

Thompson Test

Patient name: _____ Age: _____ Date: _____

Examiner: _____

Purpose

The Thompson Test is a clinical examination used to detect a complete rupture of the Achilles tendon. The Achilles tendon is the largest and strongest tendon in the body, connecting the calf muscles to the heel bone. A rupture of this tendon can result in significant pain, swelling, and difficulty with walking and other daily activities.

Procedure

1. Position the patient prone with their feet dangling off the examination table.
2. Compress the calf muscle of the affected leg.
3. Watch the foot's movement; with a normal, intact Achilles tendon, the foot should plantarflex when the calf is compressed.

Results

- Positive:** If there is minimal or no plantar flexion when the calf is compressed in a prone position, a rupture is likely.
- Negative:** If calf compression results in plantar flexion of the foot, the tendon is likely intact.

Note: The Thomson Test is not always accurate and may produce false results in individuals with partial tears or other conditions affecting the Achilles tendon. Additional imaging tests, such as an ultrasound or MRI, may be necessary for a definitive diagnosis.

Additional notes

Healthcare professional information

Name:

License number:

Contact number:

Signature: