplitude of the b-wave. After the cursors are placed properly on both waveforms, click **Store** to save the cursor positions with the corresponding waveforms.







Finally, call up the last set of waveforms from step 5. These waveforms will be labeled "Photopic 0 dB 30 Hz" And they correspond to the flicker tests.



# **THE FOLLOWING ARE STEP BY STEP QUICK GUIDES FOR ERG May be copied and kept with your system for reference**

#### **STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR PERFORMING THE STANDARD ERG**

#### **Patient Preparation**

- $\triangle$  Anesthetize the patient eye(s) to be tested.
- $\blacklozenge$  Put dilating drops into the eye(s).
- Completely patch the eye(s) to be tested or seat the patient in a dark room for dark adaptation. During dark adaptation no light may get into the eye (a red light, like the background red light from the Ganzfeld, can be used to see and does not affect dark adaptation). *The patient must be dark adapted* for at least *20 minutes.*

#### **Computer Setup Before the Patient is Brought for Testing**

- Turn the system on and wait for the Main Menu to appear.
- $\bullet$  Turn the UBA-4204 ON
- On the Menu, select *Test -> Electroretinogram. -> Standard.*
- Enter the patient information. Do not use spaces or punctuation in the data fields, as this may interfere with the search and retrieval of waveforms.
- Add channel information. The right eye is hooked up to channel 1 and should be labeled OD or R. The left eye gets hooked up to channel 2 should be labeled OS or L. Click continue

#### **Patient Hook-Up**

- Seat the patient in front of the Ganzfeld globe, clean the forehead with an electrode prep pad and allow the alcohol to dry.
- Turn the red background light of the Ganzfeld on to provide light to place the electrodes.
- Place an EKG electrode on the forehead. Connect the pinch connector to the nipple of the EKG electrode. Plug the pin end of the pinch connector lead into the receptor of the one-to-two splitter.
- Place the two leads from the splitter into the 1- and 2- positions of UBA-4204.
- Connect the two ERG Jet electrodes into the  $1+$  and  $2+$  positions of UBA-4204.
- Before the ERG Jet electrodes are actually placed on the corneas, put another drop or two of the anesthetic in the eye. The anesthetic wears off after approximately fifteen minutes.
- $\bullet$  Fill the lens of the electrodes with Goniosol or any Methyl cellulose solution and place the 1+ electrode on the right cornea and the 2+ electrode on the left cornea, and tape wires to the cheeks. (Follow the directions on the ERG-Jet electrode box.)

#### **Performing the Test**

- ◆ Click on the *Record* icon.
- If the Baseline appears to be good, click on *Record.*
- If the waveforms are good, click *Store* to save them. Otherwise, wait a period of time before repeating the step (wait 2 seconds for step 1, 10 seconds for step 2, and 15 seconds for step 3). Select *Step,* then *Forward.* The display will indicate that you are on the next step.
- Repeat these steps (from the Performing the Test section) until the waveforms from steps 1-5 have been recorded and stored.
- The patient is now completed with the testing. All electrodes can be removed properly. The affected skin should be cleaned and the corneas washed with saline solution.
- The waveforms can now be retrieved and analyzed, and the reports printed.

#### **Afterward the appointment**

 The forehead rest should be cleaned and disinfected using a mild disinfectant such as glutaraldehyde (e.g. Cidex) or an isopropyl alcohol wipe.

### **13.0 The Visual Evoked Response (VER)**

## **13.1 Overview**

The Visually Evoked Response (VER) - also called the Visually Evoked Potential (VEP) or Visually Evoked Cortical Potential (VECP) – is a test used to measure the electrical response of the primary visual cortex when visually stimulated. The response is measured from Brodman's Area 17 of the cortex, an area concerned mostly with foveal vision. The most commonly used visual stimulus is an alternating checkerboard pattern, although a flash of light can also be used.

In clinical testing, the electrical response of the visual cortex is measured by placing one electrode on the scalp directly over the visual cortex, a second on a reference location (such as the ear) and measuring the difference between these two responses. The sensitive amplification system is able to measure the difference (typically millionths of a Volt, or microvolts,  $\mu$ V). Note that a typical wall outlet produces over 100 Volts which is about ten million times greater than the typical VER signal.

A normal VER is indicative of a properly working visual pathway - from the foveal retina through the optic nerve to the visual cortex. The VER can provide useful information for the diagnosis and treatment of many conditions; including, optic neuropathies, differential diagnosis of unexplained acuity loss (with the focal ERG), and malingering blindness.

Typically, the VER is recorded in response to an alternating checkerboard stimulus. The electrical response to this pattern stimulus consists of an initial negative wavelet followed by a positive one (the VER may contain a few additional wavelets, but only the first two are of primary clinical significance). There are many factors that can influence the amplitude of the VER (including skull thickness and electrode location), so the timing of the waveform is the most useful diagnostic measure in this test. The negative wave, which generally occurs at 75 milliseconds (ms), is called N75 while the positive wavelet, which occurs at almost exactly 100 ms, is known as P100. Disease states that affect the VER prolong the waveform, leading to an increased timing in the P100 wavelet.

The flash VER is most useful in evaluating ocular trauma. It provides evidence of some foveal vision, indicating that a reconstruction of the eye is likely to be successful. The flash VER is a complicated waveform that is quite varied between subjects. Usually, the useful information gathered from the flash VER waveform is whether or not it is present.

### **13.2 Patient Preparation**

Because electrodes will be attached to the scalp, the patient should be advised to wash their hair within 24 hours of the test and not to use any hair products the day of testing.

### **Before starting the test, make sure that the patient is properly refracted.**

Errors in refractive correction will give inaccurate test results. The patient can simply wear their normal prescription eyeglasses or contacts during the test. If the patient's glasses prescription are not be correct, be sure to check and correct before proceeding with the test.

The first step is to decide the locations from which to place the electrodes and record. Usually, a single electrode at OZ and one reference electrode will be sufficient. If the purpose of the test is to diagnose pre- versus post-chiasmal optic nerve defects, electrodes must be placed at both 01 and 02.



To identify the recording sites to place the electrodes on the patient's scalp, first identify the **inion,** the bony protrusion at the back of the skull.

### **If you are recording on an adult with a normal-sized head, the Oz is located about 2.5 cm (1 inch) above the inion on the midline. 01 and 02 are located 2.5 cm (1 inch) to the left and right of Oz.**

If the subject has an abnormal-sized head, is an infant, –or if it is important that the electrodes are placed in the exact locations, making a few measurements will determine the locations for the recording sites. First, identify the **nasion,** the bony ridge along the brow line just above the nose on the front of the head. Measure the distance from the nasion, over the head, to the inion. Next, locate the two **pre-auricular points,** the bony protrusions of the mastoid bone just in front of the ear and measure the distance around the back of the scalp between the two pre-auricular points.

- The Oz point is located on the midline, 10% of the distance from the inion to the nasion above the inion.
- O1 is located at the same elevation as Oz, 10% of the distance between the preauricular points to the left of midline
- $\bullet$  02 is located at the same elevation as Oz, 10% of the distance between the preauricular points to the right of midline
## **13.3 VEP Electrodes**

The VEP is measured using three types of electrodes: the recording (positive) electrodes, the reference (negative) electrode, and the common (ground) electrode. The positive electrodes are gold cup electrodes, as shown on the right. This electrode is typically placed in the Oz location. The negative electrode is typically either an ECG electrode or another gold cup electrode. This is typically placed on the forehead, or along the Fp site. The common electrode is typically an ear clip.



Clean the electrode site thoroughly to remove all skin oils and other debris that might inhibit the electrode to making a good electrical contact.

Fill the cups of the ear clip electrode with electrode **gel** (not cream) and clip it to the patient's ear lobe. Then connect this to the ground/common site on the amplifier.

Locate the positive electrode site(s). Part any hair to expose the skin at the recording site, and *vigorously* scrub the skin with an electrode prep pad. (If the patient's hair is long, bobby pins or other clips should be used to hold the hair out of the way during this process.)

#### **Note: It is important to clean the scalp thoroughly to obtain a good electrode contact.**

Using a generous dollop of electrode **cream** (not gel); paste the hair on each side of the part to the scalp or use bobby pins to securely hold down the hair. The important thing is to keep the scalp exposed. Next, put a generous portion of electrode cream in the cup of the electrode and press the electrode *firmly* into place on the scalp. Cover the electrode with a 2 to 3 cm (1 to 1½ inch) square of tissue paper, and press firmly again.

Repeat this procedure for each electrode being used. Plug the other end of the electrode into the positive (+) side of the Amplifier unit, taking note of which electrode is plugged into which channel if you are using more than one.

The negative (reference) electrode is typically an ECG electrode that is placed on the forehead, attached to a wire and place in the negative side of the amplifier unit. If you have more than one positive electrodes, attach a splitter to the end of the negative electrode and place them in the corresponding negative channels on the amplifier.

#### **13.4 Recording data**

13.4.1 Setting Up the Test

After the electrodes have been attached to the patient, the test can begin. This section of the manual contains information that was explained in the *Software Manual*.

From the Main Menu, click on **Perform Tests -> Visual Evoked Response -> Pattern.**

- Fill in the patient information (as much as possible, but at least the First and Last Names).
- Enter the number of channels used/electrodes to be recorded from. Label the channels with the name of the site  $(O_{Z}, O_{1}, etc.)$  Select which eye is being recorded and click continue.

The test is now ready to begin. Make sure the patient is seated comfortably and located 1 meter away from the screen.

**Note: Any muscle contraction may be picked up as noise on the recording, so it is important that the patient is as relaxed as possible in order to get a decent recording.**

## 13.4.2 Record

Now click on the **Record Icon.** The baseline should look somewhat like a good baseline of other tests. There should be about 20 to 50  $\mu$ V of signal visible on the screen (most of this is EEG activity generated by the brain).





**Bad VEP Baseline**

The shown baseline is an example of a bad baseline. The patient may be tensing his neck/shoulder muscles so that a large amount of EMG (muscle electrical activity) is measured. If the patient's baseline looks like this one, encourage the patient to relax as much as possible.

If the baseline appears to have a large number of vertical lines on the screen spaced about 15 milliseconds apart (20 milliseconds apart in Europe and Asia), then there is power line interference. The most likely cause of this baseline is poor electrode contact. Be sure to press firmly on each of the scalp electrodes and try another baseline.

## **Note: Poor electrode contact is the most common reason for poor VER recordings!**

## 13.4.3 Recording Data

When the baseline is acceptable, it's time to record. Just before clicking on **Record,** instruct the patient to carefully watch the screen and to think about something else (about 20% of patients are able to reduce their VER amplitude by concentrating on other topics).

The default VER protocol will average 80 responses to obtain a waveform. The number of responses averaged appears in the lower right portion of the screen. If, while watching the waveform (which displays every 10 sweeps), it does not significantly change, the test may be safely stopped. In most cases, as few as 30 responses will give you a satisfactory recording.

When the recording has finished, instruct the patient to relax. Patient fatigue can affect the test results, so encourage them to close their eyes and relax. It is a good idea to wait a few seconds between the tests to allow the patient to recover.

