

		Unequal knee height Audible clunk on abduction of hip Asymmetry of extremities Unequal muscle tone or range of motion
Neuromuscular System		
Extremities usually in some degree of flexion Extension of an extremity followed by previous position of flexion Head lag while sitting but momentary ability to hold head erect Ability to turn head from side to side when prone Ability to hold head in horizontal line with back when held prone	Quivering or momentary tremors	Hypotonia: Floppy, poor head control, extremities limp Hypertonia: Jittery, arms and hands tightly flexed, legs stiffly extended, startles easily Asymmetric posturing (except tonic neck reflex) Opisthotonic posturing: Arched back Signs of paralysis Tremors, twitches, and myoclonic jerks Marked head lag in all positions

The nursing care of newborns is discussed on the following pages. The nursing process in the care of newborns is outlined in the [Nursing Process](#) box.

Nursing Process

The Healthy Newborn and Family

Assessment

Assess the newborn according to the guidelines on [pp 206–210](#).

Diagnosis (Problem Identification)

After a thorough assessment, several nursing diagnoses for healthy newborns include:

- Readiness for Enhanced Parenting
- Risk for Injury
- Effective Breastfeeding