

**Diagnostic Checklists** (Last saved 2/1/2016 1:38 PM)

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.

([http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/ahcd/namcs\\_summary/2010\\_namcs\\_web\\_tables.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/ahcd/namcs_summary/2010_namcs_web_tables.pdf).) Accessed March 17,2015.)

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 ( )
  - d. Identification of diagnoses that are commonly missed, designated by an asterisk (\*) and partly based on Schiff GD, et al. Arch Intern Med. 2009;169:1881-7; and on Zwaan L, et al. Arch Intern Med. 2010 ;170:1015-21).
  - 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.

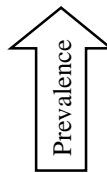
The checklists are modified from Ely JW, Graber ML, Croskerry P. Checklists to reduce diagnostic errors. Acad Med. 2011 Mar;86(3):307-13.

**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

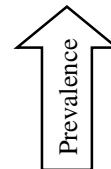
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**Don't miss****\* Commonly missed**

**Abdominal and pelvic pain (continued)**

(5/20/15)

- 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 appendagitis
- 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
- Black Widow Spider bite



**Don't miss**

**\* Commonly missed**

**Abnormal uterine bleeding** (2/13/15)

Anovulatory bleeding, polycystic ovary syndrome

Menorrhagia (idiopathic)

Contraceptive related abnormal bleeding (oral contraceptives, depo-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

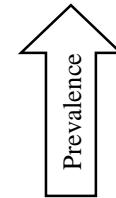
Hyperprolactinemia

Thyroid disease

Drugs (anticoagulants, psychotropics)

Coagulopathy (von Willebrand disease)

Organ failure (late manifestation: kidney failure, liver failure)



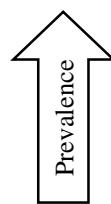
**Don't miss**

\* **Commonly missed**

**Annular skin lesions**

(10/5/15)

- 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



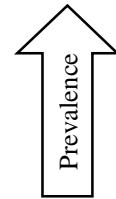
**Don't miss**

\* **Commonly missed**

**Anxiety, depression**

(6/19/15)

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**

(7/9/15)

Viremia (nonspecific, infectious mononucleosis, hepatitis, cytomegalovirus, fifth disease, rubella, mumps, varicella, human immunodeficiency virus)

Osteoarthritis

Polyarteritis nodosa

Fibromyalgia

Wegener's granulomatosis

Reactive arthritis

Amyloidosis

Polyarticular gout

Rheumatic fever

Pseudogout

Familial Mediterranean Fever

Polymyalgia rheumatica

Whipple's disease

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 gonococcosis

Relapsing polychondritis

Autoinflammatory disorders

Adrenal insufficiency

Lyme disease

Bacterial endocarditis

Sarcoidosis

Palindromic rheumatism

Hyperlipoproteinemias

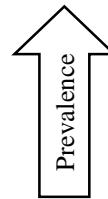
\*Malignancy

Septic joint

Sickle cell disease

Compartment syndrome

Acute myelopathy, radiculopathy, neuropathy

**Don't miss****\* Commonly missed**

**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

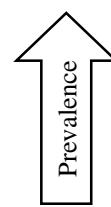
\*Abdominal tumor

Penetrating ulcer

Infection (diskitis, osteomyelitis, spinal abscess)

Iliocostal impingement syndrome

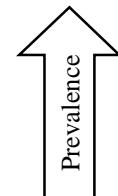
Retroperitoneal fibrosis

**Don't miss****\* Commonly missed**

**Back Pain in Children**

(3/13/15)

- Nonspecific musculoskeletal
- Viral myalgias
- Scheuermann's kyphosis
- Spondylolysis, 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

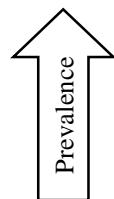


**Don't miss**  
**\* Commonly missed**

**Breast pain (mastalgia)**

(9/4/11)