The first stimulus presented in the pattern VER protocol is a checkerboard composed of 32 x 32 alternating squares. For most purposes, this stimulus will be the only one needed. If other responses are desired, the check sizes in the default pattern VER protocol will be:

#### **32 x 32, 8 x 8, 16 x 16, 64 x 64, 128 x 128**

When testing multiple responses to different check sizes, click on **Step Forward Icon** to go to the next check size.

Remember to store the waveforms (by clicking **Store**). If the waveforms are not stored, the software will automatically prompt you if you want to save them or not.

When the test is finished, return to the Main Menu by clicking on the **Return Icon.**







## 13.4.4 Cleanup

Gently remove the electrodes from the patient's scalp. The electrode cream should be cleaned out of the patient's hair using warm, damp paper towels. Electrode cream is not soluble in alcohol, so electrode prep pads will not be able to remove it.

## **13.5 Reports and Analysis**

To prepare the reports on a particular patient,

- Retrieve the waveforms for that patient (see section 10.6.5 for more info).
- $\blacklozenge$  Place the appropriate cursors on those waveforms (section 10.6.9 for more info).
- $\blacklozenge$  Print out the reports (section 10.6.10 for more info).

#### 13.5.1 Retrieving waveforms

To retrieve the waveforms, start from the main menu and select Create Reports. Fill in the necessary information to search for and retrieve the waveforms (for more detailed information see section 10.6.5).

13.5.2 Analysis

To analyze the waveforms retrieved, click on the **Cursors** icon**.** Place cursors on the waveform as shown in the figure below. Place Cursor 1 at the bottom of the major trough, which usually occurs at 70 milliseconds. Place Cursor 2 at the top of the peak, which usually occurs at 100 milliseconds.

**Note: Patients with a disease may have significantly altered peak/trough timing.**

**THE FOLLOWING ARE STEP BY STEP QUICK GUIDES FOR VEP May be copied and kept with your system for reference**

save the cursor positions with the waveform.

50

 $\overline{\alpha}$ 

5 0 45  $-10$  $-15$  $-20$ 

 $-25$  $-30$ 

 $\circ$ 

1: (uV) Oz R

Before printing the waveform, it may be a good idea to smooth it. Smoothing the new waveform. See section 10.6.2 for more info on smoothing.

13.5.3 Smoothing

waveform will remove the small bumps. To smooth, click on **Analyze** ->**Smooth** or use the smooth icon**.** If you smooth the waveform and then click on the save icon it will save as a

Pattern VER

After the cursors are placed properly on the waveform, click on the **Store** icon to

millis econds





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#### **STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR PERFORMING THE VEP**

#### **Computer Setup before Patient Preparation**

- Turn the system on.
- Turn the UBA-4204 on.
- Select *Perform Test -> Visual Evoked Response.*
- Select the type of VER to be done (*Pattern or Flash).*
- Add the patient information. If recording from only one channel, the electrode at the midline is labeled O z. If recording from two channels, the left channel is labeled O1, and the right channel is labeled 02.
- Select the eye to be tested (Right, Left, Both).

#### **Patient Preparation**

- Seat the patient 1 meter from the pattern stimulator.
- Clean the ear lobe and the OZ location in the back of the head with alcohol prep pads, allow the alcohol to dry.
- Fill both cups of the ear clip electrode with electrode gel and attach it to the ear lobe. This electrode should be connected to channel 1 on the UBA-4204 (with a one channel test and via the splitter in channels 1+ and 1-with a two-channel hook up). To minimize electrical noise/interference in a one channel hook up, short together the channel  $2 +$  and  $2 -$ .
- Part the hair at the midline.
- Hold the hair down on the scalp by using secure bobby pins or electrode cream on both sides of the part,
- Fill the gold cup electrode with electrode cream and place it in the middle of the part, directly on the scalp, pressing down firmly on the electrode.
- Use a one square inch of Kleenex tissue and place it over the electrode to insure the electrode is attached tightly to the scalp.
- Connect the electrode to the 1+ location of the UBA-4204.

#### **Performing the Test**

The Standard *Pattern VER* Test contains a five step protocol. In each step the pattern size is changed. For systems with manual Pattern Stimulators, it is essential to change the pattern size according to the stimulus conditions found at the bottom of the computer screen.

- Select *Record.*
- If the baseline appears normal, click *Record.* During the test, the number of sweeps averaged is displayed at the bottom of the screen.
- When the waveform is sufficient, select *Stop* and then *Store.* It is possible to finish the averaging and not record a perfectly smooth waveform. It is up to the technician to decide whether to repeat the test or to reposition the electrodes and then repeat the test.
- Once a satisfactory waveform has been stored for a step, select *Step* and *Forward.* This will take the test to the next step.
- Repeat the last four steps until step 5 has been successfully recorded and stored.
- At this point, if a *Normal Intensity Flash* VER or *Bright Flash* VER is not needed, the patient can be disconnected, cleaned or electrode gel and released.
- The waveforms can then be retrieved, cursors placed and analyzed, and reports printed.

#### **14.0 The Electro-oculogram (EOG)**

#### **14.1 Overview**

The electro-oculogram (EOG) measures changes in the standing potential of the eye in dark and light conditions. The standing potential of the eye is generated across the retinal pigment epithelial (RPE) layer, thus the EOG primarily measures RPE function.

The EOG is a somewhat more difficult test than the ERG or VER, taking more than 30 minutes to complete. Consequently, it is less common than other visual electrodiagnostic tests. Nevertheless, there are some conditions where the EOG is quite useful; it is necessary in the diagnosis of Best's disease.

