

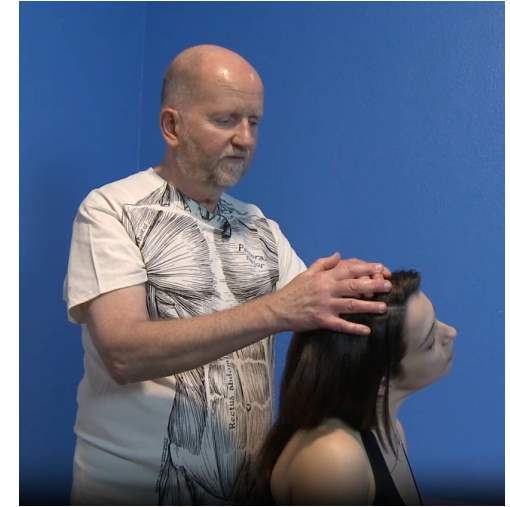
# Spurling Test



*Looking straight ahead*



*Flexed left, rotated right*



*Flexed right, rotated left*

## Indications

This test should be done with clients who have had trauma to the neck.

## Cautions

Do not do this test if the trauma is recent or severe, and have your client see a doctor for evaluation.

Go very gently and get feedback. Stop the test immediately if symptoms appear and recommend that your client consult a doctor for further evaluation.



[Scan, tap, or click on the QR code for video](#)

## Technique

With your client sitting and their eyes open, gently press down on the top of their head.

Inquire about any pain, tingling or numbness in their neck, shoulder or arm, and any changes in vision, nausea, dizziness, etc.

Repeat this test with your client's head flexed to the right and rotated to the left, then flexed to the left and rotated to the right.

The test is positive if there is pain and/or neurological symptoms in the neck or upper extremity. A positive test may indicate nerve root compression or compression of the vertebral arteries.

If the test is positive, do not continue treatment of the neck and refer your client to a doctor for further evaluation.