



*Interpreting Physician Associates, Inc.*

**FOR INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS OR BILL PLEASE CALL: 1-877-295-2554**

Following surgery, AMS will bill relevant charges to your insurance for the IONM services provided intraoperatively. Although we may not participate in-network with your particular insurance carrier, all insurances, regardless of participation, accept our claims for processing. It could take a couple weeks up to a couple months for the service to be processed by your insurance company, and at that time an explanation of benefits (EOB) will be sent to you. Once received, please call us with any questions you may have, and realize: this is NOT a bill. Your EOB may reference Advanced Monitoring Services or the interpreting physician that oversees your neuromonitoring. We strive to minimize your financial responsibility by working diligently with you and your insurance provider, and further, we guarantee any patient responsibility will not exceed what you would be expected to pay if we participated in-network with your insurance provider. Additionally, you can apply for our financial assistance program, if needed. If you have any questions about your responsibility for payment, please call us toll-free at **1-877-295-2554**.

**What is IONM?**

Intra-Operative Neurophysiologic Monitoring (IONM) is a technique that is directly aimed at reducing the risk of neurological deficits during surgeries that involve the nervous system. Through the use of IONM, the electrical potentials of the body's nervous system are monitored and recorded to provide early detection of possible nervous system complications that may arise during surgery. By providing real-time alerts and critical information to the surgeon, the potential for harm to neural structures, including the spinal cord, can be reduced. Your surgeon utilizes IONM as the *standard of care* to amplify his or her ability to provide you quality care and a superior outcome.

**The Benefits of IONM are Clear**

Our mission is to put your safety first. Advanced Monitoring Services is committed to utilizing the most advanced monitoring techniques and equipment – supported by trained personnel. As such, the patient care we deliver must always adhere to the highest standard of medical practice. We are able to reduce or eliminate the risk of neurological damage that may result in post-operative long-term nerve injury by offering your surgeon real-time neurophysiologic feedback that allows him or her to alter surgical technique should a neurophysiologic change be detected.

**Services Provided**

Your IONM technologist will strategize with your surgeon to develop the best plan for YOU based on your history, physical condition, diagnosis, and the type of surgery you are undergoing. Some of our modalities- or tests- include: Somatosensory Evoke Potentials, Transcranial Motor Evoked Potentials, Sensorimotor Localization, Electroencephalography, Electromyography, and Auditory Brainstem Responses. More information about the services we provide can be found on our website @ [www.ams-ionm.com](http://www.ams-ionm.com).

**Real-Time Data Interpretation**

AMS is partnered with neurologists who provide real time, online remote supervision of IONM surgeries as they occur. These neurologists act as medical overseers of IONM procedures and provide a post-operative medical interpretation of your intraoperative neurophysiologic study. Through HIPAA compliant and secure online connections, the neurologist has real-time viewing access of the IONM technologist's testing screen, allowing the ability to request or suggest intervention immediately during the surgery.

**What to Expect on the Day of Surgery**

Your IONM technologist will meet you before you are taken into the OR in the preoperative holding area to discuss the modalities of your IONM monitoring strategy. The technologists will go over your patient rights and ask you to sign a treatment consent form. Also, the technologists will ask you medical and surgical history questions that will be submitted into the IONM medical records report for use by your interpreting physician. Then, sticker electrodes will be placed on your arms & legs over specific nerve stimulation sites, usually at the wrists and/or the ankles. Once you are transported to the OR, positioned for surgery, and under maintenance anesthesia, subdermal electrodes will be placed at specific anatomical sites to complete the IONM set-up. Once the surgery is complete and all IONM testing is concluded, our technologists will remove all stimulating and recording electrodes from your body. Other than minimal skin irritation, IONM testing is virtually painless.