The standing potential of the eye causes it to act like a weak battery. The anterior (corneal) pole of the eye is more positive than the posterior pole. It is not possible to measure the standing potential of the eye directly, as this would involve inserting an electrode behind the globe, so the EOG is measures the potential indirectly.

To perform the EOG, two electrodes are placed on the skin next to the eye - one is placed near the temporal canthus and the other is placed near the nasal canthus. The patient then looks left and right. As the eye swings toward the nasal electrode, it becomes more positive than the temporal one. As the eye swings toward the temporal electrode, it becomes more positive than the nasal one. The difference between the temporal and nasal values is related to the potential across the eye.

Because the potential measured by this technique is related to many factors including the placement of the electrodes and the geometry of the eye, the value is of little use by itself. The clinically useful value is the ratio of the peak value in the light to the minimum value in the dark. This is called the Arden Ratio:

$$
A rden Ratio = \frac{V_{light\ peak}}{V_{dark\ trough}}
$$

#### **14.2 Patient Preparation**

According to ISCEV standards, the patient should be maximally dilated using a medium-acting mydriatic, such as Tropicamide. The patient should not be dark adapted before the test.

#### **Note: The patient should not be exposed to bright lights, such as a slit lamp or ophthalmoscope, for at least 20 minutes before the test.**

## **14.3 Electrodes**

The EOG uses four EOG recording electrodes (two for each eye).

Using an electrode prep pad, **carefully** clean the skin near the nasal and temporal canthi as well as one ear lobe. Take care to remove all skin oils, but don't get alcohol in the patient's eye. The EOG electrodes are attached to



the patient using electrode washers, thin disks with adhesive on both sides. Remove the protective covering from one side of the electrode washer and affix it carefully to the EOG electrode. Align the washer so that its tab is near the electrode wire. Next, fill the cup of the EOG electrode with electrode **gel** (not cream). The gel should protrude slightly from the surface of the electrode washer. Remove the protective covering from the second side of the electrode washer and affix the electrode as close to the canthus of the eye as possible. A gold cup ear clip electrode is used for ground electrode and should be plugged into the ground connection of the amplifier.

Attach the EOG electrodes as following:



## **14.4 Obtaining Data**

After you have attached the electrodes, the test may begin. This section requires an understanding of the system software. For more information on the software, read the *UTAS Software* Section first.

- 14.4.1 Setting up the Test
	- From the Main Menu, click on **Tests -> Electro-oculogram.**
	- Fill in the patient information (at least the First and Last Names).
	- Enter the number of channels (electrodes) to be recorded. Usually with both eyes, channel 1 is labeled R and channel 2 is labeled L.

Seat the patient in front of the Ganzfeld. Make sure that the patient is comfortable, as they will be sitting there for more than half an hour without a break. Instruct the patient to look at the red light

in the center of the Ganzfeld bowl. Tell the patient that when the lights begin to move, they should follow the lights with their eyes without moving their head.

#### 14.4.2 Baseline

The software automatically starts in baseline mode. The LEDs will move from right to left immediately and the patient should follow these lights. See below for examples of a good and bad EOG baseline. To check for good electrode contact, perform an impedance check (which should be less than 40K $\Omega$ ). If the wave is too large, interrupt the baseline, adjust the scale display to a lower setting, and run the baseline again.



 **Good EOG Baseline**



 **Bad EOG Baseline**

## 14.4.3 Recording Data

Once a good baseline has been established, the recording can begin. Click on **Interrupt** to stop the baseline and then click on **Record** to start the test.

The EOG collects data for the first 15 seconds of every minute. During these 15 seconds, the patient must consistently follow the alternating EOG fixation lights.

## **Note: An important part of the technician's job during the test is to help the patient remain alert (and stay awake) and to inform them of their progress.**

The clock at the top right of the screen will measure the time of the test. At 55 seconds into **each**  minute, warn the patient that the lights will begin flashing in five seconds. When each minute starts, the EOG lights will begin flashing. The patient's eye movements can be monitored on the screen. If they are not moving their eyes with the lights, encourage the patient to follow the lights. At 15 seconds into each minute, the EOG lights will stop flashing and the center fixation light will turn on. Let the patient know that they can relax while still looking at the fixation light.

The EOG test consists of three phases:

- A pre-adapt phase (light on), lasting 6 minutes.
- A dark adapt phase (light off), lasting 16 minutes.
- A light adapt phase (light on), lasting 14 minutes.

Under normal circumstances, these times will not need to be changed.

#### **Note: Make sure the patient does not close his or her eyes during the pre-adapt or light adapt portions of the test.**

When the test is finished, the software will automatically display the result. Be sure to store the data. After, the electrodes can be removed from the patient and they can be released.

#### 14.4.4 Saving EOG raw data

After each 15 seconds segment of alternating LED, the Save button will be available. Clicking this icon will save the raw EOG data for that segment into C:\EMWIN\EOG. To save all of the raw data, click on Save after each 15 second segment is recorded.

## **14.5 Report and Analysis**

To prepare the patient reports:

- $\blacklozenge$  Retrieve the specific waveforms (see section 10.6.5).
- $\blacklozenge$  Place cursors on the waveforms (see section 10.6.9).
- $\blacklozenge$  Print out the reports (see section 10.6.10).

From the Main Menu, click on the **Create Reports**. Fill in the necessary patient information and retrieve the waveforms (they will be labeled "Electro-oculogram").

To place the cursors automatically to calculate the Arden Ratio, click **Analyze -> Computer Arden Ratio**. The program will place cursors on the lowest point in the dark trough and the highest point in the light peak. Occasionally, the cursor will not be placed in the best locations. ISCEV guidelines state that cursors should be placed based on an appropriate imagined smooth curve through the data.

