



Neuro Exam

Mental Status Exam

Mental status exam

- Glasgow coma scale (link)
- Mini mental status examination
- Global assessment of function
- Fundoscopy to assess intracranial pressure

Cranial Nerves

Cranial Nerves

- I: Sense of smell
 - o Rarely done. Can use peppermint oil, coffee grounds, etc.
- II: Visual fields, visual acuity
 - Snellen eye chart
 - Test visual fields by wiggling fingertips
- III, IV, VI: Extraocular movements, pupillary reflexes
 - Have eyes trace "H" pattern, note any asymmetry or deficits
- V: Sensation of face, bite strength
 - o Test V1, V2, V3 distribution
 - o Place hands on masseters and feel muscle contraction
- VII: Facial muscle strength
 - Squint eyes, raise eyebrows, smile, puff out cheeks
- VIII: Test hearing
 - o Finger rub, Rinne and Weber
- IX: Swallowing
 - No choking, regurgitation, etc
- X: Gag reflex, uvula deviation
- XI: Shoulder strength, SCM strength
- XII: Tongue movements

Muscle Strength, Tone, & Bulk

Muscle strength, tone and bulk

- Grade muscle strength from 0-5
 - o 0: No muscle twitch
 - 1: Some muscle twitch but no movement
 - 2: Movement, but can't resist gravity
 - 3: Movement against gravity
 - 4-: Movement against slight resistance only
 - 4: Movement against some resistance
 - 4+ : Slightly weaker than normal (not used at all programs)
 - o 5: Normal strength
- Tone/ bulk: Symmetric, tenderness





Reflexes
Sensation

Reflexes

• Biceps, triceps, brachioradialis, patellar, ankle jerk, Babinski

Sensory Function

• Test dermatomes with light touch, pain, temperature, vibration sense

Cerebellar Function

Cerebellar function

- Finger to nose
- Ankle over tibia
- Rapid alternating movements
- Gait