

Neurological Disorders Physical Exam Checklist

CRANIAL NERVES
Evaluate the visual fields (CN II)
Test visual acuity (CN II)
Test pupillary reactivity to light and near response (CN II, III)
Use ophthalmoscope to identify red reflex and optic disc
Test extra-ocular movements (CN III, IV, VI)
Assess contraction and strength of masseter and temporal muscles (CN V)
Asses light touch and pinprick in all three divisions of the trigeminal nerve. (CN V)
Assess function of facial muscles (raise eyebrows, close eyes, smile, puff out cheeks). CN VII
Test auditory function using finger rub, watch tick (CN VIII)
Assess movement of the soft palate and pharynx. (CN IX and X)
Assess function of the trapezius and sternocleidomastoid muscles. (CN XI)
Evaluate the patient's tongue for atrophy, fasciculations and normal movement (CN XII)
STRENGTH TESTING: Evaluate the strength of the following muscle groups
Shoulder abductors
Elbow Flexors
Elbow Extensors
Wrist Flexors
Wrist Extensors
Hip Flexors
Knee Flexors
Knee Extensors
Ankle Dorsiflexors
Ankle Plantar Flexors
ASSESS DEEP TENDON REFLEXES
Biceps
Triceps
Brachioradialis
Patellar
Achilles
Demonstrate technique to elicit plantar response
ASSESS SENSATION
Test pain using pin prick in all extremities (spinothalamic tracts)
Test vibration sense in hands/feet using 128Hz tuning fork (dorsal columns)
Evaluate sensation to light touch in all extremities
Test discriminative sensation by stereognosis, tracing graphesthesia, or 2-point discrimination
ASSESS CEREBELLAR FUNCTION
Assess cerebellar function using rapid alternating movements
Evaluated cerebellar function-finger to nose
Evaluated cerebellar function-heel to shin
ASSESS STANCE AND GAIT
Evaluated normal ambulation
Evaluated toe walk, heel walk, tandem walk
Perform Romberg test
Test for Pronator drift