For example, if the patient fell asleep during the dark adapt portion of the test, there may be a few minutes where the computed value was close to zero. The program may select one of those values and give you an artificially high Arden ratio (in which case, cursors should be manually changed).

To change a cursor value, click on the **Cursors** icon. Move the cursor to the correct location. An example of an EOG with proper cursors is shown on the next page.





**THE FOLLOWING ARE STEP BY STEP QUICK GUIDES FOR EOG May be copied and kept with your system for reference**

#### **STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR PERFORMING THE EOG**

#### **Computer Set up Before the Patient Arrives**

- Turn the system on.
- Turn the UBA-4204 on.
- Select *Test -> Electro-oculogram.*
- Add the patient information line by line. Add comments as needed, up to three lines.
- The EOG test is always a two channel test and the channels are labeled automatically. The patient can now be prepped for the test.

#### **Patient Hook-Up**

- Clean the forehead, ear lobe, and the temporal and the nasal canthi of both eyes with alcohol pads. Pat the areas dry. Take care to avoid getting alcohol in the patient's eyes.
- Stick the electrode washers to the flat inner side of four EOG electrodes, leaving the paper cover on the exposed side. Position each "washer" so that its tab aligns with the electrode wire.
- Fill the electrodes with gel.
- Remove the washer tape covers and place the electrodes on the patient.
- Each eye should have one + electrode and one electrode (one of each color).
- Connect the electrodes to the corresponding channels of the UBA-4204.

#### **Performing the Test**

- The software will automatically start in Baseline mode*.* Check the eye movements (the size of the peaks) to see if they seem uniform and of good amplitude, if so, then click *Interrupt.*
- ◆ Select *Record* to start the test.
- The patient's eye movements should be constantly monitored to ensure the patient remains alert and does not close their eyes during any phase of the test.
- The machine will automatically place cursors on the waveforms and display the Arden Ratio at the end of the test.
- If there are anomalous high points in the light adapting phase or anomalous low points in the dark adapt phase, the Arden Ratio will not be correct. The cursor positions will need to be changed by selecting *Cursors* from the menu.

# **Appendix 1: LKC Electrode List**



# **Appendix 2: Artifacts in Electrophysiological Testing**

The first part of this appendix describes the most significant artifacts encountered in Visual Electrodiagnostic Testing. The second part describes various methods of limiting or minimizing artifacts, and the third part explains how certain features of the equipment may be used to yield the best possible recordings, artifacts notwithstanding.

Artifacts in electrophysiological testing include any electrical signal generated either by either the subject, the recording equipment, or by the environment, which does not represent the subject's response to the stimulus. Artifacts can distort or obscure the evoked response to a degree that renders the recording of little or no diagnostic use.

#### **Artifacts Generated by the Subject**

Muscle Artifacts. Contracted muscles can generate very significant electrical activity. For example, the heart muscle generates up to 4 millivolts when measured by electrodes placed on the chest. In comparison, the ERG signal measures about 150 to 400  $\mu$ V in amplitude, which is about 10 times less than those generated by the heart.. Therefore, it's not surprising that significant distortion of the ERG and EOG can be produced by subjects who:

- Tense their jaw muscles
- Tense their eyelid muscles
- $\leftarrow$  Blink

Muscle artifacts that interfere with the ERG and EOG produce high frequency random "noise" that appears on the baseline. The amplitude of this interference may be as high as  $\pm 50 \mu V$ , which can obscure the needed measurements. Jaw muscle noise can be particularly devastating to EOG recordings.

Eye Movement Artifacts. Eye movements can produce serious errors in the ERG as well as in the EOG when not representing controlled response movements.

There are two types of eye movement artifacts that affect the ERG; one is the subject's inability to fixate while the second is due to a reflex contraction of the orbicularis muscle in response to the strobe flash. This latter artifact is called the photomyoclonic reflex (PMR), and can potentially interfere with B wave interpretation.<sub>2</sub>

Eye movement artifacts resulting from improper fixation produce baseline shifts. The baseline may be shifted entirely off the screen or appear to slant up or down across the screen. The eye movement can therefore cause the recording to be off. Ideally, the baseline should appear as a

1

<sup>2</sup> For a further discussion of the photomyoclonic reflex, see

Johnson, MA and Massof, RW. The photomyoclonic reflex: an artefact in the clinical electroretinogram. *Brit. J. Ophthalmol. 66, 368-372* (1981).

horizontal line with minimal noise riding on it. If the baseline is drifting wildly, instruct the patient to carefully fixate on the red light in the Ganzfeld bowl.

EEG Artifacts. For VER recordings, the principal artifact is the EEG signal. The baseline response is primarily EEG "noise", whose amplitude is about 50 µV (compared to the VER amplitude of about 10 V). In a single sweep recording, EEG noise completely obscures the VER.

#### **Artifacts Generated by the Recording Equipment**

Baseline or Amplifier Noise. All electrical circuits generate electrical noise due to molecular activity and other non-ideal aspects of signal amplification. Equipment baseline noise level can be observed by short circuiting the patient input terminals. This noise level is usually a few microvolts and is random in nature. Its amplitude depends upon the characteristics of the amplifier and on the recording bandwidth (filter settings). The amplitude of this baseline noise is small and therefore does not ordinarily interfere with the evoked potential recordings. If the baseline noise is greater than a few microvolts with shorted inputs, the equipment may be malfunctioning. On the other hand, absence of typical baseline noise is generally indicative of a "dead" or saturated amplifier. If there is a complete absence of equipment baseline noise, or excessive baseline noise, please contact the LKC Service Department.

