

Clinical value of electrodiagnostic testing following repair of peripheral nerve lesions: a prospective study. Van de Kar HJ, Jaquet JB, Meulstee J, Molenaar CB, Schimsheimer RJ, Hovius SE. J Hand Surg Br. 2002 Aug;27(4):345-9.

Abstract

This study prospectively assessed the level of correlation between functional and electrophysiological recovery after median and ulnar nerve lacerations. Motor and sensory recovery were recorded clinically and electrophysiologically every 3 months in 24 patients with 29 complete median or ulnar nerve lacerations. The strength of agreement between the clinical motor score and the electrophysiological score was "fair", but in 41% a discrepancy was identified (kappa factor 0.39). Regeneration was not detected earlier by electrophysiology than by a thoroughly performed clinical evaluation. This suggests that electrophysiologic testing is of value as an adjunct to clinical assessment for evaluating cases in which there is clinical doubt as to the progress of regeneration and secondary surgery is contemplated.