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Medical Examination & Diagnostic Techniques for Medical Students









GD Mogli

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Oncology Description of Disease Related to Pathology, Laboratory, Radiology and Pharmacology

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Oncology description of disease related to pathology, laboratory, radiollogy and pharmacology

Pathology	
Term	*Description*
Hodgkin's disease (Lymphogranuloma)	Hodgkin's disease is a malignancy of lymphatic tissue that primarily affects the lymph nodes but may also involve the spleen, gastrointestinal tract, liver, or bone marrow. It usually begins with a painless enlargement of lymph nodes, generally on one side the neck, but spreading later progresses to lymphoid tissue throughout the body. When lymph nodes enlarge, they may cause pressure on other structures, resulting in pain or dysfunction. For instance, when the nodes in the neck become excessively large and exert pressure on the trachea or esophagus, the patient may experience dyspnea and/or dysphagia. Other symptoms include itching (pruritus), weight loss, progressive anemia, and fever. Radiation and chemotherapy are important methods I the management of the disease, and impressive advances have been made in treating the affected areas.
Leukemia	Leukemia is a malignant disease of the blood-forming organs (spleen, lymphatic system, and bone marrow). Numerous embryonic (blastic) leukocytes spread and proliferate throughout the bone marrow. These cells are unable to function in a normal manner. Since the leukemic process drastically reduces the body's ability to produce normal blood cells, anemia and increased susceptibility to infections are also noted in the leukemic patient.

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	There are many clinical manifestations of leukemia, including fatigue, bleeding from the gums, nose (epistaxis), and rectum, rapid heartbeat (tachycardia), difficulty in breathing (dyspnea), and weight loss. The prognosis has improved, especially in children. The major method of treatment is chemotherapy.
Laboratory	
Term	*Description*
Cytology Examination	The study of cells- their origin, structure, and function. There are two major types of cytological studies: aspiration biopsy and exfoliative cytology. In the first technique, cells for study are obtained from superficial or internal lesions by suction through a fine needle. In the second technique, desquamated cells from body surfaces or lesions are examined (e.g., Pap smears). Specimen for cytological studies is usually composed of many different cells. Abnormalities may include the number of cells present, the cell distribution, surface modification, inclusions, size, shape, and staining properties. Some of these abnormalities are indicative of malignancy.
Carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA) test	A serological study that assesses the amount of CEA I the blood. CEA blood levels may elevate as cancer invades normal tissue, especially the colon and gastrointestinal tract. These levels appear to be highest in patients with metastatic colon neoplasm. This test cannot be uses as a screening test for cancer, but it can be used effectively to diagnose colon cancer and to manage patients with diagnosed colon cancer for signs of recurrent tumors.
Alpha-fetoprotein (AFP)	A plasma protein found normally in some embryonic tissue. It is also present in the blood of adults with hepatocellular carcinoma and germ cell neoplasm's. The AFP levels are used to monitor the effectiveness of cancer therapy in patients with these types of malignancies.
Radiology	
Term	*Description*
Radiation therapy	Ionizing radiation is used in cancer therapy in an attempt to destroy malignant cells. The application of the radiation may be either internal or external. Internal radiation therapy involves the implantation of the sealed radiation source in or near the malignant tissue, or the direct administration of radiation into the blood stream. External radiation employs high-energy X-rays and gamma rays. These are directed at the malignant tissue from an external X-ray machine.

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Pharmacology	
Medication	*Action*
Alkylataing agents	A variety of drugs used in chemotherapy that destroy portions of the DNA molecule. Not only do these drugs destroy malignant cells, but they may also destroy rapidly proliferating non-malignant cells. Systemic toxic effects including nausea, vomiting, hemorrhaging, erythropenia, and leucopenia often result.
Antimetabolite	Inhibits the formation of certain enzymes required for cell division.
Antibiotic	Product of certain bacteria that act on DNA and RNA to prevent cell reproduction. These antibiotics often cause toxic effects such as alopecia and myelosuppression.

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Medical Examination & Diagnostic Techniques for Medical Students

Salient Features

- A useful text on the subject
- Covers vital topics on the methods of history taking and physical examination and diagnostic techniques with the support of pathological, laboratory, radiological investigations with system-wide information, including terms and description and coupled with pharmacology and pharmacy, medication and action, and clinical and endoscopic procedures
- Provides practical summary of history taking and physical examination methods for arriving at accurate diagnosis with support of required especially-designed medical record forms and standardized medical abbreviations used for documenting the patient care
- Includes samples of specialty-wide discharge summaries that help the junior doctors preparing medical reports, including operation notes, discharge summaries, etc. in a precise and accurate way
- Useful for all the healthcare professionals in general and medical students and newly practicing physicians in particular, in developing and providing efficient quality patient care.



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