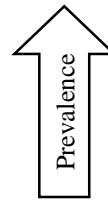
- Idiopathic mastalgia
- Cyclical (physiologic) breast pain
- Fibrocystic disease
  - Mastitis
  - Chest wall pain
  - Large pendulous breasts (Cooper's ligament stretching)
  - Caffeine, nicotine
    - Pregnancy
    - Hormone replacement therapy
    - Drugs (antibiotics, antidepressants, antipsychotics, estrogen, progesterone, clomiphene, antihypertensives, metronidazole, ketoconazole, spironolactone)
  - Benign tumors
    - Inflammatory breast cancer
  - Referred pain
  - Trauma
  - Psychiatric
  - Herpes zoster
  - Thrombophlebitis
  - Macrocyts
  - 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**

(9/15/15)

- 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
- Mitral 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



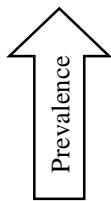
**Don't miss**

\* **Commonly missed**

**Cold feeling**

Idiopathic  
Advanced age, thin woman  
Psychiatric (anxiety)  
Hypothyroidism  
Shock  
Sepsis  
Raynaud's phenomenon  
Anemia  
Weight loss, malnutrition  
Chronic illness  
Hypoglycemia

(8/7/12)



**Don't miss**  
**\* Commonly missed**

**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

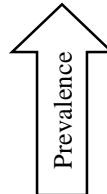
Spinal cord injury

Parkinson disease

Myotonic dystrophy

Systemic sclerosis

Hirschprung disease



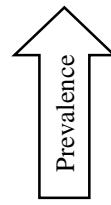
**Don't miss**

\* Commonly missed

**Cough**

(4/10/13)

- 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

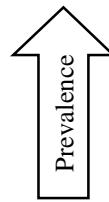


**Don't miss**  
**\* Commonly missed**

**Cough, dyspnea (infant, newborn)**

- 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

(4/10/13)



**Don't miss**  
\* **Commonly missed**

**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

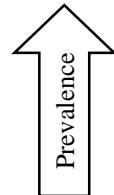
Anal fissure

Corneal abrasion

Constipation

Immunization reaction

Hair tourniquet syndrome (digits, penis)



**Don't miss**

\* Commonly missed

**Delirium**

(4/8/15)

- \*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



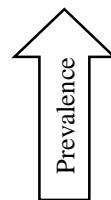
**Don't miss**

\* **Commonly missed**

**Dementia, memory loss**

(3/13/15)

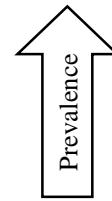
- Alzheimer disease
- Pseudodementia (depression)
- Mild cognitive impairment
- Medications (antihistamines)
- Alcohol, Wernicke Korsakoff
- Vascular dementia
- Frontotemporal dementia
- Lewy body dementia
- Parkinson disease
- Vitamin B12 deficiency
- Hypothyroidism
- \*Delirium
- Anoxia
- Hypoglycemia
- 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**

**Depigmentation, hypopigmentation of skin**

(3/24/12)

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

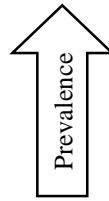


**Don't miss**  
\* **Commonly missed**

**Diarrhea**

(9/18/14)

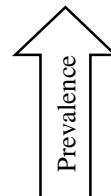
- Viral gastroenteritis
- Irritable bowel syndrome
- \*Drugs (antibiotics, caffeine, alcohol)
- Salmonella
- Shigella
- E. coli O157 H7
- Campylobacter
- Clostridium difficile
- Food poisoning
- Lactose intolerance, fructose intolerance
- Bacterial overgrowth (e.g., diabetes, blind loop after surgery)
- 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**

**Dizziness, ill-defined**

(1/21/12)

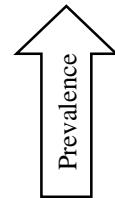
- Vasovagal
- Benign paroxysmal positional vertigo
- Hyperventilation
- \*Drugs (antihypertensives, antidepressants, gentamicin, furosemide, alcohol, illicit drugs)
- Panic attack
- Elderly multifactorial
- Orthostatic hypotension
- Autonomic insufficiency
- Meniere's disease
- Vestibular neuronitis, 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**

