

# Shoulder Special Test

Name:

## Procedure:

### 1. Empty Can Test (Supraspinatus Test):

Patient Position: Standing or sitting.

Procedure: Abduct the arms to 90 degrees with the thumbs pointing downward, then resist the patient's attempt to lift their arms.

### 2. Hawkins-Kennedy Test:

Patient Position: Sitting or standing.

Procedure: Forward flex the patient's arm to 90 degrees and internally rotate the shoulder, assessing for pain or impingement.

### 3. Drop Arm Test:

Patient Position: Seated or standing.

Procedure: Abduct the patient's arm to 90 degrees and ask them to slowly lower it. Positive if the arm drops uncontrollably.

### 4. Neer Test:

Patient Position: Seated or standing

Procedure: Passively elevate the patient's arm while internally rotating the shoulder. Assess for pain, especially at the end range.

### 5. External Rotation Lag Sign:

Patient Position: Seated

Procedure: Flex the patient's elbow to 90 degrees and externally rotate the shoulder. Ask the patient to maintain the position; a positive test is indicated if they cannot.

## Results and Outcomes for each test

### 1. Empty Can Test (Supraspinatus Test):

- **Positive Finding:**  
Pain or weakness during resisted abduction.
- **Interpretation:**  
Positive results may indicate supraspinatus muscle pathology or impingement.

### 2. Hawkins-Kennedy Test:

- **Positive Finding:**  
Pain or discomfort during internal rotation.
- **Interpretation:**  
Positive results may suggest impingement or rotator cuff pathology.

### 3. Drop Arm Test:

- **Positive Finding:**  
Inability to maintain arm elevation; arm drops uncontrollably.
- **Interpretation:**  
Positive results may indicate rotator cuff tear or weakness.

### 4. Neer Test:

- **Positive Finding:**  
Pain at the end range of passive elevation.
- **Interpretation:**  
Positive results may suggest impingement or rotator cuff pathology.

### 5. External Rotation Lag Sign:

- **Positive Finding:**  
Inability to maintain external rotation position.
- **Interpretation:**  
Positive results may indicate weakness or tears in the infraspinatus or teres minor muscles.