

Motor Function Assessment for Nerve Injury

Perform these tests on the unaffected hand first, then test the affected hand.

The unaffected hand provides a normal result for comparison.

Consider performing tests prior to activity to determine any pre-existing weakness.

RADIAL Have the individual extend their fingers and hand straight out, palm down. Apply some resistance to the back of their hand and have the individual lift their hand. Weakness with or without resistance is sign of an injury.

MEDIAN Have the individual pinch with their thumb and pointer finger. Insert your pointer finger beneath thumb. Instruct the individual to not let you break the position of their pinched fingers while you lift your pointer finger straight up.

ULNAR Have the individual extend their hand with fingers spread. Instruct them to maintain finger position against your movement. With your hand, attempt to push pointer finger towards middle finger and little finger towards ring finger.



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