Electrode Noise. Electrical contact between the subject and recording electrodes is never perfect. The quality of the contact is termed the *electrode impedance -* the lower this quantity, the better, however it will create some electrical noise. The higher the electrode impedance, the more noise is generated. The patient amplifier's susceptibility to electrical noise generated by the external environment increases with increasing electrode impedance. In general, the greater the electrode impedance is, the greater the noise in the recording. Electrode impedance, as measured by the system, should be less than 25 K $\Omega$  for low noise recordings. However, if the baseline noise level is not excessive, it is acceptable for the electrode impedance to be higher.

#### **Artifacts Generated by the External Environment**

60 Hertz Noise. The principal external interfering signal is electrical noise generated by power lines or electrical equipment connected to power lines. The typical electrical outlet provides 110 Volt electricity, which is more than a million times greater than the amplitude of the ERG! Examples of equipment that can generate electrical interference are fluorescent lights, motors (including motorized chairs), and power transformers. These items produce powerful electromagnetic fields that can induce or couple 60 Hertz interference into the recordings. The closer the patient and the test equipment are to these sources, the more interference will be induced. LKC's balanced patient amplifiers will cancel most of this interference; however, 60 Hz interference may be seen if:

- $\bullet$  the patient leads or amplifiers are close to power lines or electrical equipment and/or,
- $\cdot$  the electrode impedance is high

Therefore, care should be taken to locate the testing equipment and subject away from any major source of electrical interference and to make sure electrode impedances are as low as possible.

High Frequency Electrical Noise. Besides the power lines or equipment such as motors and transformers, electrical noise can also be produced by equipment generating noise at radio frequencies. Although one might expect such signals to be filtered out by the amplifier filters, it is possible for the equipment to generate low frequency artifacts by nonlinearities in the recording equipment and by mixing with other signals. Care should be exercised to keep the recording equipment and subject away from strong sources of radio frequency signals.

#### **Principal Artifacts and How to Limit or Minimize Them**

Understanding the sources of artifacts permits appropriate action to be taken to minimize the magnitude of this interference at the source.

Artifacts Generated by the Subject. Muscle artifacts and eye movement artifacts that are due to improper fixation can be minimized by encouraging the subject to relax and to fixate on the Ganzfeld central fixation light. Press the baseline button to observe the baseline as the subject becomes calm. When it remains essentially horizontal and the random noise level appears "normal," testing may commence.

The photomyoclonic reflex (PMR) is ubiquitous, occurring, to some degree, in most ERGs. If it occurs early in the ERG, the PMR can obscure the entire waveform. If the PMR occurs somewhat later, on the rising portion of the b-wave, it can prevent ERG amplitude estimation. Sometimes, the PMR can mimic an ERG or can add apparent amplitude to ERG responses. Subtle PMRs can be recognized in ERG waveforms in several ways: 1) Changes in ERG waveform slope that are not consistent with the expected slope; 2) ERGs of unusual amplitude or shape; and 3) ERGs that do not replicate. Sometimes, the eye movement is preceded by stimulation of the orbicularis muscle, and the resultant spiking can be observed in the waveform.

If the PMR is present, it can frequently be habituated by presenting repetitive, predictable flashes of light to the subject. Stimulating approximately once per second will properly habituate the subject's response without causing too much light adaptation.

Artifacts Generated by the Environment. As mentioned above, the first step in minimizing this interference is to be sure that there is good electrode contact:

- Be sure to thoroughly clean the site of the electrode placement with skin cleaner.
- All electrode cups should be filled with an adequate amount of electrode gel or cream. If an ECG electrode is used for the reference (-) electrode, make sure that the gel is still wet.
- Good reference connections must be made.

- In ERG recordings, adding an extra drop of artificial tears to the contact lens electrode while it is in the patient's eve may reduce some electrode impedance.
- Any unused recording channels should be shorted by placing a jumper cable between the + and - inputs.
- Electrode leads should be as short as possible and kept away from any electrical equipment, power lines, or electromagnetic fields (it helps to twist the positive and negative electrode leads in order to cancel their magnetic induction; about one twist per inch is adequate).

With these precautions, electrical noise due to primary power source equipment and radio frequency equipment will ordinarily be within acceptable limits.

#### **How to Deal with Artifacts Using System Features**

Muscle Artifacts. If, after applying the above suggestions, the muscle artifacts are still excessive, they may be reduced by averaging. For the ERG, averaging 10 sweeps should reduce the noise level to an acceptable level. To minimize light adapting the subject from repeated flashes, sett the time between sweeps to 15 seconds. Although averaging is the preferred solution in most cases, muscle artifacts may also be partially filtered by the amplifier filters. Since musclegenerated noise is generally at the high end of the spectrum, it can be reduced in the ERG by setting the low-pass (high cut) filter to 100 Hz, rather than the usual default of 500 Hz. A 70 Hz filter may be attempted, but significant distortion of the recording will result and proper latency measurements will not be possible. In the standard EOG protocol, the filter values are preset and cannot be changed.

Another way to deal with muscle noise is to smooth the waveform. Smoothing the waveform produces a filtered effect, which will not alter the latency of the waveform.

Eye Movement Artifacts. If a steady baseline cannot be obtained the baseline may be stabilized by averaging. With averaging, the effects of positive and negative eye movements are partially canceled. Averaging 10 sweeps will generally allow a satisfactory recording to be obtained. If patient light adaptation is a concern with the repeated flashes, set the time between sweeps to 15 seconds. When employing signal averaging with automated artifact rejection, the artifact reject level should be set to eliminate those waveforms that are obviously not representative of the true response. The artifact reject criterion should be selected to be about 20% greater than the largest "true" signal expected. If too many waveforms are rejected, increase the criterion.

