Diagnostic Checklists

1. The purpose of these checklists is to prompt physicians to consider a broad differential diagnosis for common symptoms in primary care and to help resist the most common cause of missing a diagnosis: failure to consider it. The lists are not exhaustive, but the goal is feasible because

   a. It is possible to cover 99% of diagnostically challenging symptoms with a short list, whereas 100% coverage would require a long list.

   b. Similarly, for each symptom it is possible to cover 99% of the diseases that cause it with a short list.

   c. Checklists are not needed for complaints that rarely pose diagnostic challenges, either because the list of causes is short (e.g., breast lump), the diagnosis is obvious (e.g., trauma, wart; but beware of multiple trauma, second fracture, etc.), there is a single cause that accounts for the overwhelming majority of cases (e.g., hypertension, obesity), the complaint prompts a standard diagnostic approach which catches important diagnoses even when not initially considered (e.g., rectal bleeding followed by colonoscopy), or the complaint is idiosyncratic (e.g., “funny feeling” in cheek).

   d. The checklists may not include diagnoses that are exceedingly rare in North America or diagnoses in which the symptom is a late manifestation rather than a presenting complaint (e.g., abnormal uterine bleeding caused by end-stage renal disease).

2. The diagnoses are listed in approximate order of prevalence in primary care (most common diseases at the top). This ordering is based on limited published data and the authors’ experience. (National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey:2010 Summary Tables.)
3. Unless otherwise specified, the checklists primarily address adults rather than children.

4. These checklists may have some advantages over more traditional differential diagnoses:
   a. A shorter list, practical at the point of care
   b. Diseases ordered by prevalence in primary care
   c. Identification of "must-not-miss" diagnoses, designated by an ace of spades (♠)
   e. Lumping and splitting to meet the needs of clinicians rather than pathologists or billers (e.g., better to split "myocardial infarction" from "heart disease," but better to lump "abnormal uterine bleeding" rather than splitting into "dysfunctional uterine bleeding" vs. "structural causes" because this distinction may not be apparent initially).

5. The checklists are designed to be printed on 4x6 cards, two-sided, laminated, with a 3/4 inch metal binder ring in the left upper corner. The lists could also be adapted for a handheld computer.

**Abdominal and pelvic pain**  
(8/31/15)

- Dyspepsia (functional, ulcer, reflux)
- Viral gastroenteritis
- Constipation
- Medications (NSAIDs, iron)
- *Psychiatric (depression, sexual abuse)
- Irritable bowel syndrome
- Abdominal wall pain
- ♠Gallbladder disease
- ♦Pancreatitis
- ♦Diverticulitis
- ♦Appendicitis
- ♦Kidney stone
- Herpes zoster
- Mittelschmerz
- ♦Hernia
- Gastroparesis
- ♦Ectopic pregnancy, pregnancy complication
- Bacterial overgrowth
- ♦Myocardial infarction
- Celiac disease
- Food poisoning
- ♦Diabetic ketoacidosis
- ♦Pneumonia, empyema
- Mesenteric lymphadenitis
- ♦Hepatitis, hepatic abscess
- ♦Bowel obstruction
- Giardia
- Endometriosis, adenomyosis
- ♦Ovarian cyst, ovarian torsion
- ♦Pelvic inflammatory disease, endometritis
- Leiomyoma, degeneration, torsion, infarction
- ♦Intraabdominal tumor, lymphoma
- Bladder distension, urinary tract infection
- Dysmenorrhea
- ♦Aortic dissection, ruptured aneurysm

*Don’t miss*
(Continued on next page)

*Commonly missed
Abdominal and pelvic pain (continued)

- Mesenteric ischemia, infarction
- Subdiaphragmatic abscess
- Perforated viscus, peritonitis
- Inflammatory bowel disease
- Intussusception
- Carbohydrate malabsorption
- Acute pharyngitis
- Sickle cell crisis
- Lead poisoning
- Sphincter of Oddi dysfunction
- Meckel's diverticulitis
- Abdominal migraine, abdominal epilepsy
- Narcotic bowel syndrome
- Fitz-Hugh-Curtis syndrome
- Hypercalcemia
- Radiculopathy (diabetes, cord tumor, tabes dorsalis)
- Periarteritis nodosa
- Hyper or Hypothyroidism
- Eosinophilic gastroenteritis
- Leukemia
- Epiploic appendixitis
- Superior mesenteric artery syndrome
- Spleen wandering, abscess, infarction, rupture
- Hereditary angioedema
- Celiac artery compression
- Adrenal insufficiency
- Familial Mediterranean Fever
- Iliocostal friction syndrome
- Abdominal compartment syndrome
- Mesenteric panniculitis
- Porphyria
- Budd-Chiari syndrome
- ACE-inhibitor angioedema
- Hyperparathyroidism

⚠️ Don’t miss
- Black Widow Spider bite

* Commonly missed
Abnormal uterine bleeding (2/13/15)
Anovulatory bleeding, polycystic ovary syndrome
Menorrhagia (idiopathic)
Contraceptive related abnormal bleeding (oral contraceptives, 
deo-medroxyprogesterone, intrauterine device, 
progestin implant)
Normal variations (postmenarchal, perimenopausal, 
premenstrual spotting, postmenstrual spotting, 
midcycle ovulatory bleeding)
♠Ectopic pregnancy
♠Intrauterine pregnancy complication
♠Endometrial cancer, hyperplasia
Uterine polyps
Uterine fibroids
Adenomyosis
♠Endometritis
Hyperprolactinemia
Thyroid disease
Drugs (anticoagulants, psychotropics)
Coagulopathy (von Willebrand disease)
Organ failure (late manifestation: kidney failure, liver failure)

♣ Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

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Annular skin lesions

Tinea corporis
Xerotic eczema
Granuloma annulare
Urticaria
Erythema multiforme
Psoriasis
Pityriasis rosea (herald patch)
Nummular eczema
Seborrheic dermatitis
Arthropod bites
Annular and gyrate erythemas
Vasculitis
Henoch-Schonlein purpura
Lupus erythematosus (subacute cutaneous lupus)
Annular lichen planus
✶Erythema chronicum migrans (Lyme disease)
✶Secondary syphilis
Cutaneous sarcoidosis
Acute febrile neutrophilic dermatosis (Sweet Syndrome)
Annular elastocytic giant cell granuloma
Superficial annulare centrifugum
Interstitial granulomatous dermatitis
Id (autoeczematous) reactions
Kawasaki’s disease
Eruptive xanthomas
Eruptive histiocytomas
✶Erythema marginatum (Rheumatic fever)
Porokeratosis
Linear IgA bullous dermatosis
✶Leprosy

✶ Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

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Anxiety, depression
- Depression, agitated depression, bipolar disorder
- Anxiety (situational, generalized anxiety disorder)
- Panic disorder
- Alcohol
- Hypoglycemia
- Medications (caffeine, nicotine, pseudoephedrine)
- Medication or substance withdrawal (alcohol, benzodiazepines)
- Illicit drugs (cocaine, amphetamines)
- Posttraumatic stress disorder
- Serotonin syndrome
- Thyroid disorder
- Paraneoplastic syndrome
- Pulmonary embolus
- Hypoxemia
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- Electrolyte imbalance
- Hypercalcemia, hyperparathyroidism
- Delirium
- Domestic abuse
- Ehlers Danlos (Hypermobility syndrome)
- Postconcussion syndrome
- Multiple sclerosis
- Restless legs syndrome
- Wilson disease
- Pheochromocytoma