**Dysphagia**

(2/4/14)

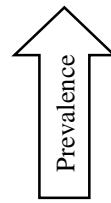
- Esophageal spasm
- Lower esophageal ring (schatzke's ring)
- Functional dysphagia
- Globus sensation
- Esophageal web
- Peptic stricture
- Esophageal diverticulum
- \*drugs (anticholinergics, phenothiazines)
- Nutcracker esophagus
- Zenker's diverticulum
- Sjogren's syndrome
- Achalasia
- \*Stroke
- \*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**

(1/12/16)

- 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

Acoustic neuroma

\*Myocardial infarction

Nasopharyngeal tumor

Temporal arteritis

Cholesteotoma

Sinusitis

Carotidynia

Trauma

Mastoiditis

Gastroesophageal reflux

Tumors (ear, nasopharyngeal)

Bell's palsy

Wegener's granulomatosis

Cervical disc disease

Ramsey Hunt syndrome

Relapsing polychondritis

Malignant external otitis

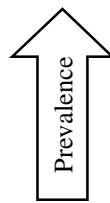
Coronary disease

Thoracic aneurysm

\*Psychogenic (depression, anxiety)

Thyroid tumor

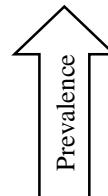
Salivary gland disorder

**Don't miss**Neuralgias (trigeminal, glossopharyngeal)\* **Commonly missed**

**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

(5/19/15)



**Don't miss**  
**\* Commonly missed**

**Eyelid swelling**

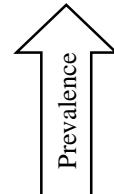
(1/21/12)

Bilateral

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

Unilateral

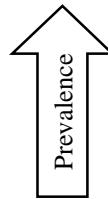
- Orbital cellulitis
- Hordeolum, stye
- Chalazion
- Herpes simplex
- Herpes zoster ophthalmicus
- Dacryocystitis
- Tumors



**Don't miss**  
\* **Commonly missed**

**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

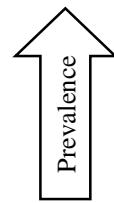


**Don't miss**  
**\* Commonly missed**

**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

(8/26/13)



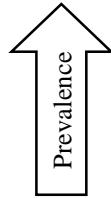
**Don't miss**

\* Commonly missed

**Falls in the elderly**

(3/17/15)

- 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**

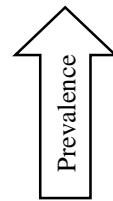




**Flank pain**

(8/29/13)

- 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

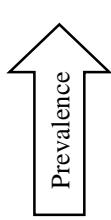


**Don't miss**

\* 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

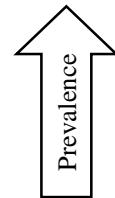


**Don't miss**  
\* **Commonly missed**

**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

(3/17/15)

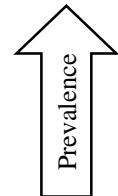


**Don't miss**  
**\* Commonly missed**

**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

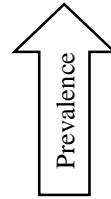


**Don't miss**  
\* **Commonly missed**

**Headache**

(6/19/15)

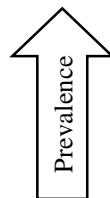
- Daily withdrawal headaches  
Migraine                  Reversible cerebral vasoconstriction syndrome  
Tension type headache                  Vasculitis  
Caffeine withdrawal                  Pituitary apoplexy  
\*Drug adverse effect  
Sinusitis  
Viral syndrome, febrile illness  
Temporomandibular 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)**

(3/17/15)

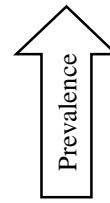
- Presbycusis
- Cerumen
- Otitis media, otitis externa
- Noise exposure
- Acoustic neuroma
- Meniere's disease
- Otosclerosis
- Sudden sensorineural hearing loss
- Viral cochleitis (herpes, influenza, mumps, others)
- Drugs (aspirin, gentamicin, furosemide, cisplatin)
- Stroke
- Hereditary, congenital 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**