Although averaging is the preferred solution in most cases, eye movements can be removed by analog filtering. Since eye movement noise affects the low end of the waveform frequency spectrum, it can be reduced by setting the high-pass (low cut) filter to 1 Hz (rather than the default of DC). The 5 Hz filter may be attempted for difficult cases, but there will be significant distortion on the recording.

Another option for dealing with a drifting baseline is to use the *Baseline Correct* feature; see section 10.6 for more information.

EEG Artifacts. The primary mechanism for reducing EEG artifacts in the VER is to use signal averaging. Theoretically, EEG noise and other noise uncorrelated with the stimulus will be reduced by the square root of the number of sweeps averaged. For example, if 50 sweeps were averaged, the noise would be reduced by approximately 7. This is usually adequate to obtain satisfactory VER recordings. The use of low pass (high cut) filtering can also be helpful. Whereas the VER default filter setting is at 100 Hz, the 30 Hz filter will produce a smoother waveform. *Note: the use of the 30 Hz filter will add 5 to 10 ms to the latency estimate.*

Artifacts Generated by the Equipment. Other than taking the listed precautions,, there may not be much that can be done to reduce the effects of high frequency noise artifacts. It may, in fact, be difficult to recognize this form of interference since it is translated to lie within the bandwidth of the recording. As a rule, if the interference is periodic, and not 60 Hertz, then high frequency noise should be suspected. Depending on the frequency of the interference and where it originates, it may be possible to reduce it by with either the high pass or low pass filters.

# **Appendix 3: LKC Normal Data**

#### **Normative Data for the Clinical Electroretinogram**

Means and Standard Deviations as a Function of Age for the Most Commonly Measured Parameters of the International Standard (ISCEV) ERG Protocol



**Monopolar Electrodes** (e.g. ERG-Jet)

### **Bipolar Electrodes**<sup>3</sup> (e.g. Burian-Allen)



1

<sup>3</sup> ERG amplitudes for bipolar electrodes, such as the Burian-Allen bipolar electrode are 0.79 (±0.03) times those of a monopolar electrode, such as the ERG-Jet

#### **How To Use the ERG Normative Data**

ERG amplitudes decrease with age, while some implicit times increase with age. Consequently, some of the normative data provided are expressed as a value plus or minus a change per year of age. ERG amplitudes also depend on the type of electrode (monopolar or bipolar) that is used. Make sure to use values from the table that is appropriate for the electrodes used. For example, to calculate the mean value of b-wave amplitude for the 0 dB scotopic flash response of a 67 year old patient using an ERG-Jet electrode:

$$
Mean = 644 \,\mu\text{V} \cdot \left(\frac{1.6 \,\mu\text{V}}{\text{year}} \times 67 \text{ years}\right)
$$

ERG amplitudes and implicit times will vary among individuals and all are approximately normally distributed. Accordingly, 95% of all normal values will fall below 1.65 standard deviations from the mean. For the 67 year old patient above, the 0 dB scotopic flash response would have a 5% chance of being normal if it were below 537 -  $(1.65 \times 117)$  or 344  $\mu$ V. To determine cutoff probabilities other than 5%, use the table below to select the appropriate multiplier.



*Notes:*

- These normative data are valid for subjects between the ages of 20 and 80. Extrapolations to younger or older ages should be made with care.
- Oscillatory Potential amplitudes were determined using the *Analyze Oscillatory Potentials* function of LKC's software package. They were *not* determined using the analog filtered waveform.
- The 30 Hz flicker amplitude and implicit time were determined using the *Flicker Amplitude and Timing* function of LKC's software package. They were *not* determined by placing cursors on the waveform.

The data reported here were collected under a grant to LKC from the National Eye Institute. ERG data was collected from one eye of 122 subjects with ophthalmoscopically normal fundi and no history of diabetes. Their ages ranged from 22 to 79, with approximately equal representation in each decade. Cursors were placed on waveforms by experienced technicians. Linear regression was used to determine the age-dependence of each parameter.

#### **Normative data for other ERG parameters of interest was measured with a monopolar electrode.**

To determine the normal value for any age, add the constant value to the product of the patient's age and the change per year (if any). For bipolar electrodes, divide amplitude values by 1.26. The 95% limits of normal are the mean  $\pm$  2 S.D.



\* Data are lognormal after addition of a constant.

#### **Limits of Normal for the Clinical Electroretinogram**

95% Limits of normal as a function of age for the most commonly measured parameters of the International Standard (ISCEV) protocol using **monopolar** electrodes

24 dB Scotopic Flash b-wave Amplitude should be above:						
Age	20				60	70
Amplitude $(uV)$	85ء					

24 dB Scotopic Flash b-wave Amplitude should be **above**:

0 dB Scotopic Flash b-wave Amplitude should be <b>above</b> :						
Age		30	40		60	70
Amplitude $(uV)$	419	403	387	771	355	339

#### 0 dB Scotopic Flash b-wave Implicit Time should be **below**:



#### Oscillatory Potential Amplitude should be **above**:



#### 0 dB Photopic Flash b-wave Amplitude should be **above**:



#### 0 dB Photopic Flash b-wave Implicit Time should be **below**:



#### 30 Hz Photopic Flicker Amplitude should be **above**:



#### 30 Hz Photopic Flicker Implicit Time should be **below**:



#### **Limits of Normal for the Clinical Electroretinogram**

95% Limits of normal as a function of age for the most commonly measured parameters of the International Standard (ISCEV) protocol using **bipolar** electrodes

