

Down Dog

micro drip study guide

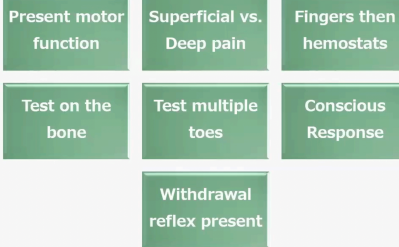
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Deep Pain Perception



Now, one of the things people always ask me is how do you test for deep pain perception. Well, the big thing here is definitely to make sure that you're evaluating for a conscious response here, this conscious cortical response versus just the reflex. If a patient has a disc rupture, that withdrawal reflex may very well be present. So if the patient has a withdrawal reflex, don't misinterpret that as deep pain. What you're looking for is them trying to bite you, turning their head, whining, crying, elevated heart rate, they're paying attention to you, something along those lines.

If the patient has present motor function, they're going to have deep pain except for in some very rare sensory neuropathies. You always want superficial versus deep pain may not be as important as we used to think it was because if the patient has intact deep pain, it doesn't really matter if they have superficial from what we understand from a prognostic standpoint, so the big thing is just deep pain. I always start with my fingers and just pinch them with both my fingers first. But if I'm not getting that response, I will test on the bone, and I will test multiple toes due to the fact that these different dermatomes can be affected and can help us guide us from a neurologic standpoint as well.