

Jebsen-Taylor Hand Function Test (JTHFT)

Patient information

Name:

Age:

Gender:

Test date:

Purpose

The Jebsen-Taylor Hand Function Test (JTHFT) is a standardized and objective measure of fine and gross motor hand function through simulated activities of daily living (ADL). Developed in 1969, it is one of the most commonly used tools for quantifying hand motor function. The test is particularly useful for patients with hand dysfunctions due to conditions such as spinal cord injury, stroke, cerebral palsy, rheumatoid arthritis, carpal tunnel syndrome, and other musculoskeletal or neurological disorders.

Equipment needed

- Stopwatch
- Chair (18" seat height)
- Desk/table (30" high)
- Black ballpoint pen
- Four 8x11" sheets of unruled white paper on a clipboard
- Sentences typed in all capital letters centered on a 5x8" index card on a bookstand
- Five 3x5" index cards (ruled on one side only)
- Empty 1-pound coffee can
- Two 1" paper clips
- Two regular-sized bottle caps (1" diameter)
- Two U.S. pennies
- Five kidney beans (~5/8" long)
- One regular teaspoon
- Wooden board (41 1/2" long, 11 1/4" wide, 3/4" thick), "C" clamp, plywood (20" long, 2" wide, 1/2" thick) glued to the board
- Four standard size (1 1/4" diameter) red wooden checkers
- Five No. 303 cans

Time required

- 15-45 minutes

Test procedure

1. **Writing:** The patient writes a 24-letter sentence of third-grade reading difficulty on a sheet of paper using a pen. The time taken from "go" until the patient lifts the pen off the page is recorded.
2. **Card turning:** Place 5 index cards in a horizontal row. The patient turns over the cards one at a time as quickly as possible. Record the time from "go" until the last card is turned over.

3. **Small common objects:** Place an empty 1-pound coffee can and small objects (pennies, paper clips, bottle caps) on the table. The patient picks up each object one at a time and places them in the can. Record the time from “go” until the last object is placed in the can.
4. **Simulated feeding:** Place 5 kidney beans and an empty coffee can on a board. The patient uses a teaspoon to pick up the beans one at a time and place them in the can. Record the time from “go” until the last bean hits the bottom of the can.
5. **Checkers:** Place 4 checkers in front of a board. The patient stacks the checkers one on top of another. Record the time from “go” until the fourth checker makes contact with the third.
6. **Large light objects:** Place 5 empty cans on the table. The patient moves the cans one at a time onto a board. Record the time from “go” until the last can is moved.
7. **Large heavy objects:** Place 5 full 1-pound cans on the table. The patient moves the cans one at a time onto a board. Record the time from “go” until the last can is moved.

Test results

Task	Right hand (seconds)	Left hand (seconds)
Writing		
Card turning		
Small common objects		
Simulated feeding		
Checkers		
Large light objects		
Large heavy objects		
Total time:		

Normative data

Task	Right hand Normal (s)	Right hand Postoperative 9 months (s)	Left hand Normal (s)	Left hand Postoperative 9 months (s)
Writing	9.1	7.2	8.5	10.1
Simulated page turning	4.4	6.0	3.4	6.2
Lifting small common objects	5.8	7.1	5.5	6.2
Simulated feeding	8.2	5.1	9.2	5.3
Stacking checkers	2.9	3.1	2.9	3.5

Task	Right hand Normal (s)	Right hand Postoperative 9 months (s)	Left hand Normal (s)	Left hand Postoperative 9 months (s)
Lifting large light objects	3.5	2.9	3.0	3.0
Lifting large heavy objects	3.5	2.7	3.0	3.2
Total time:	37.4	32.1	35.5	37.5

Additional notes

Healthcare professional information

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Shirley Ryan Ability Lab. (2012, October 26). Jebsen-Taylor hand function test | rehabmeasures database. <https://www.sralab.org/rehabilitation-measures/jebsen-taylor-hand-function-test>

Park, B., Kim, S., & Kim, J. (2017). Neuroorrhaphy of ulnar nerve with silicon wrapping in Guyon's canal to prevent neuropathy: A case report. Archives of Hand and Microsurgery, 22(4), 293–293. <https://doi.org/10.12790/ahm.2017.22.4.293>