

Wrist Injury Nerves

Nerves carry sensory information from the skin back to the spinal cord and brain to give us the sense of touch. **The three nerves of the wrist** are particularly important as they **supply the hand**. A nerve injury should be repaired as soon as possible to prevent infection, but at least within 72 hours as the **ends retract making repair more difficult**. **Partial nerve injuries can be deceptive**. You may only notice a difference in sensation when it is compared to an area that is normal. Even partial nerve injuries should be repaired due to the **small risk of a painful neuroma**, when the nerve endings are trapped within scar and are painful to pressure.

Nerves also control muscle function. Muscles providing gross function for the hand are in the forearm with the intrinsic muscles of the hand providing finer control. The nerves for these muscles piggy back the major median and ulnar nerves at the wrist. If these nerves are cut the **reduced dexterity and function** can be significant.

