

Neurological examination of a newborn

You examine a newborn (40th gestational week) on the ward. The baby's mother is not fluent in German and is sitting beside the child

Exercise 1:

Please start taking the patient's history and explain the mother the examination.

Exercise 2:

Please demonstrate the measurement of the head circumference and palpation of the pulses.

Exercise 3:

Please demonstrate a brief structured neurological examination of the child.

Exercise 4:

a) Transfer the results of your examination into a brief medical report.

b) What are required preparations for paediatricians and nurses before starting the examination of a newborn?

Examination of a newborn Checklist for senior lecturers

**Please do not pass this checklist to any unauthorized
personal!**

Examiner:	signature:
Deputy:	
name of student	

<p>Please literally read out the exercises to the student :</p> <p><i>You examin a newborn (40th gestational week) on the ward. The baby's mother is not fluent in German and is sitting beside the child</i></p>

Exercise 1: Please start taking the patient's history and explain the mother the examination.	Points (max. 5)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Welcoming the mother, ask for name (1 Point) > introducing oneself(1 Point) > clarity of articulation (volume, clarity) (1 Point) > Attitude (eye contact; smiling) (1 Point) > Explanation of examination (1 Point) 	

Exercise 2: Please demonstrate the measurement of the head circumference and palpation of the pulses.	Points (max. 6)
<p>Measurement of head circumference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > complete undressing of the child (take off cap) (1 Point) > „correct“ measurement of head circumference (1 Point) > Result marked in percentile sheet (1 Point) <p>Palpation of the pulses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > brachialis (1 Point) > femoralis (1 Point) > feet pulses (1 Point) 	
<p>Be aware : <i>Infant doll is wearing socks, cap and diapers upon examination; Student has to advise the mother that the baby has to be undressed completely.</i></p>	

Exercise 3: Please demonstrate a brief structured neurological examination of the child.	Points (max.16)
<p>Neurological Examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Palpation of major fontanella (1 Point) > Observe spontaneous activity (1 Point) > Observe muscular tone (e.g.normo-, hypo, hypertensive, floppy baby,) (1 Point) > Observe head motility (1 Point) > primitive muscular reflexes (1 Point) 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Babinski reflex (1 Point) > sucking reflex (1 Point) > palmar reflex (1 Point) > plantar reflex (1 Point) > Moro reaction(1 Point) > walking phenomenon(1 Point) > Galant reflex (1 Point) > Landau reaction (1 Point) > turn around (1 Point) > hear screening by clapping hands (1 Point) > light reaction (1 Point) 	

Exercise 4:	Points (max. 11)
<p>a) Transfer the results of your examination into a brief medical report.</p> <p>b) What are required preparations for paediatricians and nurses before starting the examination of a newborn?</p>	
<p>a) Medical report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > <i>eutrophic newborn in good condition and good nutritional status (1 Point)</i> > Head circumference on 50th percentile (1 Point) > <i>inconspicuous palpation of all pulses (1 Point)</i> > <i>inconspicuous oriented neurological examination (normal spontaneous activity, muscular tone and primitive reflexes) (3 Points)</i> <p>b) Preparation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > heater on (1 Point)> clean mat (1 Point) Examine the child awake, in a quiet surrounding following a meal (1 Point) > Stethoscope pre-warmed (1 Point)> hand disinfection (1 Point) 	
<p>Be aware: Upon neurological examination emphasis is laid on spontaneous activity, muscular tone and primitive reflexes. It's not enough just to mention „...inconspicuous neurological examination“.</p>	

A maximum of 38 points can be reached!

total points:

Time: 10 minutes