

with previously used scales, indicating validity and relevance. Although the feasibility of the 9-HPT appears excellent, patients with severe hand disability are sometimes unable to achieve the test. These conditions constitute a limitation of the use of the 9-HPT, as described in the methods of the present work.

In clinical practice, the 9-HPT seems to be an appropriate test to assess treatment efficiency in CSM. Although hand disability is not a recognised symptom of surgery indication, 9-HPT could constitute a precious tool in association with gait impairment assessment for treatment decisions in CSM. Two main clinical dimensions of CSM should be considered in any clinical trial outcome measure: ambulation and hand function. The 9-HPT may be highly suited to assess hand dexterity in CSM. These preliminary data represent a step in the development of a composite scale that could include the assessment of gait and hand

motion disability by the Walking Time test and the 9-HPT.

S Olindo,¹ A Signate,¹ A Richech,¹ P Cabre,¹ Y Catonne,² D Smadja,¹ H Pascal-Mousselard²

¹ Department of Neurology, University Hospital Pierre Zobda-Quitman, Fort de France, Martinique, France; ² Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, University Hospital Pitié-Salpêtrière, University of Paris VI, Paris, France

Correspondence to: Stephane Olindo, MD, Department of Neurology, University Hospital Pierre Zobda-Quitman, 97261 Fort de France, Martinique, France; stephane.olindo@chu-fortdefrance.fr

Competing interests: None.

Published Online First 17 April 2008

J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry 2008;**79**:965–967.
doi:10.1136/jnnp.2007.140285

REFERENCES

1. **Nurick S.** The pathogenesis of the spinal cord disorder associated with cervical spondylosis. *Brain* 1972;**95**:87–100.
2. **Chiles BW 3rd,** Leonard MA, Choudhri HF, *et al.* Cervical spondylotic myelopathy: patterns of

neurological deficit and recovery after anterior cervical decompression. *Neurosurgery* 1999;**44**:762–70.

3. **Singh A,** Crockard HA. Quantitative assessment of cervical spondylotic myelopathy by a simple walking test. *Lancet* 1999;**354**:370–3.
4. **Mathiowetz V,** Weber G, Kashman N, *et al.* Adult's norms for 9-hole peg test of finger dexterity. *Occup Ther J Res* 1985;**5**:24–38.
5. **Cutter GR,** Baier ML, Rudick RA, *et al.* Development of a multiple sclerosis functional composite as a clinical trial outcome measure. *Brain* 1999;**122**:871–82.

CORRECTION

doi:10.1136/jnnp.2006.109512corr1

M Jorns-Häderli, D Straumann, A Palla. Accuracy of the bedside head impulse test in detecting vestibular hypofunction. *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry* 2007;**78**:1113–8. The videos relating to this paper have been moved to <http://vertigo-center.ch/hit/>. The previous link was <http://web.unispital.ch/neurologie/hit>.

Submit an eLetter, and join the debate

eLetters are a fast and convenient way to register your opinion on topical and contentious medical issues. You can find the "submit a response" link alongside the abstract, full text and PDF versions of all our articles. We aim to publish swiftly, and your comments will be emailed directly to the author of the original article to allow them to respond. eLetters are a great way of participating in important clinical debates, so make sure your voice is heard.