

RED flags

EXERCISE

The following clinical features are considered as red flags.

In the tables below identify serious gastrointestinal-related conditions which may be indicated by each of the listed red flags.

Answer sheet

GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM

1. Acute or chronic abdominal pain

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| A | G |
| B | H |
| C | I |
| D | J |
| E | K |
| F | L |

2. Abdominal pain accompanied by rigid abdomen, sweating and rigors

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| A | G |
| B | H |
| C | I |
| D | J |
| E | K |
| F | L |

3. Dysphagia

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| A | G |
| B | H |
| C | I |
| D | J |
| E | K |
| F | L |

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Answer sheet

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4. Jaundice

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| A | G |
| B | H |
| C | I |
| D | J |
| E | K |
| F | L |

5. Frank blood or melena (dark stools)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| A | G |
| B | H |
| C | I |
| D | J |
| E | K |
| F | L |

6. Spider naevi, caput medusae or significant ascites

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| A | G |
| B | H |
| C | I |
| D | J |
| E | K |
| F | L |

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7. Persistent nausea or vomiting

A	G
B	H
C	I
D	J
E	K
F	L

8. Haematuria

A	G
B	H
C	I
D	J
E	K
F	L

9. Haematemesis

A	G
B	H
C	I
D	J
E	K
F	L

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In the tables below identify serious gastrointestinal-related conditions which may be indicated by each of the listed red flags.

Answer sheet

GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM

10. Steatorrhoea

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| A | G |
| B | H |
| C | I |
| D | J |
| E | K |
| F | L |

11. Recent changes in bowel habit

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| A | G |
| B | H |
| C | I |
| D | J |
| E | K |
| F | L |

12. Changes in appetite including early satiety

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| A | G |
| B | H |
| C | I |
| D | J |
| E | K |
| F | L |

References, Bibliography and Recommended reading

Jamison J R (2007), Differential Diagnosis for primary Practice, 2nd edn., Churchill Livingstone. (ISBN-13: 978-0443102875)

Goodman C G, Snyder T K (2007), Differential Diagnosis for Physical Therapists: Screening for Referral, 4th edn, Saunders. (ISBN: 978-0721606194)

Seller R H, Differential Diagnosis of Common Complaints, Saunders, 3rd edn, 1996 ISBN: 978-1416029069

Beck R, et al (2003), Tutorials in Differential Diagnosis, 4th edn., Churchill Livingstone. ISBN: 978-04430615-7-8

DVD-VIDEO recordings

Syrimis A (2007), Clinical Examinations DVDs, Bloomsbury Educational Ltd,

ISBNs:

- Respiratory system examination: 978-0-9551291-0-0
- General system examination: 978-0-9551291-1-7
- Cardiovascular system examination: 978-0-9551291-2-4
- Abdominal system examination: 978-0-9551291-3-1
- Peripheral nervous system examination: 978-0-9551291-4-8
- Cranial nerves examination: 978-0-9551291-5-5
- Musculoskeletal examination: 978-0-9551291-6-2
- Case History Taking: 978-0-9551291-7-9
- Clinical Examinations: Complete DVD series: 978-0-9551291-9-3

<http://www.clinicalexams.co.uk/student-resources-section.htm>

(For additional lecture notes, Q&As and images, Username & Password provided in class)

Boon N A, Colledge N R, Walker, B & Hunter J A A (2006), Davidson's Principles and Practice of Medicine, 20th Edition, Churchill Livingstone ISBN: 978-0-4430703-5-8

Bickley, L. S.; Szilagyi, P. G.; 2003; ***Bates' Guide to Physical Examination and History Taking***; (8th Ed); Lippincott; New York.

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Forbes, C. D.; Jackson, W. F.; 1998; *Color Atlas and Test of Clinical Medicine*; (2nd Ed.); Mosby; London. Excellent reference book for photographs of various pathologies.

Haslett, C.; et al.; 1999; *Davidson's Principles and Practice of Medicine*; (18th Ed.); Churchill Livingstone; Edinburgh. (Use to put your clinical findings into context of general medicine).

Bradley J, Rubenstein D, Wayne D, The Clinical Manual, Blackwell Scientific publications. ISBN 0-632-03312-6. This is another very good pocket size book but you may have to order it. I find this book very useful because it also had a summary of the main pathologies and their signs and symptoms.

Beers, M.H., Porter, R.S., Jones, T.V., Kaplan, J. L. and Berkwitz, M., (eds.) (2006). The Merck manual of diagnosis and therapy. 18th ed. New Jersey: Merck Research Laboratories.

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