

# Thoracic Outlet Syndrome Test

## (Wright's Test)

Name	Date
<p>The Wright's Test is a clinical test used to diagnose thoracic outlet syndrome (TOS), a condition caused by compression of the nerves and blood vessels in the thoracic outlet, an area between the collarbone and first rib.</p>	
<p><b>Instructions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Introduce yourself and explain the purpose of the test to the patient. Tell them you will check their pulse while they move their head and arm.</li><li>2. Have the patient sit down and relax. Ensure they are comfortable, their arm is at a 90-degree angle, and their elbow flexes to 90 degrees.</li><li>3. Locate the radial pulse on the patient's wrist. Use your first two fingers to feel for the pulse. Apply enough pressure to feel the pulse but not too much that you're cutting off circulation.</li><li>4. Instruct the patient to rotate their head to the opposite side while you maintain the arm position.</li><li>5. Observe the pulse for any changes in strength or absence. If the radial pulse disappears or weakens, it may suggest that the subclavian artery is being compressed, which could indicate thoracic outlet syndrome.</li><li>6. You can also perform the test again with the patient's arm externally rotated to check for brachial plexus compression.</li><li>7. Record your findings and refer the patient for further evaluation as needed.</li></ol>	
<p><b>Reminders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Always explain the purpose and procedure of the test to the patient before starting.</li><li>• Make sure the patient is comfortable and relaxed before starting the test.</li><li>• Apply just enough pressure to feel the pulse, but not too much that you're cutting off circulation.</li><li>• Observe the pulse carefully for any changes in strength or absence.</li><li>• Be gentle and careful when moving the patient's arm and head to avoid injury or discomfort.</li><li>• The Wright's Test is not definitive, and other diagnostic tools should be used in conjunction with it to diagnose thoracic outlet syndrome.</li></ul>	
<p><b>Additional notes</b></p>	