

Essential minimum tests to accompany a Neurology referral

To improve the quality of Neurology referrals it is requested that the following essential minimum tests accompany a Neurology referral.

Please do not send in referrals with 'CNS-NAD' as detailed documentation of examination findings is essential to protect you against clinical negligency cases as the former offers no proof of what was tested - or not.

Examination	Notes
Comment on cognition	No formal tests required if good interview unless indicated
Comment on speech	Language, dysarthric or dysphonic – again not formally tested unless symptoms or obvious issues
Cranials including fundoscopy	Important – most cranials should be tested. Exclusions being: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If no olfactory issues, hearing tests unless there is hearing symptoms and gag reflex • X11 can be done quickly and efficiently
Sensation	Only if there are symptoms
Tone, Power, clonus	Of all 4 limbs
Reflexes, plantars	Of all 4 limbs
Cerebellum	Finger-nose, rapid alternating movements, heel along shin to toe, tandem gait