(5/2/14)

- 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
- Polyzystic 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

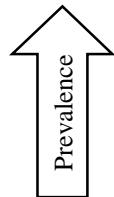


**Don't miss**  
\* Commonly missed

**Hip pain**

(10/15/12)

- 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

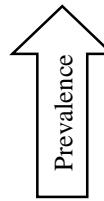


**Don't miss**  
**\* Commonly missed**

**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**

**Insomnia, sleep disturbance** (1/23/12)

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)

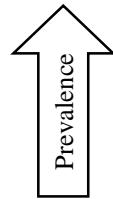
Environment (noise, temperature)

Jet lag

Chronic pain

\*Delirium

Restless legs syndrome, nocturnal myoclonus



**Don't miss**

**\* Commonly missed**

**Leg pain, bone pain, extremity pain**

(9/15/15)

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



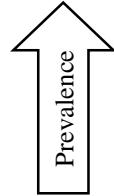
**Don't miss**

**\* Commonly missed**

**Limp in child**

(8/7/15)

- 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

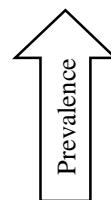


**Don't miss**  
**\* Commonly missed**

**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

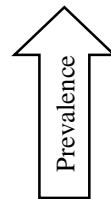


**Don't miss**

**\* Commonly missed**

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

- \*Delirium
- Alcohol
- Psychosis
- Drug overdose
  - Hypoglycemia
  - \*Intracranial hemorrhage
- Seizure (postictal)
- Urinary Retention
- Hypoxia
- CO<sub>2</sub> 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**

**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

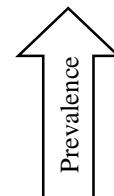
Denture-related pain

Herpes stomatitis

Thyroid abnormalities

Menopause

Lichen planus



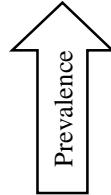
**Don't miss**

\* Commonly missed

**Mouth ulcers**

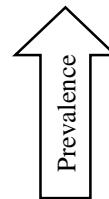
(1/25/12)

- 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**

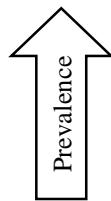
**Muscle cramps** (3/17/15)  
Idiopathic, ordinary, nocturnal  
Pregnancy  
Heat-induced (volume depletion, hyponatremia)  
Exercise induced cramps  
\*Medications (nifedipine, inhaled beta agonists, thiazides, beta blockers, cisplatin, vincristine, oral contraceptives, others)  
Hemodialysis (volume 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**

**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

(6/19/15)



**Don't miss**  
**\* Commonly missed**

**Nausea, vomiting**

(5/20/15)

Gastroenteritis, gastritis

\*Drugs (opioids, iron, chemotherapy)

Pregnancy

Cannabinoid hyperemesis

Migraine

Diverticulitis

\*Appendicitis

Carbon monoxide

Bowel obstruction

Addison's disease, adrenal insufficiency

Gastroparesis (diabetes)

Serotonin syndrome

Eating disorder

Cyclic vomiting syndrome

Pyelonephritis

Acute intermittent porphyria

Irritable bowel syndrome

Parathyroid disorders

Vertigo

Superior mesenteric artery syndrome

Peptic ulcer disease

Psychogenic vomiting, anxiety, depression

Pain (especially visceral)

Severe coughing

Pancreatitis

Cholecystitis

Brain tumor

Pseudotumor cerebri

\*Pancreatic carcinoma

Hepatitis

\*Myocardial infarction

Crohn's disease

Glaucoma

\*Human immunodeficiency virus

Mesenteric ischemia

Lymphoma

\*Intracranial hemorrhage

Intracranial abscess, meningitis

Inner ear (e.g., labyrinthitis, Meniere's)

Uremia

\*Diabetic ketoacidosis

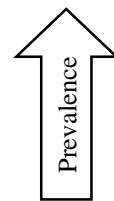
Lactose intolerance

Food poisoning

Thyroid disorders

**Don't miss xx**

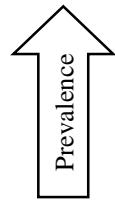
\*Congestive heart failure

**\* Commonly missed**

**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

(1/25/12)

