

Patellar Pubic Percussion Test

Name:

Age:

Date:

Examiner:

Pre-test checklist

Confirm the patient has no known allergies to metal if using a tuning fork.

Ensure the examination room is quiet enough to clearly hear percussion sounds.

Check that the stethoscope and tuning fork (if used) are functional.

Test procedure

1. Position the patient in a supine position on the examination table.

2. Wear the stethoscope and place the bell on the pelvis lateral to the pubic symphysis, on the pubic tubercle of the side being examined.

3. Tap on the patella using a finger or a small hammer and listen for the quality of the sound produced. Alternatively, place a 128 Hz tuning fork on the patella or femoral condyle and listen.

4. Assess the sound:

a. **Dull sound:** Positive sign, suggestive of a fracture.

b. **Sharp sound:** Negative sign, suggestive of no fracture.

c. **Tuning fork hum:** Listen for the transmission of the tuning fork's hum, indicating sound conduction through the bone, suggestive of no fracture.

5. Perform the test on the contralateral side and compare the sounds.

Test findings

Examiner's additional notes

Healthcare professional's information

Name:

License number:

Phone number:

Email:

Name of practice: