

EEG and EMG Equipment

Investing in Essential Technology to Support Excellence in Neurology

Funding Goal: \$110,000

Help us provide convenient access to leading-edge neurological diagnosis and care capabilities, right here in the North Bay

A healthy adult comes into the MarinHealth Emergency Department after fainting. With no identified cause in her work up and no history of seizures, she is discharged with instructions to follow up with MarinHealth Outpatient Neurology. Another patient visits the outpatient neurologist with nerve pain or neuropathy. In both situations, the neurologist will rely on sophisticated diagnostics to evaluate the body's electrical field, diagnosing the patient's condition and driving effective treatment options.

Both of these scenarios are common in the North Bay, which is home to a large aging population. Fainting could be related to stroke, a cardiovascular abnormality such as atrial fibrillation, or an undiagnosed seizure disorder. Nerve pain and muscle weakness might be linked to diabetes, medications, or an underlying neurological condition.

These scenarios highlight a shared need: Local access to testing for fast and accurate diagnosis. Currently, access to this testing — an electroencephalogram (EEG) to look at the brain waves and electromyography (EMG) to explore nerve conduction and muscles — is limited in the North Bay. Although both technologies are accessible for inpatient and emergency care at MarinHealth, physicians often must refer patients from the outpatient practice to complete the testing outside of Marin County for non emergent or routine EEGs or EMGs.

The solution — equipping MarinHealth Outpatient Neurology with EEG and EMG equipment — will benefit our local community in more ways than one. North Bay patients will no longer need to travel for these procedures. Additionally, by offering access to the best diagnostic equipment, we will be able to attract additional physicians to our exceptional neurology team. By funding the purchase of this essential technology, your generosity can bring these possibilities to life.



"Neurologic issues are very prevalent here in the North Bay. Easier access to EEG and EMG equipment will have a significant impact on quality of care for our patients, making our work as neurologists more precise, accurate, and timely."

— Melanie Lising, MD
MarinHealth Neurology

Expanding the Capabilities of MarinHealth Neurology

Every year, hundreds of patients consult MarinHealth Neurology for support with a wide range of health challenges, from seizures or fainting to sciatica or carpal tunnel. Many of these patients will need an EEG, which can detect abnormalities in the brain's electrical impulses, or an EMG, which can identify changes in the body's peripheral nervous system.

Today, the majority of these patients must go out-of-area because outpatient access to EEGs and EMGs in the North Bay is limited. Whether they choose to travel or to seek availability through MarinHealth Medical Center (which prioritizes inpatient and emergency cases), patients may wait three to four months for an EEG or EMG.

With support from the community, MarinHealth will be able to purchase EEG and EMG equipment for use in its outpatient neurology practice, enabling hundreds of patients to access these tests close to home. For patients suffering from nerve pain or muscle weakness, who often opt to receive treatment based on symptoms alone rather than traveling for a diagnostic EMG, this improvement will result in more immediate, precise care, often with better results. For patients who require ongoing EEGs — for example, to monitor a seizure or sleep disorder — health maintenance will be more convenient and timely. In all cases, MarinHealth neurologists see great advantages in being able to conduct these essential tests within their practice, where procedures can be repeated and results clarified if required.

What can philanthropy do?

Purchasing outpatient EEG and EMG equipment will enable MarinHealth to take action on its defining directive: To provide access to the best possible care for all patients, across generations, right here in the North Bay. At any time, anyone in our community — particularly among our growing population of seniors — could need expert neurological care. If that happens, convenient access to the best technology for diagnosis and treatment can make all the difference. Your support will help ensure that MarinHealth's dedicated neurologists are able to provide the best possible care, close to home, whenever it's needed.

At-a-Glance

Your gift to MarinHealth Foundation will:

- Fund the purchase of EEG and EMG equipment for use by MarinHealth neurologists in their outpatient practice
- Provide easy outpatient access to two of the most important diagnostic tools in a neurologist's tool kit
- Improve quality of care for hundreds of patients each year



To learn more or make a gift that helps MarinHealth provide convenient outpatient access to neurological diagnosis and care capabilities, please contact MarinHealth Foundation at **1-415-925-7770** or **Foundation@mymarinhealth.org**.