24 dB Scotopic Flash b-wave Amplitude should be above:						
Age			40		60	70
Amplitude $(uV)$	46	29			$\overline{\phantom{m}}$	

24 dB Scotopic Flash b-wave Amplitude should be **above**:

0 dB Scotopic Flash b-wave Amplitude should be <b>above</b> :						
Age	20	30	40		60	70
Amplitude $(\mu V)$	331	318	306	293	280	268

#### 0 dB Scotopic Flash b-wave Implicit Time should be **below**:



#### Oscillatory Potential Amplitude should be **above**:



#### 0 dB Photopic Flash b-wave Amplitude should be **above**:



#### 0 dB Photopic Flash b-wave Implicit Time should be **below**:



#### 30 Hz Photopic Flicker Amplitude should be **above**:



#### 30 Hz Photopic Flicker Implicit Time should be **below**:



#### **Normative data for ERG b/a amplitude ratio**

**Methods**: Data was collected from the right eye of 110 normal subjects aged 22 to 79. There was approximately the same number of subjects in each decade. ERG responses were measured from the "maximal response" step (0 dB scotopic flash) of the ISCEV standard ERG protocol. Cursors were placed on the waveform by experienced technicians. A-wave amplitude was measured from a quiet spot on the baseline to the trough of the a-wave. B-wave amplitude was measured from the trough of the a-wave to the peak of the b-wave.

B-wave/A-wave amplitude ratios were computed and the change with age was determined by linear regression.

**Results:** B-wave/A-wave amplitude ratio changed significantly with the age of the patient ( $p =$ 0.0011, t-test); however there is a large standard deviation which results in a low correlation coefficient ( $\mathbf{R}^2 = 0.09$ ). Linear regression of B-wave/A-wave amplitude ratio results in the following relationship:

$$
Mean\frac{b}{a} = 1.64 + [.0095 \times Age(years)]
$$

## **Limits of Normal for Visually Evoked Potentials**



#### **95% Limits of Normal for P<sup>100</sup> Latency of the Pattern Visually Evoked Potential**

Check sizes are given for the recommended viewing distance of 1.0 meter

# **Limits of Normal for Features of the Flash Visually Evoked Potential**



Note: Amplitudes of the pattern and flash Visually Evoked Potential are highly variable and are seldom of clinical interest.

# **Appendix 4: Recommended Literature and Website**

#### **Website:**

ISCEV (International Society for Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision) Website: [www.iscev.org](http://www.iscev.org/)

#### **Books:**

Fishman, GA, Birch, DG, Holder, GE and Brigell, MG (2001) Ophthalmology Monograph 02: Electrophysiologic testing in disorders of the retina, optic nerve, and visual pathway. American Academy of Ophthalmology, 2nd Edition 2001.

Principles and Practice of Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision, Second Edition Edited by [John R. Heckenlively](http://mitpress.mit.edu/catalog/author/default.asp?aid=31037) and [Geoffrey B. Arden](http://mitpress.mit.edu/catalog/author/default.asp?aid=31038) [Steven Nusinowitz,](http://mitpress.mit.edu/catalog/author/default.asp?aid=31039) [Graham E. Holder](http://mitpress.mit.edu/catalog/author/default.asp?aid=31040) and [Michael Bach,](http://mitpress.mit.edu/catalog/author/default.asp?aid=31041) Associate Editors

# **Appendix 5: Standard Protocols**

The following pages contain the software settings for each of the LKC standard protocols that come with the UTAS system. Some of the protocols are repeated for different stimulators (e.g. the Standard ERG protocol appears for the Grass Flash and Kurbisfeld stimulators).

The protocols are organized by test: ERG protocols, VER protocols, and EOG protocols.

## **2008 STANDARD ERG PROTOCOL**



## **STANDARD ERG PROTOCOL WITH WHITE ONLY MINI GANZFELD**



## **STANDARD ERG PROTOCOL WITH COLOR MINI GANZFELD**



## **ERG EXTENDED PROTOCOL**



## **CLASSIC ERG PROTOCOL**



# **FLICKER ERG PROTOCOL**





## LKC Technologies, Inc.





## **FLICKER ERG WITH WHITE MINI GANZFELD**


#### Protocol in C:\EMwin\flickergmgsU.pro.

#### LKC Technologies 2 Professional Drive



#### **FLICKER ERG PROTOCOL WITH COLOR MINI GANZFELD**







## **RETINAL ISCHEMIA MONITOR PROTOCOL**



## **PATTERN ERG PROTOCOL**



## **BRIGHT FLASH ERG PROTOCOL**



## **DOUBLE FLASH ERG PROTOCOL**



### **ON/OFF ERG PROTOCOL**



## **ON/OFF ERG PROTOCOL WITH COLOR MINI GANZFELD**



#### **PHOTOPIC NEGATIVE RESPONSE ERG PROTOCOL**



### **S-CONE ERG PROTOCOL**



#### **PATTERN VEP PROTOCOL**



#### **PATTERN VEP ISCEV 2011**



#### **ISCEV PATTERN ONSET PROTOCOL**

Page 1

#### Protocol in C:\EMWIN\patternBlankVERU.pro



**LKC Technologies fessional Drive** sburg, MD 20879<br>W.LKC.COM

#### **FLASH VEP PROTOCOL**



## **FLASH VEP PROTOCOL WITH COLOR MINI GANZFELD**



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## **FLASH VEP PROTOCOL WITH WHITE MINI GANZFELD**



## **INTENSITY RESPONSE PROTOCOL**









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#### ULTRAVIOLET ERG PROTOCOL

