



EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

ENT General History Taking

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Introduction

1- Introduction: (name + medical student), Permission, Privacy

2- Personal Data: (name, age, marital status, nationality , current living , occupation)

3- CC: What, When, Where : (route of admission (ER , Elective) , time)

History of present illness

1- Pain : SOCRATES

- Uni/bilateral
- Onset → sudden vs. gradual
- Duration → continuous or intermitted (how many times per day and for how long does it last) . related to a certain time or position
- Course → constant vs . progressive
- Character
- Radiation
- Relieving and aggravating symptoms
- Severity on scale
- Effect on sleep and daily activities
- Associated with : nausea , vomiting , increase or decrease in (weight , appetite) , fatigue, fever(duration and pattern) , night sweats , headache
- Previous episode and hospital course

2- Ear Symptoms :

- Ear pain, itching
- Ear discharge (continuous or intermittent, profuse or scanty, purulent or watery, foul smelling, what color? , quantity)
- wax accumulation
- Hearing loss
- Dizziness, vertigo, nystagmus, tinnitus,
- Congenital abnormality, deformity of the ear.
- Risk factors : Noise Exposure, frequent ear Cleaning with Q tips, Recent Severe Infection?
- ❖ Chronic Hearing Loss:
 - What sounds you can't hear? (loud sounds, everyday noise, whisper)
 - Does it mask/affect the function of the other ear?

- Who noticed this problem 1st? How? Or what is hearing like in group conversation?
- 10 (How bad is it?) Affect your performance at work?
- Did anyone else notice it? Do you have to ask people to repeat themselves?
- Do you still go to meetings /parties or family gatherings?
- Do you use hearing aids?
- Cleaning the ears q-tips or sharp objects

3- **Facial Nerve Palsy:**

- Site: Mouth only or the whole face? Which side of the mouth is drooping?
- Twitching? Weakness anywhere in the body?
- **Associated Symptoms:**
- Tearing? Difficulty in eye closure? Dryness and itchiness? ear pain? hearing loss/vertigo? change in taste? Skin vesicles? infection(vesicles) /
- facial pain / fainting
- Who noticed the problem? how?
- **Severity:**
- Did you go to work/mosque?
- Did anyone else notice it?
- Do others understand what you say?
- **Relieving Factors:** Is closing your mouth makes it less obvious? Is it better when you're
- relaxed?
- **Aggravating factors:**
- Is talking/yawning makes it more, Vertigo and imbalance
- Is it worse when you're nervous?
- **Neurological symptoms:**
- Limb weakness
- Speech difficulty
- Loss of consciousness
- Changes in sensation

4- **Throat**

- Uni/bilateral
- Site
- Onset → sudden vs. gradual
- Duration→ continuous or intermitted (how many times per day and for how long does it last) related to a certain time or position
- Course → constant vs . progressive
- Character

- Radiation
- Relieving and aggravating symptoms : Did you take any medication to relieve this
- Severity on scale
- Associated with : Taste disturbance , Salivation disturbance, Trismus (difficulty to open mouth) Lesions of oral cavity, or bad smell(Halitosis
-)Cough, pain, Repeated throat clearing
- Heart burn/GERD/dyspnea ,Hoarseness, Neck mass ,Dysphagia, dyspnea ,Change in Voice , Bad smell? Discharge (color, amount, frequency)?
- Sneezing Respiratory(Coughing , shortness of breath , stridor and chest pain Snoring during sleep or sleep disturbance or apnea)Ask the patient if he is mouth breathing ,rhinitis or runny nose ,odynophagia and dysphagia

- Constitutional : nausea , vomiting , increase or decrease in (weight , appetite) , fatigue, fever(duration and pattern) , night sweats , headache
- Risk factors: Dental status , Recurrent URTI ,Contact with ill people E.g. in the school , sore throat
- Effect on sleep and daily activities effect your swallowing ?
- Does it affect your daily performance?
- Previous episode and hospital course ?
- Have you seen a doctor for this? Medications and diagnosis?