* Don’t miss
* Commonly missed
Arthralgias
Viremia (nonspecific, infectious mononucleosis, hepatitis, cytomegalovirus, fifth disease, rubella, mumps, varicella, human immunodeficiency virus)
Osteoarthritis
Fibromyalgia
Polyarticular gout
Pseudogout
Polymyalgia rheumatica
Ankylosing spondylitis
Psoriatic arthritis
Inflammatory bowel disease
Rheumatoid arthritis
Hypothyroidism
Lupus and drug-induced lupus
Scleroderma
Ehlers Danlos (Hypermobility syndrome)
Systemic vasculitis
Systemic sclerosis
Polymyositis/dermatomyositis
Still’s disease
Behcet syndrome
Disseminated gonococcemia
Relapsing polychondritis
Autoinflammatory disorders
Adrenal insufficiency
Lyme disease
Bacterial endocarditis
Sarcoidosis
Palindromic rheumatism
Hyperlipoproteinemias
Malignancy
Septic joint
Sickle cell disease
Compartment syndrome
Acute myelopathy, radiculopathy, neuropathy

Don’t miss
Commonly missed

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**Back pain**

(3/13/15)

Musculoskeletal, osteoarthritis, degenerative disk disease
Herniated disk
Spinal stenosis
♠Gall bladder disease
Compression fracture
♠Pyelonephritis
Kidney stone
Pancreatitis,
♠*Pulmonary embolus
♠*Pneumonia
Psychiatric
Herpes zoster
Vitamin D deficiency
Ankylosing spondylitis (sacroiliitis)
♠ Polymyalgia rheumatica
Prostatitis
♠Cauda equina syndrome
Back mouse
Pancreatic carcinoma
Piriformis syndrome
Ankylosing spondylitis (sacroiliitis)
Ehlers Danlos (Hypermobility syndrome)
♠*Abdominal or thoracic aortic aneurysm
♠*Metastatic tumor
♠*Abdominal tumor
♠Penetrating ulcer
♠*Infection (diskitis, osteomyelitis, spinal abscess)
Iliocostal impingement syndrome
Retroperitoneal fibrosis

♠ Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

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Back Pain in Children

Nonspecific musculoskeletal
Viral myalgias
Scheuermann’s kyphosis
Spondyloysis, spondylolisthesis
♠Sickle cell crisis
Scoliosis
Psychiatric
♠Pyelonephritis
Back mouse
Herniated disk
♠Pneumonia
♠Leukemia or lymphoma
Inflammatory spondyloarthropathies (ankylosing spondylitis, inflammatory bowel disease, reactive arthritis)
♠Trauma, vertebral fracture
♠Sacroiliac joint infection
Syringomyelia
Kidney stone
♠Discitis
♠Epidural abscess
♠Vertebral osteomyelitis
Slipped vertebral epiphysis
Juvenile intervertebral disc calcification
♠Tumor

♠ Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

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Breast pain (mastalgia)

Idiopathic mastalgia
Cyclical (physiologic) breast pain
Fibrocystic disease
♀ Mastitis
Chest wall pain
Large pendulous breasts (Cooper's ligament stretching)
Caffeine, nicotine
♀ Pregnancy
Hormone replacement therapy
Drugs (antibiotics, antidepressants, antipsychotics, estrogen, progesterone, clomiphene, antihypertensives, metronidazole, ketoconazole, spironolactone)

Benign tumors
♀ Inflammatory breast cancer
Referral pain
Trauma
Psychiatric
Herpes zoster
Thrombophlebitis
Macrocysts
Ductal ectasia
♀ Cancer
♀ Myocardial infarction
♀ Pulmonary embolus
Gastroesophageal reflux disease
Pleurisy, pericarditis
Sickle cell disease
Hydradenitis suppurativa
Prior breast surgery
Spinal disorders
Gall bladder disease
Heart disease
Post thoracotomy syndrome

♀ Don’t miss
* Commonly missed
Chest pain
Chest wall pain
Gastroesophageal reflux disease
Pleurisy, pleuritis
*Psychiatric
Asthma
♦Coronary disease (myocardial infarction, angina)
♦Pulmonary embolus
Herpes zoster
♦Pneumonia, bronchitis
♦Pneumothorax
Esophageal spasm
Pericarditis, myocarditis
Mitrail valve prolapse
Idiopathic chest pain
♦Acute chest syndrome (sickle cell anemia)
♦Tuberculosis
♦Aortic stenosis
♦Dissecting aortic aneurysm
♦Tumor
Pulmonary hypertension
♦Esophageal rupture
Precordial catch syndrome
♦Mediastinitis
♦Spinal cord compression

Don’t miss
Commonly missed
Cold feeling
Idiopathic
Advanced age, thin woman
Psychiatric (anxiety)
• Hypothyroidism
• Shock
• Sepsis
Raynaud’s phenomenon
Anemia
Weight loss, malnutrition
Chronic illness
• Hypoglycemia

Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

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**Constipation**

(2/26/14)

Functional (Idiopathic)

Medications (anticholinergics, antidepressants, antipsychotics, opiates, iron, calcium channel blockers)

Pregnancy

Diabetic neuropathy

Depression

Hypokalemia

Anorexia nervosa

Hypothyroidism

Obstruction

Multiple sclerosis

Spinal cord injury

Parkinson disease

Myotonic dystrophy

Systemic sclerosis

Hirschprung disease

♠ Don’t miss

* Commonly missed
Cough
Viral upper respiratory infection
Postnasal drip
Postinfectious, postviral cough
Bronchitis
Asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
Gastroesophageal reflux
*Drugs (angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors, beta blockers, amiodarone)

♠*Pneumonia
External or middle ear disease
Aspiration, recurrent
♠*Pulmonary embolus
♠*Pertussis
Psychogenic
♠*Heart failure
♠*Human immunodeficiency virus
♠*Lung tumor
♠*Epiglottitis
♠*Acute histoplasmosis
Interstitial lung disease
Bronchiectasis
♠*Sarcoidosis
♠*Tuberculosis
♠*Cystic fibrosis
♠*Laryngeal tumor
♠*Mitral stenosis
♠*Foreign body

♠ Don’t miss
* Commonly missed
Cough, dyspnea (infant, newborn) (4/10/13)
Viral upper respiratory infection
Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)
Parainfluenza
Transient tachypnea
• Sepsis
Bronchiolitis
Infant respiratory distress syndrome
Metapneumovirus
Influenza
• Pertussis
• Pneumothorax
• Pneumonia
Asthma
• Heart disease

Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

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Crying infant (Inconsolable)

(3/17/15)

Idiopathic

Colic

* Infections (otitis media, viral illness, urinary tract infection, herpes stomatitis, meningitis, osteomyelitis, septic joint, thrush)

Neonatal abstinence syndrome (maternal drug use)

* Fracture

Anal fissure

Corneal abrasion

Constipation

Immunization reaction

* Hair tourniquet syndrome (digits, penis)

