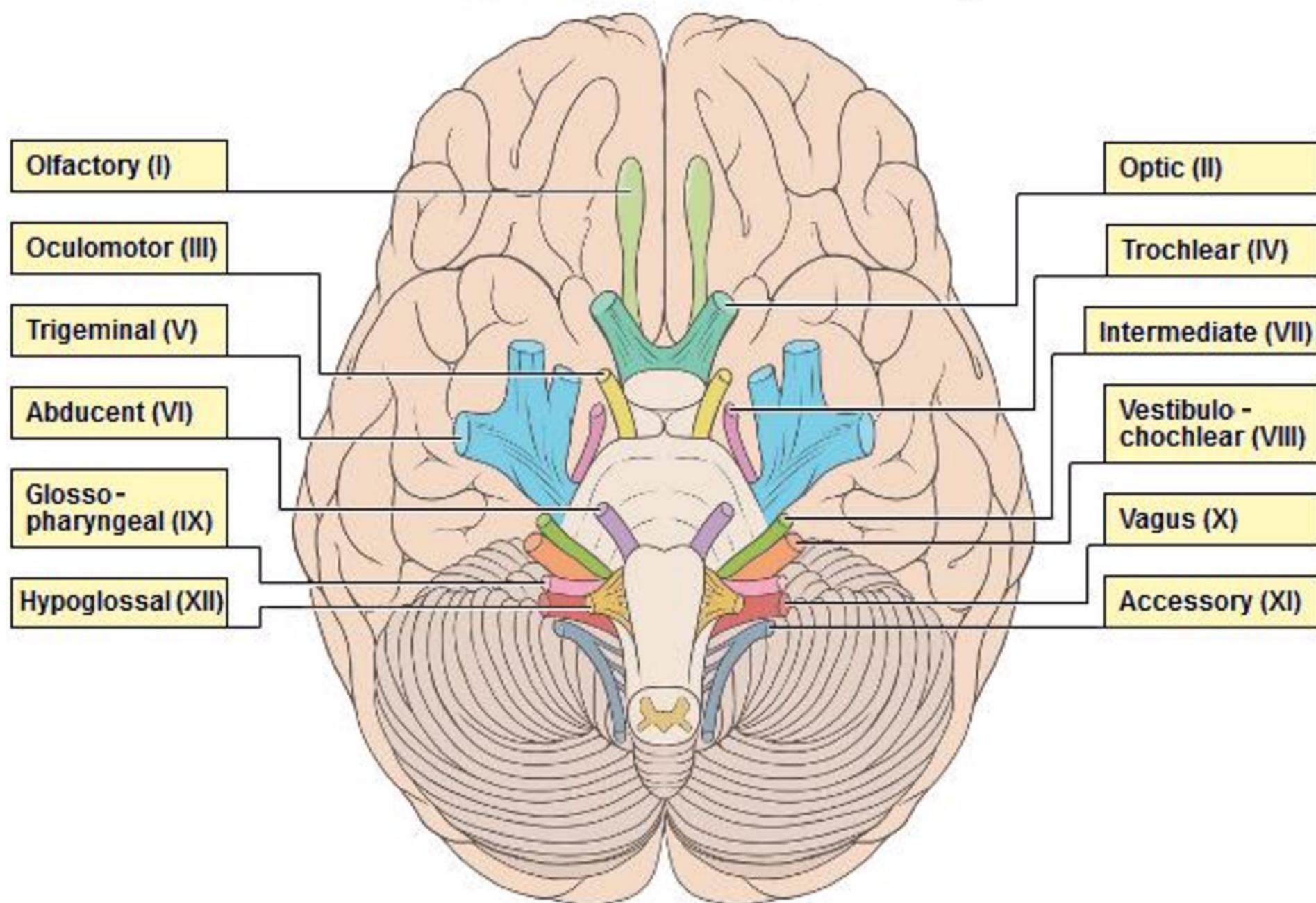


Neurological System

Cranial Nerves (I - XII)



