Handbook of Signs & Symptoms

The newly updated fifth edition proves it is still the must-have clinical nursing tool for improving patient safety, by increasing assessment accuracy.

Improve patient safety with:
• NEW signs and symptoms related to emerging diseases and disorders, including avian influenza, respiratory syncytial virus, Kawasaki disease, and the currently epidemic metabolic syndrome
• NEW appendix provides definitions and common causes of 250 less-familiar or nonspecific signs and symptoms
• NEW techniques for evoking patient responses
• NEW pediatric, psychiatric, and nail and tongue signs
• NEW focus on obtaining health history needed for comprehensive, reliable documentation
• Quick-reference A to Z format arms you with assessment guidance for 530 signs and symptoms
• Up-to-date methods for determining each sign or symptom's identity, cause, and nursing implications
• Description of sign or symptom is followed by:
  o History and physical examination – Guidelines for detailed history and exam: what to ask, what to examine, and how
  o Emergency interventions – Life-, limb-, and organ-threatening signs and symptoms, with recommended nursing interventions
  o Medical causes – Differential diagnosis: common causative diseases and disorders related to each sign and symptom, and subtle indicators that keep assessments on track
  o Other causes – Medications and herbal remedies associated with each complaint
  o Special considerations – Patient positioning to ease comfort; preparation for diagnostic testing; reducing anxiety; signs of complications
  o Patient counseling – Patient teaching for comfort and safety; explaining causes, treatment, and possible outcomes; providing support referrals
  o Pediatric pointers, Geriatric pointers, and Gender cues - Age and gender issues affecting sign and symptom’s presentation, detection, and interpretation
• Charts help differentiate among a sign or symptom’s multiple causes, and differences among similar signs and symptoms
• Tables on signs and symptoms relating to bioterrorism agents and herbal remedies

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