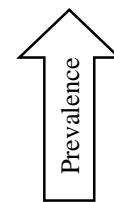


**Don't miss**  
**\* Commonly missed**

**Neck mass**

(6/23/14)

- Reactive viral lymphadenopathy (upper respiratory infection, infectious mononucleosis, cytomegalovirus)
- Suppurative bacterial lymphadenopathy (strep throat, skin infection)
- Thyroid nodule
- Thyroglossal duct cyst
- Benign skin cyst
- Lipoma
- Cat scratch disease
- Dermoid cyst
- Branchial cleft cyst
- Laryngocèle
- Tumor, primary or metastatic, lymphoma
- Human immunodeficiency virus
- Tularemia
- Vascular tumors and malformations
- Mycobacteria (scrofula)
- Systemic disease (sarcoid, 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



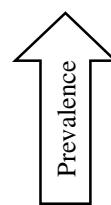
**Don't miss**

\* Commonly missed

**Numbness, sensory loss, neuropathy**

(2/13/15)

- 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**

(12/16/13)

- 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

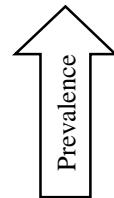


**Don't miss**

\* **Commonly missed**

**Rash, generalized** (2/13/15)

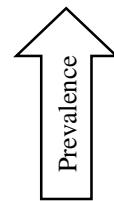
Eczema, atopic	Erythema nodosum
*Drug reaction	Generalized granuloma annulare
Contact dermatitis	Toxic shock syndrome
Insect bites	Swimmer's itch, Seabather's eruption
Viral exanthem	Meningococcemia
Urticaria	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever
Poison ivy	Secondary syphilis
Folliculitis	Disseminated varicella zoster
Seborrheic dermatitis	Measles
Tinea versicolor	Rubella
Psoriasis (plaque, pustular, erythroderm)	Sweet's syndrome
Tinea corporis	Grover's disease
Guttate psoriasis	Acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis
Candida	Dermatomyositis
Keratosis pilaris	Darier's disease
Pityriasis rosea	Leprosy (Hansen's disease)
Lichen planus	
Roseola	
Scabies	
Numular eczema	
Fifth Disease	
Lyme disease	
Miliaria rubra (prickly heat), miliaria crystallina	
Mycosis fungoides	
Erythema multiforme	
Dermatitis herpetiformis	
Id reaction	
Scarlet Fever	<b>Don't miss</b>
Stevens-Johnson syndrome	
Kawasaki's disease	
Unilateral lateral thoracic syndrome	
Chicken pox (Varicella)	
Human immunodeficiency virus acute exanthem	
Lupus (subacute cutaneous)	
Disseminated bullous impetigo	
Eruptive xanthomas	* Commonly missed



**Red eye**

(2/7/12)

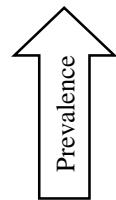
- Viral conjunctivitis
- Allergic conjunctivitis
- Stye (hordeolum)
- Chalazion
- Blepharitis
- Dry eye syndrome (keratoconjunctivitis sicca)
- Subconjunctival hemorrhage
- Contact lens over wear
- Episcleritis
- Foreign body
- Corneal abrasion
- Trauma
- Herpes zoster
- Chlamydia
- Bacterial conjunctivitis
- Scleritis
- Chemical burn
- Iritis (acute anterior uveitis)
- Keratitis, bacterial or viral
- Acute angle closure glaucoma
- Hyperthyroidism
- Cluster headache



**Don't miss**  
\* **Commonly missed**

**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

(8/20/14)

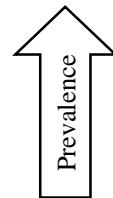


**Don't miss**  
**\* Commonly missed**

**Rhinorrhea, nasal congestion**

(5/18/15)

- 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

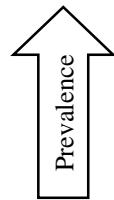


**Don't miss**  
**\* Commonly missed**

**Scrotal pain**

(1/28/12)

