

# Rock, Paper, Scissors, OK?

## Improving Upper Limb Neurology Assessment In Children

### BACKGROUND

In February 2018 it was identified that 25% of children who presented with an upper limb injury were not having any neurovascular deficit documented. The British Orthopaedic Association Standards for Trauma (BOAST) Guidance for supracondylar fractures state that each of the Median, Ulnar, Radial and Anterior Interosseous Nerves must be individually documented.

### AIMS

To improve documentation of neurovascular status in ALL children who present with upper limb injuries (ULI) to emergency department (ED) at Ysbyty Gwynedd. To ensure that children who have supracondylar fractures have their neurovascular (NV) status documented in accordance to BOAST guidance.

### METHODS

To help improve documentation we introduced an infographic as an education aide memoire.

This infographic was based on the 'Rock, Paper, Scissors, OK?' (RPSOK) game:

- **Rock** tests the median nerve
- **Paper** tests the radial nerve
- **Scissors** tests the ulnar nerve
- **OK** tests the anterior interosseous nerve

This was also turned into a stamp, so that it can be added to the notes – this was introduced in April 2018. Staff were educated in the M+M meeting and through shop floor teaching.



### RESULTS

**February 2018:** 95 patients, 71 (75%) having NV Status documented.

**May 2018:** 202 patients, 183 (90%) having NV status documented. Of which 31 used the RPSOK method (17%).

**August 2018:** 120 patients, 119 (99%) having NV status documented. Of which 14 (11%) had RPSOK method used.



### NV Status Documented

75% → 90% → 99%  
February                      May                      August

### CONCLUSION

NV Status documentation has **increased significantly to nearly 100%**.

Overall the RPSOK method has helped the ED become aware of the need for NV status to be documented.