5- Nose :

- Same template of pain then add :
- Pain, Discharge, post nasal drip
- Sneezing, Coughing, snoring
- Epistaxis
- Anosmia or hyposmia, Cacosmia (Unpleasant smell)
- Nasal deformity or swelling
- Septum perforation
- Voice change,
- Recurrent URTI
- Headache/ facial pain
- Smell disturbance
- Nasal obstruction/block→Which nostril(or which side)?
- Nasal trauma→Mechanism of the injury

6- Neck history:

- See lump hx then add if thyroid

- Hyper/ hypothyroidism symptoms:
- Difficulty in closing eyes, protrusion of the eye, insomnia, tremor
- Chest pain, palpitation, heat & cold tolerance
- Sweating, weakness, muscle wasting, dry skin, loss of hair, slow action and speech, bowel changes Previous radiation exposure

❖ **In all histories add the constitutional, previous episodes, affect on life and the following :**

- **Past medical**→ DM, HTN , Asthma , cardiovascular , respiratory , congenital , hereditary disorders, bleeding tendency , cancers , Recent infections, Viral infections(Flu-like Symptoms) Neurological conditions, Ear condition, otitis media
- **Past surgical and trauma** to ear, nose, head and neck **TRUMA**
- **Scopes and screening tests**
- **Blood transfusion and type**
- **Allergy** to food , drug , dust , environmental factor , latex
- **Vaccination**
- **Medication** : prescribed , over the counter , vitamins , supplements , herbs
- **Family history** : of a similar condition and all what was mentioned in the medical history of the pt
- **Social history** :(SMOKING, ALCOHOL → quantity and years) Occupation and travelling hx , Nationality, residency, occupation, animal contact .
- **Systematic Review.**
- **Thank the pt**

7- **Summary:**

- age,gender
- cc
- important (+ves and -ves)

ENT symptoms and signs from Dr. Abdullah AL-Anazi's notes:

Ear:

Otitis Externa

1. Itching
2. Pain
3. Tenderness And Swelling
4. Otorrhea
5. Deafness
6. Changes In The Lumen And Skin Of Ear

Acute Otitis Media

1. Fever
2. Earache
3. Deafness
4. Otorrhea

Extradural Abscess

1. Persistent Headache On The Side Of Otitis Media.
2. Pulsating Discharge.
3. Fever

Subdural Abscess

1. Headache Without Signs Of Meningeal Irritation
2. Convulsions
3. Focal Neurological Deficit (Paralysis, Loss Of Sensation, Visual Field Defects)

Labyrinthine Fistula

1. Hearing Loss
2. Attack Of Vertigo Mostly During Straining ,Sneezing And Lifting Heavy Object
3. Positive Fistula Test

NOSE:

Allergic Rhinitis

- 1-sneezing
- 2-Rhinorrhrea
- 3-nasal obstruction and loss of smell
- 4-itchiness of nose, eye, palate
- 5-tearing, itching, redness of eyes
- 6-burning sensation in the throat
- 7-symptoms related to asthma (cough, shortness of breath, wheeze)

Nasal polyps

- 1-nasal obstruction – unilateral / bilateral
- 2-anosmia
- 3-loss of taste
- 4- rhinorrhea – watery / mucoid / mucopurulent
- 5-head ache
- 6-broadening of nose (frog face)

Septal Hematoma

- 1-unilateral obstruction (maybe bilateral)
- 2-septal swelling

Turbinate Hypertrophy

- 1-nasal obstruction
- 2-mouth breathing

Trauma to the larynx

- 1-hoarseness
- 2-pain tenderness
- 3-hemoptysis
- 4-dysphagia
- 5-SC emphysema
- 6-impaired respiration
- 7-hematoma

Supraglottitis / Epiglottitis

1-Pediatric

- a. Sudden Onset
- b. Rapidly Progressive Course
- c. High Fever, Respiratory Distress
- d. Drooling, Painful Swallowing

2-Adult

- a. Dysphagia, Severe Sore Throat
- b. Fever, Stridor, Voice Change

Foreign body

- 1-usually coughing, choking, gagging and wheezing
- 2-no symptoms or signs
- 3-mimic different acute or chronic disease of lungs
- 4- E.G. croup, bronchial asthma