* Don’t miss

* Commonly missed

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Delirium

*Drugs (opioids, hypnotics, antipsychotics, antihistamines)
*Psychiatric disorders
*Alcohol
*Anemia
*Glucose disturbances
*Serotonin syndrome
*Trauma
*Head injury
*Myocardial infarction
*Carbon monoxide
*Sepsis
Serious illness
*Electrolyte disturbance, Na, Ca, Mg, P
*Thyroid disease
*Hypoxia
*Neuroleptic malignant syndrome
*Hypertensive encephalopathy
*Central nervous system infections (neurosyphilis, human immunodeficiency virus, herpes simplex)
*Brain mass
*Hypothermia
*Hyperthermia
*B12 deficiency
*Folate deficiency
*Thiamine deficiency
*Liver failure
*Stroke, intracranial hemorrhage
*Heart failure
Fecal impaction, urinary retention
*Renal failure
Burns
Postpartum psychosis
*Adrenal disease
*Porphyria
*Nonconvulsive status epilepticus

Don’t miss
Commonly missed

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Dementia, memory loss

Alzheimer disease
♠Pseudodementia (depression)
Mild cognitive impairment
♠Medications (antihistamines)
Alcohol, Wernicke Korsakoff
Vascular dementia
Frontotemporal dementia
Lewy body dementia
Parkinson disease
♠Vitamin B12 deficiency
♠Hypothyroidism
♠Delirium
♠Anoxia
♠Hypoglycemia
♠Head injury, subdural hematoma
Transient global amnesia
*Human immunodeficiency virus associated dementia
Huntington disease
♠Brain tumor
Progressive supranuclear palsy
♠Structural brain disease
♠Hypercalcemia, hyperparathyroidism
Prion disease (e.g., Creutzfeldt-Jacob)
Dementia pugilistica
Progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy
♠Normal pressure hydrocephalus
♠Niacin deficiency
Corticobasal degeneration
Paraneoplastic syndrome
♠Whipple’s disease

♠ Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

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Depigmentation, hypopigmentation of skin

Vitiligo
Tinea versicolor
Idiopathic guttate hypomelanosisis
Postinflammatory hypopigmentation
Pityriasis alba
Halo nevi
Chemically induced (phenols)
Nevus depigmentosus
Hypomelanosis of Ito
Piebaldism
Morphea
Leukoderma
Lichen sclerosis
Tuberous sclerosis
Albinism
♠ Leprosy

Don't miss
* Commonly missed

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Diarrhea

Viral gastroenteritis
Irritable bowel syndrome
*Drugs (antibiotics, caffeine, alcohol)
Salmonella
Shigella
E. coli O157 H7
Campylobacter
Clostridium difficile
Food poisoning
Lactose intolerance, fructose intolerance
Bacterial overgrowth (e.g., diabetes, blind loop after surgery)
Diabetes
Giardia
Microscopic colitis
Entamoeba histolytica
Cryptosporidium
Inflammatory bowel disease
Celiac disease
Yersinia
Radiation colitis
Ischemic colitis
Fecal impaction with leakage
Bypass operations
Reduced bile salts (e.g., postcholecystectomy)
Pancreatic insufficiency (pancreatitis, cystic fibrosis, cancer)
Blastocystis hominis
Scleroderma
Toxic shock syndrome
♠*Human immunodeficiency virus
Laxative abuse
Cystic fibrosis
♠Whipple’s disease

♠ Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

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Dizziness, ill-defined

Vasovagal
Benign paroxysmal positional vertigo
Hyperventilation
*Drugs (antihypertensives, antidepressants, gentamicin, furosemide, alcohol, illicit drugs)
Panic attack
Elderly multifactorial
Orthostatic hypotension
Autonomic insufficiency
Meniere’s disease
Vestibular neuronitis, acute labyrinthitis
Valsalva
*Anemia
Idiopathic
*Arrhythmias
*Hypoglycemia
Psychiatric
*Seizure, pseudoseizure
*GI bleeding
*Valvular heart disease, aortic stenosis
*Pulmonary embolus
*Myocardial infarction
*Hypoxia
*Aortic dissection
*Acoustic neuroma
Post-concussion syndrome
Parkinson disease
*Otitis media
Barotrauma, ruptured oval window, perilymph leak
Migrainous vertigo
*Adrenal insufficiency, Addison’s disease
Otosclerosis
Carotid hypersensitivity
*Vertebral artery dissection
*Brain stem stroke
Cough, micturition, defecation

Don’t miss
Commonly missed

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Dysphagia
Esophageal spasm
Lower esophageal ring (schatzke's ring)
Functional dysphagia
Globus sensation
Esophageal web
Peptic stricture
Esophageal diverticulum
*drugs (anticholinergics, phenothiazines)
Nutcracker esophagus
Zenker's diverticulum
Sjogren's syndrome
Achalasia
♣ Stroke
♣ Tumor (intrinsic or extrinsic)
Multiple sclerosis
Parkinson's disease
Tardive dyskinesia
Amyloidosis
Cushing's disease
Wilson's disease
Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
Scleroderma
Myasthenia gravis
Guillain-Barre' syndrome

♣ Don't miss
* Commonly missed
**Dyspnea, tachypnea**

Asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

Fever

Deconditioning

*Pneumonia

Physiologic dyspnea of pregnancy

Bronchitis

*Psychiatric, hyperventilation, panic attack

*Heart failure

*Pulmonary embolus

*Myocardial infarction

Pneumothorax

Cardiomyopathy

Shock

*Anemia

*Tumor

Pleural effusion

Valvular heart disease

Pulmonary hypertension

Interstitial fibrosis

Metabolic acidosis

Drugs (aspirin)

Arrhythmias, atrial fibrillation

Abdominal distension, obesity

*Cardiac tamponade

*Upper airway obstruction

Myasthenia gravis

*Neuroleptic malignant syndrome

*Hyperthyroidism

*Foreign body aspiration

*Increased intracranial pressure

Wegener’s granulomatosis

* Don’t miss

* Commonly missed
Ear pain, otalgia
(8/26/10)
Acute otitis media, otitis media with effusion
TMJ syndrome
Eagle's syndrome
External otitis or external canal pustule
Cerumen
Viral myringitis
Dental causes
Pharyngitis
Barotrauma
Foreign body
Idiopathic
Cervical adenopathy
Cellulitis, chondritis, perichondritis
*mAcoustic neuroma
*mMyocardial infarction
*mNasopharyngeal tumor
*mTemporal arteritis
*mCholesteotoma
Sinusitis
Carotidynia
Trauma
*mMastoiditis
Gastroesophageal reflux
*mTumors (ear, nasopharyngeal)
Bell’s palsy
Wegener’s granulomatosis
Cervical disc disease
Ramsey Hunt syndrome
Relapsing polychondritis
*mMalignant external otitis
*mCoronary disease
*mThoracic aneurysm
*mPsychogenic (depression, anxiety)
*mThyroid tumor
Salivary gland disorder
*m Don’t miss
Neuralgias (trigeminal, glossopharyngeal)* Commonly missed

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Edema, leg (7/13/15)
Venous insufficiency, dependency, garments
Obstructive sleep apnea (resulting in pulmonary hypertension)
Cellulitis
Stasis dermatitis
*Drugs (NSAIDS, Ca channel blockers, steroids, antidepressants, beta blockers, clonidine, estrogen/progesterone)
♠Deep vein thrombosis
♠Heart failure
Baker's cyst rupture
Ruptured gastrocnemius
Complex regional pain syndrome
♠Pelvic Tumor
Idiopathic
Hypoalbuminemia
Cirrhosis
Lymphedema
Mechanical edema (post injury or surgery)
Renal failure, nephrotic syndrome
Heart valve disease (pulmonic, tricuspid)
♠Myxedema
♠Constrictive pericarditis
Retroperitoneal fibrosis

♠ Don't miss
* Commonly missed
Eye pain
Conjunctivitis
Corneal abrasion
Foreign body
Stye (hordeolum)
Chalazion
Blepharitis
Scleritis, episcleritis
Angle-closure Glaucoma
Migraine
Entropion
Migraine or cluster headaches
Ophthalmic zoster
Intracranial mass
Optic neuritis (multiple sclerosis)
Giant cell arteritis
Uveitis, iritis
Optic neuritis

Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

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Eyelid swelling

Bilateral
Contact dermatitis
Blepharitis
Atopic dermatitis
Rosacea
Angioedema
Systemic processes (myxedema, renal disease, congestive heart failure, superior vena cava syndrome)
♠Cavernous sinus thrombosis

Unilateral
♠Orbital cellulitis
Hordeolum, stye
Chalazion
♠Herpes simplex
♠Herpes zoster ophthalmicus
Dacryocystitis
Tumors

♠ Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

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Facial flushing, hot flashes (4/8/15)
Emotional
Menopause
Alcohol
Rosacea
Drugs (calcium-channel blockers, nicotinic acid, levodopa, others)
Heat exposure
Exercise
Fever
Foods (spicy foods, cured meats, monosodium glutamate)
Carcinoid
Cluster headache
Serotonin syndrome
Dumping syndrome
Bronchogenic carcinoma
Medullary thyroid carcinoma
Sarcoidosis
Hyperthyroidism
Systemic mastocytosis
Pheochromocytoma

Don’t miss
Commonly missed

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Facial pain

Sinusitis
Dental pain
Temporomandibular joint syndrome
Trigeminal neuralgia
Herpes zoster
Salivary gland disorders
Migraine
Temporal arteritis
Glaucoma
Persistent idiopathic facial pain
Dacryocystitis
Coronary disease
Aortic aneurysm
Recurrent painful ophthalmoplegic neuropathy
Lung cancer

* Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

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Falls in the elderly
Multifactorial
Balance disorder
Idiopathic
Environmental factors (new surroundings, walking surface hazards)
Arthritis
Muscle weakness
♠Acute illness
Drugs (sedatives, hypnotics, antidepressants, antihypertensives)
Alcohol
Peripheral neuropathy (diabetes, B12 deficiency)
Poor footwear
Confusion, Dementia
Vestibular dysfunction
♠Orthostatic hypotension
Postprandial hypotension
Vitamin D deficiency
Visual disorder
♠Syncope
Parkinson disease

♠ Don't miss
* Commonly missed

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Fatigue, malaise, vague symptoms

Obstructive sleep apnea
- Depression, anxiety
- Deconditioning
- *Drugs (beta blocker, clonidine)
- Chronic fatigue syndrome, fibromyalgia
- *Infections (infectious mononucleosis, hepatitis, pneumonia, mastitis, urosepsis, cytomegalovirus, tuberculosis, endocarditis, human immunodeficiency syndrome, Lyme, Coccidiomycosis, Giardia)
- *Pregnancy
- *Anemia
- Vitamin D deficiency
- Hypothyroidism, hyperthyroidism
- Hypokalemia, hyponatremia
- *Myocardial infarction
- Restless legs syndrome
- Peripheral neuropathy (diabetes)
- Cancer, lymphoma
- Disturbance of calcium, phosphorus, magnesium
- Polymyalgia rheumatica/Temporal arteritis
- Parkinson disease
- Hypogonadism
- Celiac disease
- Pulmonary, hepatic, renal failure
- Pulmonary hypertension
- *Ehlers Danlos syndrome
- *Heart failure, myocarditis
- Multiple sclerosis
- Carbon monoxide
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Adrenal insufficiency, Addison’s disease
- Vitamin B12 deficiency
- Guillain-Barré syndrome
- Post-Lyme disease syndrome
- Myasthenia gravis
- Wegener’s granulomatosis
- Don’t miss
- Commonly missed

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Fever (acute, uncertain source) (7/9/15)

- Infections (pulmonary, gastrointestinal, urinary, sinusitis, skin, meningitis, bone, infectious mononucleosis, Lyme, cytomegalovirus, occult abscess, human Immunodeficiency virus, malaria, mastitis, West Nile, endocarditis, leptospirosis, tuberculosis, hepatitis)
- Polymyalgia rheumatica
- Malignancy, tumor lysis syndrome (lymphoma, leukemia, renal cell, liver)
- Myocardial infarction
- Pulmonary embolus, deep vein thrombosis
- Surgical site inflammation (seroma, hematoma)
- Transfusion reaction
- Stroke, subarachnoid hemorrhage, intracranial hemorrhage
- Head trauma
- Brain tumor
- Serotonin syndrome
- Necrotizing fasciitis
- Heat stroke
- Gout
- Bowel ischemia, infarction
- Hyperthyroidism
- Connective tissue disorder (autoimmune, lupus)
- Pancreatitis
- Toxic shock syndrome
- Drugs (antibiotics, heparin, phenytoin)
- Drug withdrawal (alcohol, opiates, barbiturates, benzodiazepines)
- Malignant hyperthermia
- Sarcoidosis
- Inflammatory bowel disease
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome
- Periodic fever syndromes (PFAPA (periodic fever with aphthous stomatitis, pharyngitis and adenitis) Familial Mediterranean Fever, others)
- Factitious
- Wegener’s, polyarteritis nodosa

Don’t miss

Commonly missed
Flank pain
Musculoskeletal
Kidney stone
Pyelonephritis, renal abscess
Diverticulitis
Herpes zoster
Pneumonia
Influenza
Polycystic kidney disease
Ruptured aneurysm
Renal infarction
Renal tumor
Papillary necrosis
Slipping rib syndrome
Iliocostal friction syndrome
Loin pain hematuria syndrome

Don’t miss
Commonly missed
Genital skin lesion, genital ulcer
Herpes simplex
Behcet's disease
♠ Cancer
Trauma
Drug reactions, fixed drug eruption
Vestibulitis
Bartholin abscess
Lichen sclerosis
Lichen simplex chronicus
Psoriasis
Lichen planus
♠ Syphilis
Chancroid
Lymphogranuloma venereum
Granuloma inguinale
Primary Human immunodeficiency virus
Cytomegalovirus
Epstein-Barr virus

♠ Don't miss
* Commonly missed

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Groin pain
Groin muscle pull
Sports hernia
Hip arthritis
Labral tear
Inguinal hernia
Hip stress fracture
Osteitis pubis
Distal abdominal rectus strain
Adductor longus rupture
Hip osteonecrosis (glucocorticoid use)
Hip synovitis
Hip septic arthritis

Don't miss
* Commonly missed

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Hair Loss (3/17/15)

