Torn Meniscus Symptoms Test (McMurray Test)

Name	Date

The McMurray Test is a Torn Meniscus Symptoms Exam maneuver used to evaluate the presence of a meniscal tear in the knee joint. The meniscus is a C-shaped piece of cartilage in the knee joint that acts as a shock absorber. A torn meniscus can cause pain, swelling, and limited range of motion in the knee.

Instructions

- 1. Ask the patient to lie down on their back with their legs straight out in front of them.
- 2. Take hold of the patient's heel with one hand and support the knee with the other hand.
- 3. Flex the patient's knee up towards their chest, while keeping the foot flat on the table.
- 4. Slowly rotate the lower leg outwards as far as it will go, while keeping the thigh still.
- 5. At the end of the rotation, quickly extend the patient's knee while still maintaining the outward rotation.
- 6. Listen for any clicking or popping sounds, and ask the patient if they feel any pain or discomfort.
- 7. Repeat steps 5-7 but with inward rotation of the lower leg.
- 8. If the patient reports any pain, discomfort, or clicking sounds during the test, further evaluation may be necessary.

Symptoms checklist

- **Pain:** The most common symptom of a torn meniscus is pain in the affected knee. The pain may be sudden and severe or develop gradually over time.
- **Swelling:** A torn meniscus can cause swelling in the knee joint. The swelling may be mild or severe, depending on the severity of the tear.
- **Stiffness:** The patient may experience stiffness in the knee, especially after sitting for a long time or upon waking up in the morning.
- **Popping or clicking sounds: A** torn meniscus can cause popping or clicking sounds when moving the knee.
- **Difficulty straightening or bending the knee:** Depending on the location and size of the tear, the patient may experience difficulty bending or straightening the knee.
- Feeling like the knee is locked or catching: Some people with a torn meniscus may feel like they are locking up or catching when they move it.

Reminders

• It's important to communicate with the patient throughout the test to ensure they are comfortable and understand what is happening.

- Make sure to support the knee with one hand throughout the test to prevent any unnecessary strain or injury.
- The test may be uncomfortable for the patient, so try to move slowly and carefully to avoid exacerbating any pain.
- Keep in mind that the McMurray test alone is not a definitive diagnosis for a meniscal tear and additional evaluation may be necessary.

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