

Rapid Neurological Exam Checklist

(Note any results which are Not Normal)

- **Mental Status:**

- Alertness - Does patient seem to be aware of what is going on and able to communicate appropriately
- Orientation - Does patient know who they are, how old are they, where they are, what date/day it is, what have they been doing
- Memory - Ask patient to remember an three objects then later in the exam ask the patient to recall the objects
- Calculation - Have patient count backwards from 100 by sevens

- **Cranial Nerves:**

- Eyes - Can patient see, is vision normal, is eye movement normal
- Hearing - Can patient hear equally in both ears, is hearing normal
- Smell - Can patient smell (coffee, peppermint, etc.)
- Facial Muscles - Is the face equal in muscle tone and control, have patient smile
- Tongue - Can patient control tongue movement, it should stick straight out
- Gag Reflex - Does the "Adam's Apple" move when patient swallows
- Facial Sensation - Can patient feel light touch equally on both sides of their face
- Shoulders - Can patient raise their shoulders equally against resistance

- **Muscle Strength against resistance (use 0-5 scale):**

- Arms:
 - Lift arms away from side
 - Push arms towards side
 - Pull forearm towards upper arm
 - Push forearm away from upper arm
 - Lift wrist up
 - Push wrist down

- Squeeze examiners finger
- Pull fingers apart
- Squeeze fingers together
- Legs:
 - Lift legs up
 - Push legs down
 - Pull legs apart
 - Push legs together
 - Pull lower leg towards upper leg
 - Push lower leg away from upper leg
 - Push feet away from legs
 - Pull feet towards legs

- **Sensory (have patient close eyes while checking sensory perception):**

- Light Touch - Can patient feel light touch equally on both sides of the body
- Sharp/Dull - Can patient distinguish between a sharp or dull object on both sides of the body
- Hot/Cold - Can patient distinguish between a hot or cold object on both sides of the body

- **Coordination (on any test requiring a patient to stand make sure someone is there to support them):**

- Have the patient touch their nose with their index finger of each hand with eyes shut
- Have the patient rapidly slap one hand on the palm of the other, alternating palm up and then palm down - test both sides
- Have the patient walk heel to toe in a straight line - forwards and backwards
- While standing, have the patient touches the heel of one foot to the knee of the opposite leg, and while maintaining this contact, have them run the heel down the shin to the ankle - test each leg
- With eyes closed, have the patient stand with feet together and arms extended to the front, palms up