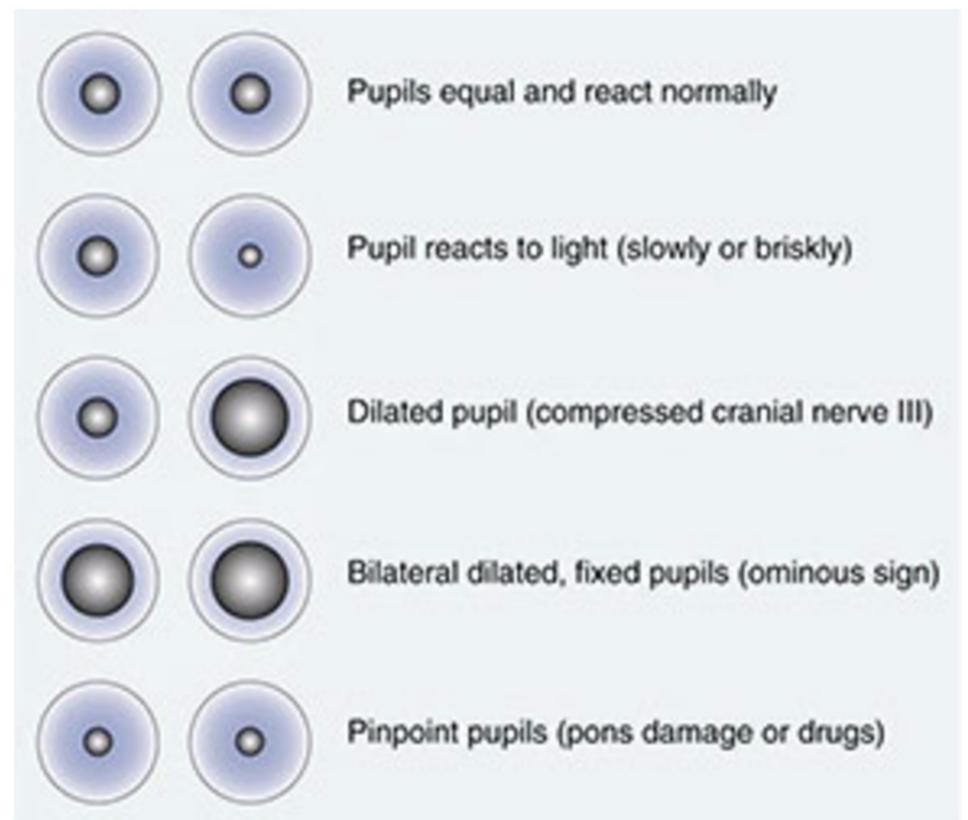
CN	NERVE	FUNCTION	TYPE	TEST
I	Olfactory	Smell	Sensory	Ask resident to identify smell (ex. Coffee)
II	Optic	Sight	Sensory	Assess vision in each eye
III	Oculomotor	Eye Movement	Motor	Check pupil constriction/eye movement
IV	Trochlear	Eye Movement	Motor	Assess resident ability to look downward and inward
V	Trigeminal	Face sensation/Mastication	Both	Motor: Assess ability to clench jaw Sensory: Assess facial response to touch
VI	Abducens	Abducts the eye	Motor	Assess lateral deviation of the eye
VII	Facial	Facial Expression/Taste	Both	Motor: Assess resident's facial movement ability/symmetry Sensory: Check taste on anterior 2/3 of tongue
VIII	Vestibulocochlear	Hearing/Balance	Sensory	Rinne/Weber Motor: Check gag/swallow reflex
IX	Glossopharyngeal	Taste/Gag Reflex	Both	Sensory: Check taste on posterior 1/3 of tongue
X	Vagus	Gag Reflex/Parasympathetic Innervation	Both	Check symmetry of soft palate and uvula
XI	Accessory	Shoulder Strength	Motor	Have patient shrug against resistance
XII	Hypoglossal	Swallowing/Speech	Motor	Ask patient to stick out tongue

Nursing Assessment

Pupil Reaction

Assessment is necessary to determine potential problems that may lead to *Impaired Vision*.

Pupils
Equal
Round
Reactive
Light
Accommodation

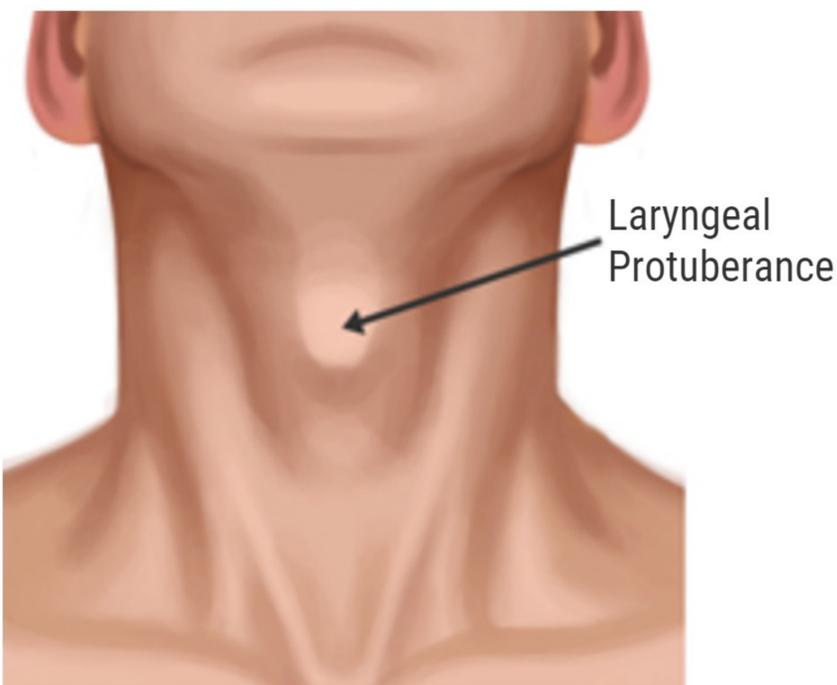


Direct/Consistent: Both eyes react simultaneously to light shined in either eye.

Accommodation: Eye should move together and constrict as object moves towards them.

Swallowing Ability

Assessment is necessary to determine potential problems that may have led to *Impaired Swallowing* as well as handle any difficulty that may appear during nursing care.



Assess ability to swallow by:

1. Position examiner's thumb and index finger on patient's laryngeal protuberance.
2. Ask patient to swallow (you should feel the larynx elevate)
3. Test for a gag reflex on both sides of posterior pharyngeal wall (lingual service) with a tongue blade

Note: Do not rely on presence of gag reflex to determine when to feed

Rationale: The lungs are usually protected against aspiration by reflexes such as cough or gag. When reflexes are depressed, the patient is at increased risk for aspiration.