

Cremasteric Reflex

Name: _____ Age: _____ Test date: _____

Purpose

To evaluate the function of the cremasteric muscle, which is supplied by the genitofemoral nerve (L1, L2). This reflex is assessed in biological males only, as the female equivalent is called the Geigel reflex.

Equipment

Any blunt instrument (e.g. handle of a reflex hammer or the edge of a tongue depressor)

Test procedure

1. Position the patient in a comfortable, supine position with their legs slightly apart to allow easy access to the medial part of the thigh.
2. Using a blunt instrument, such as the handle of a reflex hammer or the edge of a tongue depressor, gently stroke the medial part of the thigh in a downward direction.
3. Observe the response on the same side being tested. Then, look for the contraction of the cremasteric muscle, which should elevate the scrotum and testis.
4. Record whether the reflex is present or absent. Note any exaggerated responses, especially in children, or any absence of the reflex, which could indicate upper motor neuron (UMN) or lower motor neuron (LMN) lesions.
5. Consider recent abdominal surgery, scrotal pain, or testicular torsion, which may impair the reliability of the findings.

Test results

Left side

Presence of reflex:

Present Absent

Notes on response:

Right side

Presence of reflex:

Present Absent

Notes on response:

Additional notes

Healthcare professional information

Name:

Signature:



Date:

References

Mellick, L. B., Mowery, M. L., & Al-Dhahir, M. A. (2021). *Cremasteric reflex*. PubMed; StatPearls Publishing. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK513348/>

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