

Assignment

Short/long answer questions

Short-answer questions

1. Radiation patterns: List any 4 radiation patterns of back pain and write the most likely system/cause category for each.
2. Name 5 associated features that help rule-in serious causes of back pain and mention one diagnosis category each feature points toward.
3. Write any 4 inspection/palpation findings on back examination and the single most important diagnosis each suggests.

Long-answer questions

4. Enumerate the differential diagnoses for upper, mid, and lower back pain as presented in the document, and then explain how sudden vs gradual onset changes your prioritization of causes.
5. Describe a complete examination plan for back pain in the ED (vitals, general exam, back exam, abdominal exam, neuro exam) and explain how specific findings in each section narrow the differential toward vascular catastrophe, infection, malignancy, renal causes, and cauda equina/spinal cord compression.