

## E-Pearl of the Week

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### Applause sign

Applause sign can be demonstrated by asking patients to rapidly clap three times after demonstration by the examiner. A positive applause sign occurs when patients clap more than three times. The applause sign is very sensitive to parkinsonian syndromes, including multiple system atrophy, progressive supranuclear palsy, and corticobasal degeneration, but it is not specific. Occasionally, the applause sign can also occur in Parkinson disease and Huntington disease patients. The mechanism might be due to frontal and basal ganglia dysfunction.

#### **For more information see:**

Wu LJ, Sitburana O, Davidson A, Jankovic J. Applause sign in Parkinsonian disorders and Huntington's disease. *Mov Disord* 2008;23:2307-2311.

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**Disclosure:** Dr. Kuo serves on the Neurology Resident and Fellow Section editorial team.