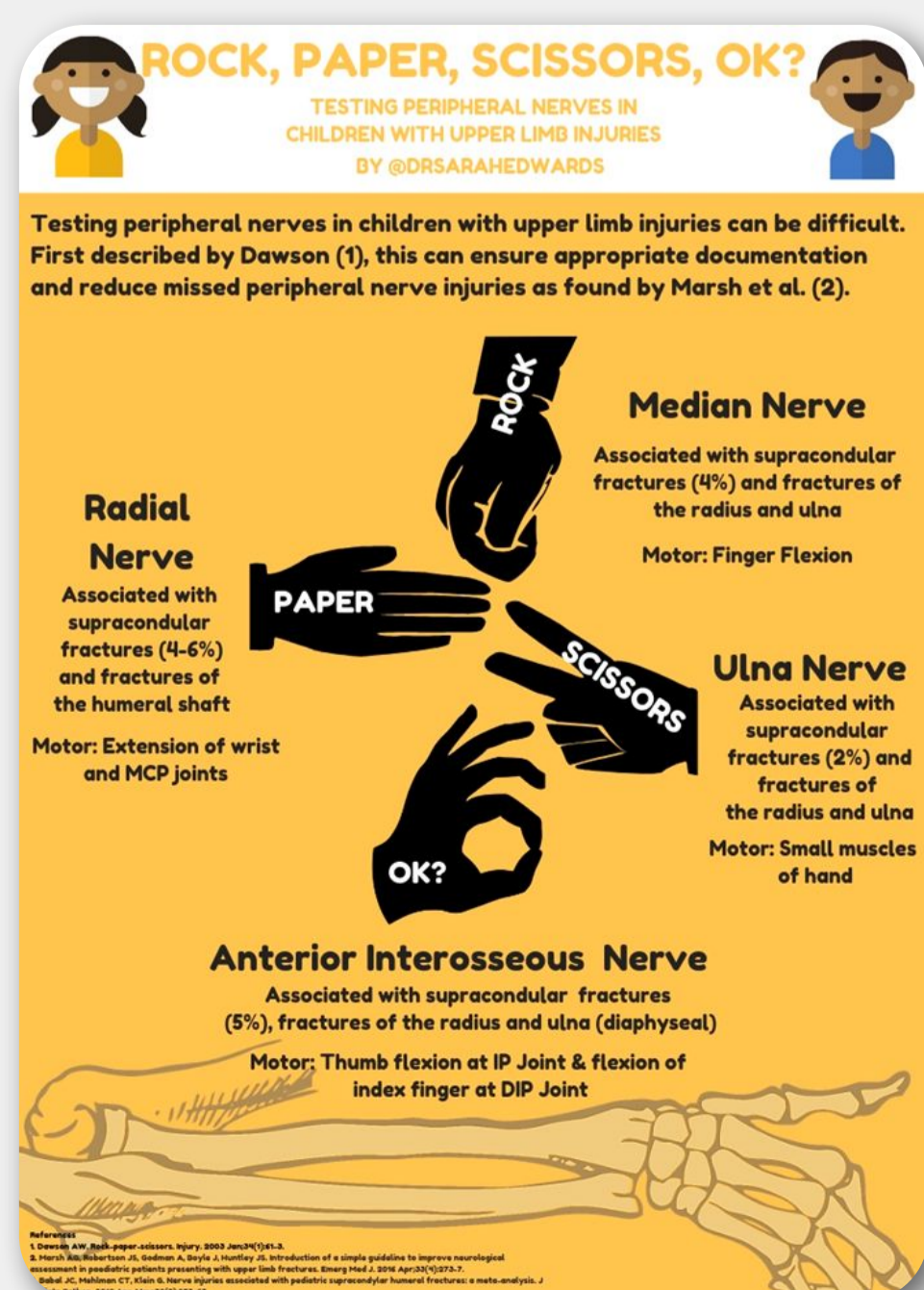
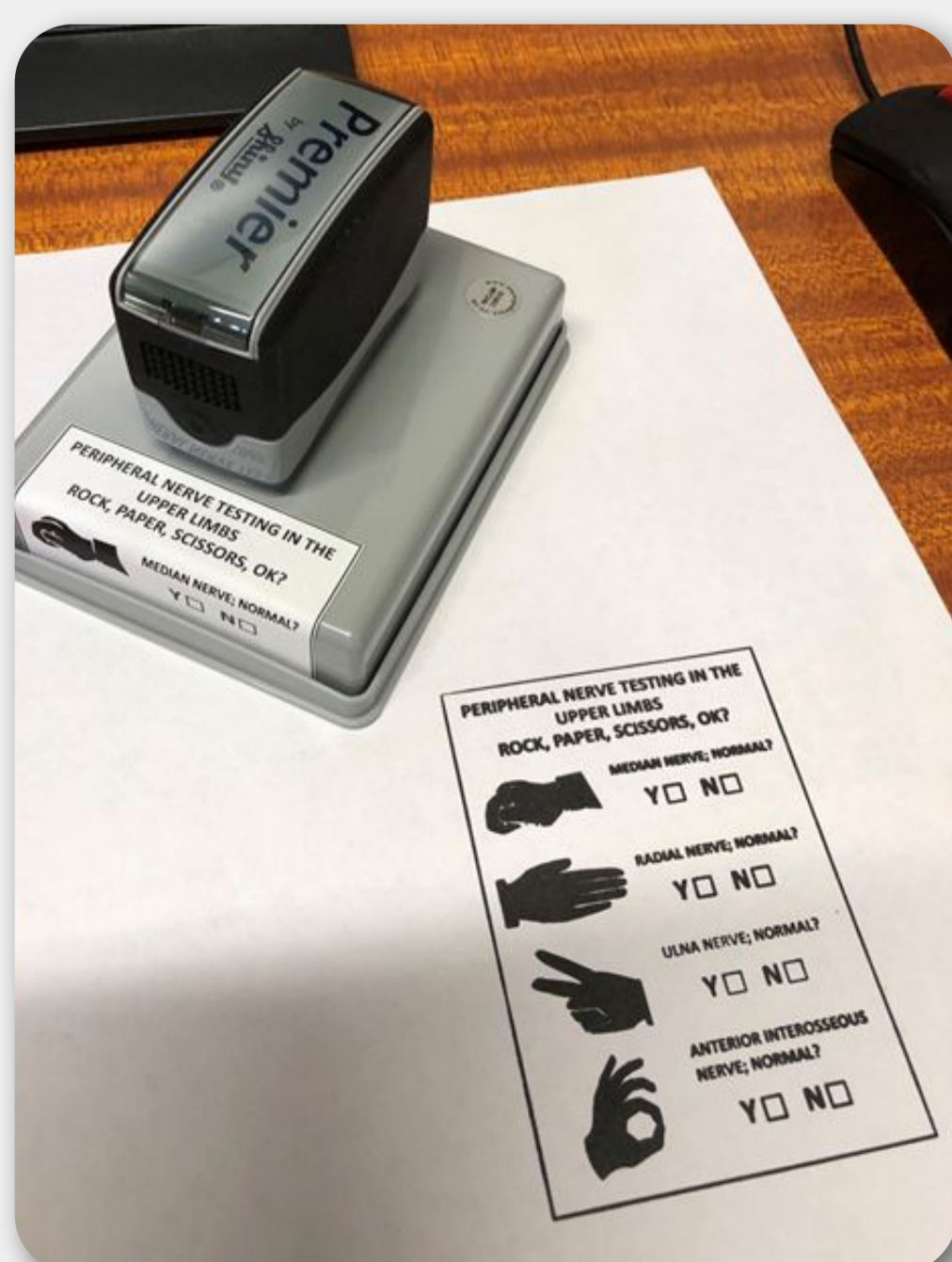
### REFERENCES

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