

# History taking



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# The steps in starting managing patient

1. History taking
2. Physical examination
3. Investigation
4. Diagnosis
5. Treatment plan
6. Follow up

# Definition :

A case history is defined as a planned professional conversation that enables the patient to communicate his/her symptoms ,feelings and fears to the clinician so as to obtain an insight in to the nature of patient illness and his/her attitude toward them.

# Why do you need to take a history

1. Taking a patient's history is the most important skill in medicine, it contributes 60-80% of the data for diagnosis.
2. It is the keystone of clinical diagnosis and the foundation for the doctor–patient relationship

**To be able to take a proper history**

**You have to be :**

**a good communicator**



**And the requirements for good com**

- 1. Patient respect**
- 2. Listening skills**
- 3. Try to establish an easy way of communication.**



# Don't Forget :

1. You are interrogating an unordinary person
2. Diferent intellectual & social level
3. The patient mostly does not know who you are.
4. Try to Show the patient you are caring
5. Let the patient talk

Angry patient



uncomfortable



Passive/vague patient



# The scheme in history taking

1. The profile
2. chief complaint ,its duration
3. history of present complaint
4. Systemic review
5. Past medical history
6. Drug history
7. Family history
8. Social history
9. Occupational history
10. Personal history

# The profile

Introduce yourself to the patient giving your name and status as a student.

1. Name
- 2 Age
- 3 sex
4. Marital status
5. Residency
6. Occupation
7. Date of attendance or admission
8. Date of history taking
9. Referred from :

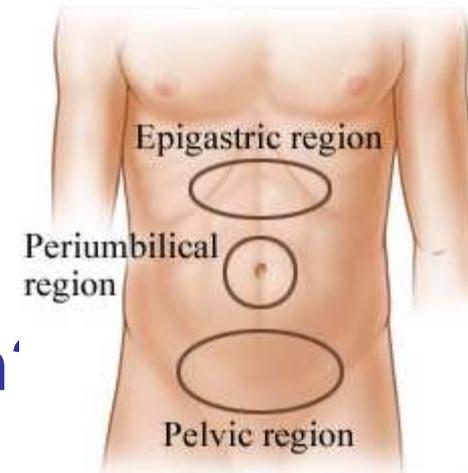
# Chief complaint:

- \* It is the reason for seeking medical care
- \* should be described in the patient's own words
- \* It is usually single complaint ,occasionally more than one  
i.e. chest pain and palpitation,abdominal pain and vomiting
  
- \* The suggested question asking about chief complaint :
  - What is your complaint ?
  - What makes you come to see the doctor ?
  - What brings you to seek medical advice ?

# History of presenting complaint

1. Elaborate on the chief complaint in details
2. Ask about relevant associated symptoms
3. have in mind a possible causes for the same symptom and ask about

# The pain :



1. site: where exactly is the pain'
2. Duration
3. character
4. onset
5. severity: how severe is the pain, consider using the 1-10 scale?
6. localized or difuse
7. Radiation
8. continious or interrupted
9. Timming : does it wake him up at night  
relation to meal.
10. Agravating or relieving factor

## II. vomiting , ask about:

1. frequency
2. character
3. relation to pain
4. amount
5. colour
6. presence of blood
7. presence of food residue

# Respiratory system chief complaint

1. Cough (character)
2. Sputum (colour, amount)
3. Haemoptysis (colour, amount)
4. Wheeze (diurnal variation?)
5. Chest Pain (site, radiation, character)
6. Shortness of breath

**BEING A GOOD DOCTOR**

