

Thank you for purchasing the Primitive Reflexes Quick Evaluation handout. Primitive reflexes are important to assess and treat if still present. Primitive reflexes are early life reflexes which are important for survival, growth and development. These are typically integrated within the first years of life and taken over by higher level brain processes. If present in childhood or later, these reflexes can interfere with higher level brain functions such as hand eye coordination, attention, gross motor skills, fine motor skills, visual focus, body and bladder control and much more.

Print these quick evaluation forms to bring along with you for testing and tracking progress.

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Primitive Reflex Testing

Asymmetrical Tonic Neck Reflex (ATNR)

- **Test:** Place the child in quadruped (on all fours). *Passively* turn the child's head to the right and the left. *Turn head as far as possible.
- **<u>Presentation:</u>** ATNR reflex is present if the child's arm, on the opposite side of the direction their head is turned, bends.

Symmetrical Tonic Neck Reflex (STNR)

- <u>Test:</u> Place the child in quadruped (on all fours). *Passively* flex then extend the child's head/neck.
- **Presentation:**STNR is present if the child's arms or hip bend, collapse or move.

Spinal Galant (SG)

- <u>Test:</u> Place the child in quadruped (on all fours). Gently stroke downward along the side of the child's spine with your finger tip or the back of a pen. Stroke 2x on each side.
- **Presentation:** SG is present if the child's back curves to the side that was stroked.

Moro

- <u>Test Option 1:</u> Stand closely behind the child, have the child cross their arms across their chest and trust fall i.e fall backward into your arms.
- **<u>Presentation:</u>** Moro is present (possibly) if the child opens their arms during the fall.
- <u>Test Option 2:</u> Ask the child to cross their legs while standing, reach up to the ceiling then down to touch their toes, complete on both sides.
- **<u>Presentation</u>**: Moro is present (possibly) if the child loses balance or falls over.

Palmar Reflex

- **Test:** Ask to hold one hand out with the palm facing up. Stroke the child's hand from space between thumb and index finger to heel of hand. Perform on each hand.
- **Presentation:** Palmar Reflex is present if the child cannot keep their hand still and/or the fingers flex.

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Date tested	Present	Not present (Integrated)		
1.				
2.				
3.				

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Palmar Reflex

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- **<u>Presentation:</u>** Palmar Reflex is present if the child cannot keep their hand still and/or the fingers flex.

Date tested	Present	Not present (integrated)	
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2.			
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Reflex	Test Procedure/Presentation	Present	Integrated
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Moro	Test Option 1:Stand closely behind the child, have the child cross their arms across their chest and trust fall i.e fall backward into your arms.Presentation:Moro is present (possibly) if the child opens their arms during the fall.Test Option 2:Ask the child to cross their legs while standing, reach up to the ceiling then down to touch their		
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Palmar	Test:Ask to hold one hand out with the palm facing up.Stroke the child's hand from space between thumb and index finger to heel of hand.Presentation:Palmar Reflex is present if the child cannot keep their hand still and/or the child's fingers flex.		