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Commentary

Medical Diagnosis

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Description

Medical diagnosis (abbreviated Dx or DS) is that the process of determining which disease or condition explains an individual's symptoms and signs. It is most frequently mentioned as diagnosis with the medical context being implicit. The information required for diagnosis is usually collected from a history and physical examination of the person seeking medical aid . Often, one or more diagnostic procedures, like medical tests, also are done during the method. Sometimes posthumous diagnosis is considered a kind of medical diagnosis.

A diagnosis, within the sense of diagnostic technique, are often considered an effort at classification of a person's condition into separate and distinct categories that allow medical decisions about treatment and prognosis to be made. Subsequently, a diagnostic opinion is usually described in terms of a disease or other condition. In the case of a wrong diagnosis, however, the individual's actual disease or condition is not the same as the individual's diagnosis.

A diagnostic procedure may be performed by various healthcare professionals such as a physician, physiotherapist, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, nurse practitioner, healthcare scientist or physician assistant. This article uses diagnostician as any of those person categories.

Over diagnosis is that the diagnosis of "disease" which will never cause symptoms or death during a patient's lifetime. It is a drag because it turns people into patients unnecessarily and since it can cause economic waste. Overutilization and treatments that may cause harm. Over diagnosis occurs when a disease is diagnosed correctly, but the diagnosis is irrelevant. A correct diagnosis could also be irrelevant because treatment for the disease isn't available, not needed, or not wanted.

Types of Diagnosis

Clinical diagnosis

A diagnosis made on the idea of medical signs and reported symptoms, instead of diagnostic tests.

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Laboratory diagnosis

A diagnosis based significantly on laboratory reports or test results, instead of the physical examination of the patient. For instance, a correct diagnosis of infectious diseases usually requires both an examination of signs and symptoms, also as laboratory test results and characteristics of the pathogen involved.

Radiology diagnosis

A diagnosis based totally on the results from medical imaging studies. Greenstick fractures are common radiological diagnoses.

Tissue diagnosis

A diagnosis based on the macroscopic, microscopic, and molecular examination of tissues such as biopsies or whole organs. For example, a definitive diagnosis of cancer is formed via tissue examination by a pathologist.

Principal diagnosis

The single diagnosis that's most relevant to the patient's chief complaint or need for treatment. Many patients have additional diagnoses.

Admitting diagnosis

The diagnosis given as the reason why the patient was admitted to the hospital; it may differ from the actual problem or from the discharge diagnoses, which are the diagnoses recorded when the patient is discharged from the hospital.

Differential diagnosis

A process of identifying all of the possible diagnoses that would be connected to the signs, symptoms, and lab findings, then ruling out diagnoses until a final determination can be made.

Diagnostic criteria

Designates the mixture of signs, symptoms, and test results that the clinician uses to aim to work out the right diagnosis. They are standards, normally published by international committees, and they are designed to offer the best sensitivity and specificity possible, respect the presence of a condition, with the state-of-the-art technology.

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