Male pattern baldness
Androgenetic alopecia (female pattern hair loss)
Telogen effluvium (illness, pregnancy, weight loss)
Alopecia areata
Traction alopecia
Medications (anticoagulants, anticonvulsants, hormones, anti-lipid agents, antihypertensives)
Tinea capitis
Trichotillomania
Iron deficiency
Thyroid dysfunction
Discoid lupus
Anagen effluvium (chemotherapy, radiation)
Loose anagen syndrome
Inherited disorders
Primary cicatricial (scarring) alopecias

Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

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Headache

Daily withdrawal headaches
Migraine  Reversible cerebral vasoconstriction syndrome
Tension type headache  Vasculitis
Caffeine withdrawal  Pituitary apoplexy
*Drug adverse effect

Sinusitis
Viral syndrome, febrile illness
Temporomandibular joint syndrome
Cervical arthritis
Spinal headache (post lumbar puncture)
♠Temporal arteritis
♠Subarachnoid hemorrhage
♠Herpes Zoster
Occipital neuralgia
♠Carbon monoxide
♠Acute severe hypertension
Toxic exposures
Postconcussion syndrome
Idiopathic thunderclap
♠Preeclampsia
♠Glaucoma
♠*Meningitis/encephalitis/brain abscess
♠Cerebral aneurysm
♠*Domestic abuse
♠Subdural hematoma
Neuralgias (e.g., trigeminal neuralgia)
Pseudotumor cerebri (intracranial hypertension)
Cluster headache
♠HSV encephalitis
♠*Brain tumor
♠*Stroke
♠Human immunodeficiency virus
♠Arterial dissections
♠Cerebral venous sinus thrombosis  ♠ Don’t miss
Spontaneous intracranial hypotension  * Commonly missed
Hearing loss (deafness)

Presbycusis
Cerumen
- Otitis media, otitis externa
Noise exposure
- Acoustic neuroma
Meniere’s disease
Otosclerosis
- Sudden sensorineural hearing loss
Viral cochleitis (herpes, influenza, mumps, others)
- Drugs (aspirin, gentamicin, furosemide, cisplatin)
- Stroke
- Hereditary, congenital hearing loss
Trauma, barotrauma
- Cholesteatoma
- Meningitis
- Neoplasm
Autoimmune hearing loss
Stroke, transient ischemic attack
Multiple sclerosis
Diabetes
- Lyme disease
- Syphilis
Superior semicircular canal dehiscence

* Don’t miss
* Commonly missed
Hematuria

- Transient unexplained hematuria
- Urinary tract infection
- Stones
- Menstruation (contaminated urine)
- Exercise
- Trauma
- Benign prostatic hypertrophy
- Atrophic vaginitis
- Tumor
- Prostatitis
- Radiation cystitis
- Factitious (finger stick)
- Glomerular disease (IgA nephropathy, hereditary nephritis, postinfectious glomerulonephritis)
- Hypercalciuria
- Polycystic kidney disease
- Urethritis
- Papillary necrosis (nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drug overuse, diabetes, sickle cell)
- Hyperuricosuria
- Renal infarction
- Interstitial nephritis
- Medullary sponge kidney
- Tuberculosis
- Wegener’s granulomatosis
- Renal vein thrombus
- Malignant hypertension

Don’t miss

* Commonly missed
Hip pain

Hip osteoarthritis
Muscle strain
✦Fracture (occult, pathologic, stress)
Tendinitis
Trochanteric bursitis
Transient synovitis
Lumbar disk disease
Meralgia paresthetica
Osteonecrosis, aseptic necrosis, avascular necrosis
Aortoiliac vascular occlusive disease
Sacroiliac joint disease
Acute synovitis
✦Septic arthritis
Metastatic tumor
Primary bone tumor
Herpes zoster
✦Osteomyelitis
Legg Perthes disease
✦Slipped capital femoral epiphysis
Idiopathic chondrolysis
✦Psoas abscess
✦Leukemia
Sickle cell crisis

✦ Don’t miss
✦ Commonly missed

Reprinted with Permission
Hypotension, shock (2/11/10)
- Hemorrhage (trauma, GI bleeding)
- Hypovolemia
- Vomiting, diarrhea
- Pancreatitis
- *Drugs (e.g., antihypertensives)
- Cardiomyopathy
- *Myocardial infarction
- Aortic stenosis
- Arrhythmias
- Peritonitis
- Anaphylaxis
- *Pulmonary embolus
- *Ruptured aneurysm
- *Pneumothorax
- *Sepsis
- Aortic stenosis
- Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
- Hypothyroidism
- Cardiac tamponade
- Addison's disease/Adrenal insufficiency/ hemorrhage
- Atrial myxoma

* Don't miss
* Commonly missed

Reprinted with Permission
Insomnia, sleep disturbance
Primary insomnia (psychophysiologic)
Depression
Anxiety
Poor sleep hygiene
Obstructive sleep apnea
Medications, substances (caffeine, nicotine, pseudoephedrine, cocaine, steroids, alcohol, others)
Chronic lung disease
Menopause
Nocturia (diuretics, prostate hypertrophy, diabetes, incontinence, heart failure)
Environment (noise, temperature)
Jet lag
Chronic pain
♠Delirium
Restless legs syndrome, nocturnal myoclonus

♣ Don’t miss
* Commonly missed
Leg pain, bone pain, extremity pain
Arthritis
Fracture, trauma, stress fracture
Gout
Varicose veins
Cellulitis
Shin splints
Tendinitis
Deep vein thrombosis
Lumbar disc disease
Neuropathy (e.g., diabetic)
Meralgia paresthetica
Ruptured Baker’s cyst
Ruptured plantaris muscle
Vitamin D deficiency
Compartment syndrome
Claudication
Rhabdomyolysis
Ehlers Danlos (Hypermobility syndrome)
Complex regional pain syndrome
Diabetic amyotrophy
Chronic exertional compartment syndrome
Osteomyelitis
Arterial occlusion
Gastrocnemius tear
Sickle cell crisis
Bone tumor
Leukemia

Don’t miss
Commonly missed
Limp in child
- Transient synovitis
- Fractures (toddlers, stress, foot, abuse)
- Soft tissue trauma
- Growing pains
- Chondromalacia patellae
- Osgood-Schlatter's disease
- Slipped capital femoral epiphysis
- Legg-Perthes
- Osteochondritis dessicans
- Hip dysplasia
- Tumors
- Conversion disorder
- Leukemia
- Septic arthritis
- Osteomyelitis
- Diskitis
- Muscular dystrophy

Don’t miss

Commonly missed
**Lymphadenopathy**

(1/20/10)

Viral syndrome

Infectious mononucleosis

Cat scratch disease

* ♠ Malignancy (lymphoma, leukemia, metastases)

* ♠ Human immunodeficiency virus

* ♠ Tuberculosis, atypical mycobacteria

* ♠ Tularemia

Lupus

* ♠ Fungal infection (histoplasmosis, coccidiomycosis, cryptococcosis)

Medications (phenytoin, serum sickness)

* ♠ Brucellosis

* ♠ Leptospirosis

* ♠ Syphilis

* ♠ Lyme disease

Sacoidosis

Amyloidosis

Rubella

* Don’t miss

* Commonly missed
Mental status, acute change (coma, lethargy) (1/25/12)

