

TABLE 22.—*Ulnar nerve palsy*¹

Needed function	Preferred motor	Alternate motors
Thumb adduction (AP) key pinch	Brachialis with free graft between 3rd-4th metacarpal to abductor tubercle 1st metacarpal	Direct insertion, flexor digitorum superficialis (Edgerton/Brand/Goldner) (or) Split insertion, flexor digitorum superficialis (or) Extensor indicis proprius
Metacarpal-phalangeal joint flexion/interphalangeal joint extension (integration of MP and IP motion)	Extensor carpi radialis longus (Brand/Burkhalter to all four fingers with free graft to either flexor sheath or dorsal apparatus)	Flexor digitorum superficialis (Stiles/Bunnell) (or) Flexor carpi radialis
Index abduction (first dorsal interosseous)	Abductor pollicis longus slip to insertion of first dorsal interosseous (and) Arthrodesis, MP joint of thumb	Extensor pollicis brevis (or) Extensor indicis proprius
Finger flexion (FDP—ring and little)	Flexor digitorum profundus tenodesis	Tenodesis, FDP, at DIP joint
Wrist flexion (FCU)	Flexor carpi radialis to insertion of flexor carpi ulnaris	Palmaris longus to FCU insertion
Sensibility (ring—little)	Free neurovascular cutaneous island flap (in low ulnar palsy)	Free vascularized nerve graft (in high ulnar palsy)

¹ Omer, George E., Jr. 1983. The palsied hand. Ch. 16 in *Surgery of the Musculoskeletal System*, vol. 1, ed. C. McCollister Evarts, London: Churchill Livingstone.