

The clinical description of disease

- Clinical is derived from (clin)= at bedside.
- To describe a disease, some important headings are essential to know.

Clinical disease: A disease that has recognizable clinical signs and symptoms, as distinct from a subclinical illness, which lacks detectable signs and symptoms. Diabetes, for example, can be a subclinical disease for some years before becoming a clinical disease.

Etiology

- Eti = cause
- Logy = study or science dealing with
- Thus, the word etiology means studying the cause of the disease and its predisposing factors such as tumor, allergy, infection....etc.

Pathogenesis

Path- = disease

genesis = origin

Thus the word pathogenesis means the study of disease development from the start of the condition till the establishment of the disease.

Pathology

The science that deal with the cause and nature of the disease by microscopic and naked-eye examination.

Symptoms

The feelings noticed by the patient due to the disturbances caused by the disease as headache.

Signs

The features of the disease or deformation. It is observed by the physician, relatives or the patient himself as skin rash.

Diagnosis

Dia- =through,-gnosis = knowledge

The name of the disease is reached through knowledge of its sign and symptoms and through clinical investigation.

Investigations

The methods used to reach the definitive diagnosis such as laboratory tests which include : biochemical, bacteriological, histological, hematological and radiological.

Clinical examinations

Examination of the patient by using the physician skills, his hands, stethoscope, blood pressure apparatus or other aids to know the physical signs of the disease.

Prognosis Pro = beforehand gnosis = knowledge Thus, the meaning is the prediction of the progress, and termination of a disease.

First stage

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Complications: Undesirable events in the progress of the disease such as bleeding from stomach ulcer.

Prophylaxis Protection from a disease.

Syndrome Set of medical signs and symptoms running together with disease or disorder.

Disease A state of ill-health resulting from structural changes associated with functional alteration.

Acute disease The severe signs and symptoms of the disease that occur in short duration.

Chronic disease The signs and symptoms of mild nature start slowly and gradually and maintained for a long time.

Subacute disease The severity and duration of the signs and symptoms are between acute and chronic.

Indications The use of drugs in the diagnosis, prevention or treatment of specific disease.

Repair A replacement of a damage tissue by a new one.

Regeneration The division and reproduction of the cells.

Degeneration A metabolic and morphological changes resulting from irritation not severe enough to kill cells.

Necrosis A local death of a mass of tissue which occur either directly or follow severe degeneration.

Embolism Insoluble body which circulates in the blood until it occlude a small vessel.

Edema Accumulation of excess fluid in tissue spaces, pulmonary alveoli or inside the cells.

Ischemia A decrease of blood supply to an organ due to occlusion of its artery.

Thrombosis The formation of compact body (from blood elements) inside a blood vessel or the heart.

Infarction An area of necrosis caused by sudden occlusion of the arterial supply by thrombosis or embolism.

Haemorrhage The escape of blood outside the blood vessels or the heart.

Shock An acute circulatory failure i.e. hypotension and tissue hypoxia.

Bacterial infection The invasion of the body by pathogenic bacteria and development of pathological changes.

Toxaemia The presence of toxins in the circulating blood.

Septicaemia The presence of a large number of multiplying bacteria and their toxins in the blood due to low body resistance.

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Immunity The ability of the body to overcome infection by the microorganism by producing antibodies.

Diabetes mellitus Metabolic disease due to decrease or complete loss of insulin leading to increase in the blood glucose level (hyperglycemia).

The clinical diagnostic signs

Stethoscope Instrument which is used to hear sounds elicited from heart, lungs or abdomen.

Sphygmomanometer Instrument which is used to measure the blood pressure.