◆ Delirium
◆ Alcohol
◆ Psychosis
◆ Drug overdose
◆ Hypoglycemia
◆ Intracranial hemorrhage
◆ Seizure (postictal)
◆ Urinary Retention
◆ Hypoxia
◆ CO2 narcosis
◆ Pneumonia
◆ Head trauma
◆ Sepsis
◆ Meningitis, encephalitis
◆ Electrolyte abnormality

Psychiatric
◆ Hyperglycemic hyperosmolar state, diabetic ketoacidosis
◆ Heart failure
◆ Status epilepticus
◆ Hypotension
◆ Brain stem stroke
◆ Disturbance of Ca, Mg, Na, K, P
◆ Thyroid disease (myxedema)
◆ Heat stroke
◆ Hypothermia
◆ Liver failure (hepatic encephalopathy)
◆ Renal failure (uremic encephalopathy)
◆ Brain tumor with herniation

◆ Don’t miss
◆ Commonly missed

Reprinted with Permission
Mouth pain, burning mouth, burning tongue

(2/3/11)

Burning mouth syndrome (idiopathic)
Psychiatric disorders
Aphthous stomatitis
Xerostomia (drugs, connective tissue disease, old age, Sjogrens, radiation therapy, chemotherapy)

Nutritional deficiencies (vitamin B12, iron, folate, zinc, vitamin B6)

Allergic contact stomatitis
Geographic tongue
Candidiasis
Diabetes
Denture-related pain
Herpes stomatitis
Thyroid abnormalities
Menopause
Lichen planus

* Don’t miss
* Commonly missed
Mouth ulcers
Aphthous stomatitis
Herpes simplex
Trauma
Oral candida
Hand, foot, and mouth disease
Herpangina
♣Primary Human Immunodeficiency Virus infection
Drug reaction
Behcet’s disease
Erythema multiforme
Stevens Johnson syndrome
Lichen planus
Chicken pox
Pemphigus, bullous pemphigoid
Reactive arthritis
♣Squamous cell carcinoma
Necrotizing ulcerative gingivostomatitis (Vincent’s fusospirochetal disease)
Inflammatory bowel disease
♣Syphilis

♣ Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

Reprinted with Permission
Muscle cramps (3/17/15)
Idiopathic, ordinary, nocturnal
Pregnancy
Heat-induced (volume depletion, hyponatremia)
Exercise induced cramps
*Medications (nifedipine, inhaled beta agonists, thiazides, beta blockers, cisplatin, vincristine, oral contraceptives, others)
Hemodialysis (volume and electrolyte shifts)
Lower motor neuron (injury, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, compression)
Writer's cramp
Diabetes
Parkinson's disease
Hypocalcemia
Ehlers Danlos (hypermobility) syndrome
Hypomagnesemia
Respiratory alkalosis
Parkinson disease
Peripheral vascular disease
Hypokalemia
Thyroid disease
McArdle's disease (glycogen storage disease)

* Don't miss
* Commonly missed

Reprinted with Permission
Myalgias, generalized
Viral syndrome, infections
Fibromyalgia
♦ Statins
Influenza
Vitamin D deficiency
♦ Hypothyroidism
♦ Polymyalgia rheumatica
♦ Rhabdomyolysis
Polymyositis, dermatomyositis
♦ Psychiatric
♦ Domestic abuse
♦ Lyme disease
Ehlers Danlos (Hypermobility syndrome)
♦ Adrenal insufficiency
♦ Human immunodeficiency virus
♦ Hypophosphatemia
Lupus
Rheumatoid arthritis

♦ Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disorder</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nausea, vomiting</td>
<td><em>(5/20/15)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gastroenteritis, gastritis</td>
<td><em>Drugs (opioids, iron, chemotherapy)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Pregnancy</em></td>
<td>Cannabinoid hyperemesis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migraine</td>
<td><em>Diverticulitis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Appendicitis</em></td>
<td><em>Carbon monoxide</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Bowel obstruction</em></td>
<td><em>Addison’s disease, adrenal insufficiency</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Diverticulitis</em></td>
<td><em>Serotonin syndrome</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eating disorder</td>
<td>Cyclic vomiting syndrome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Pyelonephritis</em></td>
<td>Acute intermittent porphyria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irritable bowel syndrome</td>
<td>Parathyroid disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertigo</td>
<td>Superior mesenteric artery syndrome</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ulcer disease</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Psychogenic vomiting, anxiety, depression</em></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pain (especially visceral)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Severe coughing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pancreatitis</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Cholecystitis</em></td>
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<td><em>Brain tumor</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pseudotumor cerebri</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Pancreatic carcinoma</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Hepatitis</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Myocardial infarction</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Crohn’s disease</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Glaucoma</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Human immunodeficiency virus</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mesenteric ischemia</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Lymphoma</em></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Intracranial hemorrhage</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Intracranial abscess, meningitis</em></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Inner ear (e.g., labyrinthitis, Meniere’s)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Uremia</em></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Diabetic ketoacidosis</em></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lactose intolerance</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Food poisoning</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Thyroid disorders</em></td>
<td><em>Don’t miss xx</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Congestive heart failure</em></td>
<td><em>Commonly missed</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Neck pain
Cervical sprain
Osteoarthritis
Cervical lymphadenitis
Cervical disk disease
Shoulder pathology
Carotidynia
Migraine
Occipital neuralgia
Torticollis
Subarachnoid hemorrhage
Psychiatric
Thyroiditis
Fibromyalgia
Soft tissue space infections
Myocardial infarction
Tumor
Pericarditis
Meningitis
Ludwig’s angina
Dissecting aneurysm thoracic aorta
Internal carotid artery dissection
Vertebral artery dissection
Transverse myelitis
Cervical osteomyelitis

� Don’t miss
* Commonly missed
Neck mass (6/23/14)
Reactive viral lymphadenopathy (upper respiratory infection, infectious mononucleosis, cytomegalovirus)
Suppurative bacterial lymphadenopathy (strep throat, skin infection)
Thyroid nodule
Thyroglottal duct cyst
Benign skin cyst
Lipoma
Cat scratch disease
Dermoid cyst
Branchial cleft cyst
Laryngocele
Tumor, primary or metastatic, lymphoma
Human immunodeficiency virus
Tularemia
Vascular tumors and malformations
Mycobacteria (scrofula)
Systemic disease (sarcoïd, Sjögren, Kimura, Castleman, Rosai-Dorfman)

Lyme disease
Mumps
Chancroid
Rat-bite fever
Brucellosis
Leptospirosis
Lymphogranuloma venereum
Typhoid fever
Measles
Rubella
Histoplasmosis, coccidioidomycosis, cryptococcosis
Toxoplasmosis, leishmaniasis
Secondary syphilis

* Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

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Numbness, sensory loss, neuropathy

Diabetes
Idiopathic peripheral neuropathy
Compression neuropathy
Disk disease
Carpal tunnel syndrome
Meralgia paresthetica
Herpes Zoster
Stroke
Multiple sclerosis
Alcoholism
Psychiatric, hyperventilation syndrome
Drugs (vincristine, amiodarone, lithium, others)
Monoclonal gammopathy
Guillain-Barré syndrome
Hypothyroidism
Cauda equina syndrome
Multiple myeloma
Brain or cord tumor
Amyloidosis
Human immunodeficiency virus
Heavy metal poisoning (lead, mercury)
Paraneoplastic syndrome
Hypocalcemia
Chronic liver disease
Renal insufficiency
Lyme disease
Vitamin B12, folate, B6 deficiency
Hereditary neuropathies (e.g., Charcot-Marie-Tooth)
Copper deficiency
Porphyria
Leprosy (Hansen’s disease)