- 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
- Fournier's gangrene
- Testicular cancer
- Henoch Schonlein purpura



**Don't miss**

\* Commonly missed

**Seizure and seizure mimics**

(1/25/12)

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

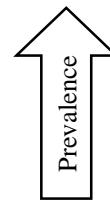
Vasculitis (systemic lupus erythematosus)

Drug intoxication (cocaine, amphetamines)

Uremia

Hypomagnesemia

Hypocalcemia

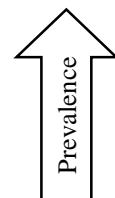


**Don't miss**

\* **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

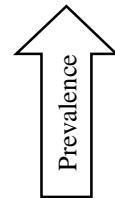
Neuroleptic malignant syndrome

Inappropriate sinus tachycardia

Postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome (POTS)

Chronic nonparoxysmal sinus tachycardia

Pheochromocytoma



**Don't miss**

**\* Commonly missed**

**Sore throat, pharyngitis**

(9/15/15)

Viral pharyngitis

Allergies

Group A streptococci

Infectious mononucleosis

Cytomegalovirus

Influenza

Thrush

Uvulitis

Smoking

Dry air

Reflux 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

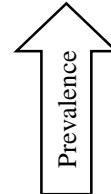
**Don't miss**

**\* Commonly missed**

**Stroke and stroke mimics**

(8/26/15)

- 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**

**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

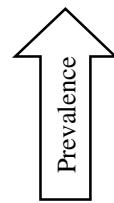
Food additives

Valley Fever (Coccidiomycosis)

Mastocytosis

Spinal cord injury

Pheochromocytoma



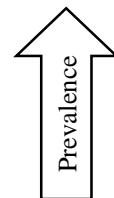
**Don't miss**

**\* Commonly missed**

**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



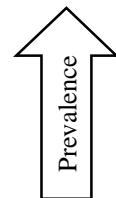
**Don't miss**

\* **Commonly missed**

**Tinnitus**

(3/17/15)

- 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

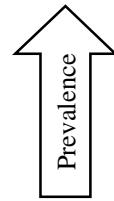


**Don't miss**  
\* **Commonly missed**

**Tremor**

(1/25/12)

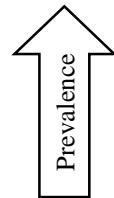
- Physiologic tremor
- Essential tremor, familial tremor
- Anxiety
- Parkinson's disease
- Hyperthyroidism
- Tardive dyskinesia
- Medications (bronchodilators, caffeine, steroids, lithium, sympathomimetics, antipsychotics, metoclopramide, tricyclics, valproic acid)
- Drug withdrawal (alcohol)
- Psychogenic tremor
- Orthostatic tremor
- Cerebellar disease
- Midbrain stroke
- Multiple sclerosis
- Serotonin syndrome
- Carcinoid
- Hepatic encephalopathy
- Wilson's disease
- Pheochromocytoma



**Don't miss**  
\* **Commonly missed**

**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

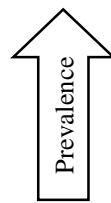


**Don't miss**  
**\* Commonly missed**

**Vertigo**

(1/25/12)

- 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)



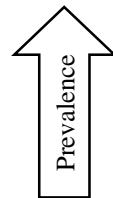
**Don't miss**

\* **Commonly missed**

**Weakness (objective muscle weakness)**

7/28/15

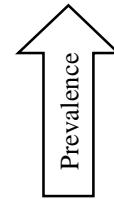
- Cachexia
- Stroke
- Disuse atrophy
- Hypokalemia
- Rhabdomyolysis
- Drugs (cocaine, heroin, alcohol, corticosteroids, colchicine, antimalarial drugs, statins)
- Hyponatremia
- Compression neuropathy (e.g., Saturday night palsy)
- Multiple sclerosis
- Myasthenia gravis
- Muscular dystrophy
- Peripheral 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**

**Weight loss**

(7/9/15)

- 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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