

Principles of Instrumental Neurodiagnosis

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N.B. few **normal** people lack one or more symptoms suggesting serious neurologic disease!

- most of older people are concerned that they (or their spouse) have or are developing **Alzheimer's disease** or **stroke**; almost ubiquitous tremor of elderly prompts concern about **Parkinson's disease**.
- many younger patients are concerned about **multiple sclerosis** or **brain tumor**.

N.B. for most neurologic diagnoses, *tests are typically normal when symptoms first appear* and should not be obtained to reassure patient or physician.

- extensive testing can detect "abnormalities" in many young and most elderly persons.

Try to reach clinical diagnosis without reference to neurodiagnostic laboratory!

Never obtain (or refer to result of) neurodiagnostic procedure without specific diagnosis or at least differential diagnosis in mind!

Neuromonitoring

Neurophysiologic monitoring is done on the premise that normal function and ability to compensate for pathophysiologic processes cease before irreversible structural damage ensues.

BIBLIOGRAPHY for ch. "Diagnostics" → follow this [LINK >>](#)