

FIG 7-9 A, Moro reflex. B, Tonic neck reflex. C, Dance reflex. D, Crawl reflex. (Courtesy of Paul Vincent Kuntz, Texas Children's Hospital, Houston, TX.)

Nose

The nose is usually flattened after birth, and bruises are common. Patency of the nasal canals can be assessed by holding a hand over the infant's mouth and one canal and noting the passage of air through the unobstructed opening. If nasal patency is questionable, report it because most newborns are obligatory nose breathers and are unable to breathe orally in response to nasal occlusion. Sneezing and thin white mucus are common up to several hours after birth.

Mouth and Throat

An external defect of the mouth (such as, cleft lip) is readily apparent; however, the internal structures require careful