Don’t miss

Commonly missed
Pruritus

Dry skin (xerosis)
Atopic dermatitis
Contact dermatitis
Urticaria
Bug bites
Lichen simplex chronicus
Scabies, lice
Diabetes
*Drugs (narcotics, calcium channel blocker, hydrochlorothiazide, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors, salicylates, chloroquine, allergic reaction, cholestasis, amphetamines, cocaine)
Pregnancy, third trimester
Photodermatitis
Psychiatric (delusional parasitosis)
Cholestasis
Lichen planus
Dermatitis herpetiformis
Renal disease (uremia)
Hepatitis C
♦Human immunodeficiency virus
♣Malignancy (Hodgkins lymphoma, polycythemia vera)
♦Thyroid disease
♦Hyperparathyroidism
Neuropathic pruritus (diabetic neuropathy, genital neural impingement)
*Iron deficiency anemia
Bullous pemphigoid
♣Mycosis fungoides
Grover disease

♦ Don't miss
* Commonly missed

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rash, generalized (2/13/15)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eczema, atopic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♠Drug reaction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact dermatitis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insect bites</td>
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<tr>
<td>Viral exanthem</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urticaria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poison ivy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folliculitis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seborrheic dermatitis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tinea versicolor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psoriasis (plaque, pustular, erythroderm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tinea corporis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guttate psoriasis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candida</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tinea corporis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miliaria rubra (prickly heat), miliaria crystallina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mycosis fungoides</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erythema multiforme</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dermatitis herpetiformis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Id reaction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scarlet Fever</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stevens-Johnson syndrome</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kawasaki’s disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unilateral lateral thoracic syndrome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken pox (Varicella)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human immunodeficiency virus acute exanthem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lupus (subacute cutaneous)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disseminated bullous impetigo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eruptive xanthomas</td>
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</tbody>
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| ♠ Don’t miss |
| ♠ Commonly missed |

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Red eye</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Viral conjunctivitis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allergic conjunctivitis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stye (hordeolum)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chalazion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blepharitis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dry eye syndrome (keratoconjunctivits sicca)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subconjunctival hemorrhage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact lens over wear</td>
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<tr>
<td>Episcleritis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign body</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corneal abrasion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trauma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herpes zoster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chlamydia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bacterial conjunctivitis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scleritis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chemical burn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iritis (acute anterior uveitis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keratitis, bacterial or viral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acute angle closure glaucoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyperthyroidism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster headache</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Don’t miss

* Commonly missed

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Red skin patch
Cellulitis
Candida
Eczema, atopic
Nummular eczema
Contact dermatitis
Bug bite reactions
Impetigo
Psoriasis
Tinea
Pityriasis rosea herald patch
Basal cell carcinoma
Discoid lupus
Fixed drug eruption
Lyme disease
Mycosis fungoides

Don’t miss
Commonly missed

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Rhinorrhea, nasal congestion

Viral upper respiratory infection
Allergic Rhinitis
Vasomotor rhinitis
Sinusitis
Septal deviation
Rhinitis of pregnancy
Nasal polyps
Rhinitis medicamentosa
Adenoid hypertrophy
Gustatory rhinitis
Foreign body
*Cerebrospinal fluid rhinorrhea
Nonallergic rhinitis with eosinophilia syndrome
Intranasal cocaine
Medications (estrogen, progesterone, aspirin, nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drugs, clonidine, prazosin, doxazosin, beta blockers, calcium channel blockers, thiazides, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors, erectile dysfunction drugs, amitriptyline, risperidone, gabapentin)

Atrophic rhinitis
*Cystic fibrosis
*Nasal tumors
Ovulatory rhinitis
*Hypothyroidism
Wegener’s granulomatosis
*Midline granuloma
Sarcoidosis

* Don’t miss

* Commonly missed

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Scrotal pain
Idiopathic orchialgia
Epididymitis
Orchitis (e.g., mumps, viral, bacterial)
Post-vasectomy pain syndrome
Inguinal hernia
Ureteral stone
Hydrocele
Varicocele
• Testicular torsion
Acute idiopathic scrotal edema
Torsion of appendix testis
• Fornier's gangrene
• Testicular cancer
Henoch Schonlein purpura

• Don't miss
* Commonly missed
Seizure and seizure mimics

Febrile seizures
Breath holding spells (children)
Imitators (vasovagal syncope, pseudoseizures (now called psychogenic nonepileptic events), transient ischemic attack, arrhythmia, migraine)

Epilepsy (idiopathic)
Alcohol and drug withdrawal (benzodiazepines)
- Head trauma
- Hypoglycemia
- Hyponatremia
Sandifer’s syndrome
Parasomnias
Tics
- Hypoxia
- Stroke
- Brain tumor
- Meningitis, encephalitis
Vasculitis (systemic lupus erythematosus)
- Drug intoxication (cocaine, amphetamines)
Uremia
- Hypomagnesemia
- Hypocalcemia

(*) Don’t miss
* Commonly missed
Shoulder pain (5/13/14)
Shoulder joint disease (rotator cuff tendinopathy, bicipital
tendinitis, labral tear, adhesive capsulitis,
glenohumeral arthritis, acromioclavicular joint arthritis,
labral tear)
Cervical radiculopathy (arthritis, disk, tumor)
Fibromyalgia
Biliary disease
♠*Myocardial ischemia, infarction
♠Intra-abdominal bleeding (ectopic, ruptured ovarian cyst)
♠*Pneumonia
♠Polymyalgia rheumatica
Herpes zoster
Brachial plexitis/neuritis (Parsonage-Turner syndrome)
♠*Lung tumor, Pancoast tumor
♠*Pulmonary embolus
Psychiatric
♠Ruptured abdominal viscus
♠Ruptured spleen
Avascular necrosis humeral head
♠Abdominal malignancy
Pericarditis

♠ Don’t miss
* Commonly missed
**Sinus tachycardia**

(6/22/15)

Anxiety, emotional stress

Pain

Recent physical exertion

COPD

†Infections, fever

Pregnancy (10 to 20 BPM at term)

*Drugs (alcohol, amitriptyline, amphetamines, anticholinergics, beta blocker withdrawal, bupropion, caffeine, cilostazol, cocaine, ephedrine, epinephrine, isoproterenol, nicotine)

Diabetic cardiovascular autonomic neuropathy

†Myocardial infarction

†Pulmonary embolus

†Pneumonia

†Anemia

†Hemorrhage

†Hypotension, shock

†Hypovolemia, dehydration

†Hyperthyroidism

†Hypoglycemia

†Heart failure, pulmonary edema

†Cardiomyopathy, myocarditis

†Pericarditis

†Acute mitral regurgitation

†Pneumothorax

†Aortic insufficiency

†Hypoxia

†Serotonin syndrome

†Neuroleptic malignant syndrome

Inappropriate sinus tachycardia

Postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome (POTS)

