

**Table 13.5: Vibration Sensitivity Test<sup>1,2</sup>**

Test Result	Total (N=1002)	Age Group			Disability Level		
		65-74 (N=388)	75-84 (N=311)	85+ (N=303)	Moderate <sup>3</sup> (N=343)	ADL Difficulty	
						Receives No Help (N=478)	Receives Help (N=181)
Number completing exam	898	364	287	247	320	430	148
Percent completing exam	91.6	94.2	92.3	81.9	94.3	92.4	83.6
Vibration threshold (microns) <sup>4,5</sup>							
Mean	4.1	3.6	4.2	5.3	3.6	4.3	4.5
5th percentile	1.2	1.0	1.4	2.0	1.1	1.5	1.2
25th percentile	2.5	2.2	2.6	3.7	2.2	2.8	2.9
50th percentile	3.9	3.1	3.9	5.0	3.2	4.2	4.5
75th percentile	5.5	4.7	5.2	6.9	4.7	5.9	6.1
95th percentile	8.6	7.9	8.5	9.2	8.3	8.9	8.9

(Women's Health and Aging Study, physical assessment, 1992-1995)

<sup>1</sup> Descriptive statistics are based on weighted data.

<sup>2</sup> Data obtained by using Vibratron II (Physitemp Instrument).

<sup>3</sup> No ADL difficulty; disabled in two or more domains (see Chapter 1).

<sup>4</sup> Maser RE, et al. (1989). Measuring diabetic neuropathy. Assessment and comparison of clinical examination and quantitative sensory testing. *Diabetes Care* 12(4):270-275.

<sup>5</sup> The method for calculating vibration threshold is described in the text.