Chronic nonparoxysmal sinus tachycardia

♠Pheochromocytoma

*Don’t miss

* Commonly missed
Sore throat, pharyngitis
Viral pharyngitis
Allergies
♠Group A streptococci
Infectious mononucleosis
Cytomegalovirus
Influenza
Thrush
Uvulitis
Smoking
Dry air
Reflex esophagitis
♠Peritonsillar abscess
Mycoplasma
♠Angioedema
Herpes simplex
Acute thyroiditis
♠Retropharyngeal space infection
♠Submandibular space infection
Arcanobacterium haemolyticum
♠Primary human immunodeficiency virus
♠Gonorrhea
♠Epiglottitis
♠Repeated strangulation in domestic abuse
♠Chlamydia pneumoniae
♠Tularemia
♠Lemierre syndrome (Fusobacterium necrophorum)
♠Diphtheria

♠ Don’t miss
* Commonly missed
Stroke and stroke mimics

- Ischemic stroke
- Migraine
- Benign headache
- Benign positional vertigo
- Intracerebral hemorrhage
- Subdural hemorrhage
- Subarachnoid hemorrhage
- Brain tumor
- Todd’s Palsy (following seizure)
- Hypoglycemia
- Drug intoxication
- Syncope
- Head trauma
- Labyrinthitis
- Peripheral neuropathy
- Psychiatric (conversion reaction)
- Systemic infection
- Central nervous system infection
- Multiple sclerosis
- Hyponatremia
- Hepatic encephalopathy
- Guillain Barre’
- Transient global amnesia
- Aortic dissection
- Acute renal failure

* Don’t miss

* Commonly missed

Reprinted with Permission
Sweating, excessive, hyperhidrosis, night sweats (1/25/12)
Excess environmental heat
Idiopathic, benign
Menopausal hot flashes
Anxiety
*Drugs (antidepressants, triptans, antipyretics, tamoxifen, raloxifene, alcohol, beta blockers, calcium channel blockers, omeprazole, opioids, tramadol, insulin, sulfonylureas, niacin, sildenafil)
::<Hyperthyroidism
Gastroesophageal reflux disease
::<Tuberculosis
::<Human Immunodeficiency Virus
::<Endocarditis
::<Bacterial infections
::<Hepatitis C
::<Carcinoid
::<Hypoglycemia
::*Malignancy (lymphoma, solid tumors)
::*Stroke
Autonomic dysreflexia
Autonomic neuropathy
Food additives
Valley Fever (Coccidiomycosis)
Mastocytosis
Spinal cord injury
::*Pheochromocytoma

* Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

Reprinted with Permission
Syncope, near syncope (7/13/15)
Vasovagal (emotion, pain, fear, prolonged standing, heat, exertion, cough, micturition, no trigger)
Orthostatic hypotension
Hyperventilation
*Drugs, alcohol
Panic attack
Autonomic insufficiency
Valsalva
◆*Anemia
◆Arrhythmias
◆Hypoglycemia
◆Seizure, pseudoseizure
◆GI bleeding
◆Valvular heart disease, aortic stenosis
◆Pulmonary embolus
◆Myocardial infarction
◆Hypoxia
◆Aortic dissection
◆Adrenal insufficiency, Addison's disease
◆Long QT syndrome
◆Brugada syndrome
◆Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
Pulmonary hypertension
◆Carotid sinus sensitivity
◆Cardiac tamponade
◆Cerebrovascular (TIA, stroke)
◆Atrial myxoma

◆ Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

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Tinnitus

Idiopathic
Presbycusis
Noise-induced hearing loss
Meniere’s disease
Drugs (aspirin, antibiotics, loop diuretics, chemotherapy)
Temporomandibular joint disorder
Acoustic neuroma
Congenital hearing loss
Cochlear trauma, barotrauma
Vascular, pulsatile (arteriovenous malformation, bruit, fistula)
Stroke
Otosclerosis
Multiple sclerosis
Patulous eustachian tube
Vestibular schwannoma
Glomus tumor

Don’t miss
Commonly missed
Tremor
Physiologic tremor
Essential tremor, familial tremor
Anxiety
Parkinson's disease
♠Hyperthyroidism
♠Tardive dyskinesia
Medications (bronchodilators, caffeine, steroids, lithium, sympathomimetics, antipsychotics, metoclopramide, tricyclics, valproic acid)
Drug withdrawal (alcohol)
Psychogenic tremor
Orthostatic tremor
♠Cerebellar disease
♠Midbrain stroke
Multiple sclerosis
♠Serotonin syndrome
♠Carcinoid
Hepatic encephalopathy
♠Wilson's disease
♠Pheochromocytoma

♠ Don't miss
* Commonly missed

Reprinted with Permission
Urinary symptoms (dysuria, frequency, urgency) (4/8/15)
- Urinary tract infection
- Urethritis (chlamydia, gonococcus, unknown)
- Vaginitis
- Atrophic vaginitis
- Genital herpes
- Interstitial cystitis (painful bladder syndrome)
- Overactive bladder
- Idiopathic urgency incontinence
- Irritant urethritis
- Daytime frequency of childhood syndrome
- Prostatitis
- Reactive arthritis (Reiter’s syndrome)
- Hypercalciuria
- Psychiatric
- Appendicitis
- Diverticulitis

♣ Don’t miss
* Commonly missed
Vertigo
Benign paroxysmal positional vertigo
Meniere's disease
Vestibular neuronitis, acute labyrinthitis
♦ Acoustic neuroma
Post-concussion syndrome
♦ Otitis media
Barotrauma, ruptured oval window, perilymph leak
Migrainous vertigo
Otosclerosis
♦ Vertebral artery dissection
Multiple sclerosis
♦ Brain stem stroke
Psychiatric
♦ Drugs (gentamicin, furosemide, phenytoin, aminoglycosides, diazepam, aspirin, alcohol)

♦ Don't miss
* Commonly missed
Weakness (objective muscle weakness)

- Cachexia
- Stroke
- Disuse atrophy
- Hypokalemia
- Rhabdomyolysis
- Drugs (cocaine, heroin, alcohol, corticosteroids, colchicine, antimalarial drugs, statins)
- Hyponatremia
- Compression neuropathy (e.g., Saturday night palsy)
- Multiple sclerosis
- Myasthenia gravis
- Muscular dystrophy
- Peripheral neuropathy
- Polymyositis
- Dermatomyositis
- Hypothyroidism
- Cushing’s syndrome
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
- Inclusion body myositis
- Hypophosphatemia
- Hypocalcemia
- Viral infections
- Lyme myositis
- Trichinosis
- Toxoplasmosis

* Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

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Weight loss

♠ Depression
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
* Drugs
Dementia
♠ Malignancy, lymphoma
Eating disorder
Anorexia of aging
* Diabetes
♠ Hyperthyroidism
♠ Human immunodeficiency virus
♠ Tuberculosis
♠ Adrenal insufficiency
♠ Uremia
Liver disease, hepatitis
Heart failure
Alcohol
Illicit drugs
Social factors (isolation, no money)
Voluntary (exercise)
Intestinal parasites
♠ Celiac disease
Malabsorption
Swallowing disorders
Valley fever (Coccidiomycosis)
Lupus
♠ Hypopituitarism
Inflammatory bowel disease
Wegener’s granulomatosis
Polyarteritis nodosa
♠ Whipple’s disease

♠ Don’t miss
* Commonly missed

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