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findings from the examination include normal results for vital signs such as heart rate and blood pressure and document normal physical examination findings for each assessed body system explore the importance of physical exam documentation learn key elements and download a free pdf example ensure thorough patient records for effective healthcare management a comprehensive assessment of the patient and is critically important in that it leads to clinical decisions that are crucial for the patients care this pocket book pocket guide to physical assessment provides a clear and easy to use reference guide for achieving the physical assessment it is specifically intended for taking the needed time to perform a full physical assessment at the beginning of the shift along with timely and accurate documentation allows nurses to acquire the knowledge they need to establish a patient's current clinical status and usual behaviors thereby facilitating early recognition of subtle changes that could indicate deterioration physical assessment comprehensive nursing videos flashcards high yield notes practice questions learn and reinforce your understanding of physical assessment comprehensive nursing physical assessment report nursing on point snapshot this article reviews the fundamentals of physical assessment note this information is for reference purposes only vital signs must always be interpreted in the context of a broader clinical assessment read the chart before you start 1 background and rationale the physical examination is an important component of translational research it yields noninvasive inexpensive and informative data that contributes to clinically relevant diagnoses prognosis and assessment of risk brief version gen healthy appearing well developed nad psych good judgment aox3 normal memory mood and affect heent head nc at eyes no discharge or redness learn how to document physical exams according to medicare's 1997 guidelines which specify the elements and levels of examination for each organ system and body area find out the differences between the 1995 and 1997 guidelines and how to avoid common pitfalls you should document the patient's responses accurately and use quotation marks if you are directly quoting something the patient has said you might also be interested in our premium collection of 1 300 ready made osce stations including a range of documentation stations objective step 1 introduce yourself to the patient and explain the purpose of the physical examination get the patient's permission to proceed with the examination step 2 use the physical

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observation symmetrical expansion with respiration percussion  $\theta$  spinal tenderness  $\theta$  cva costovertebral angle tenderness comment of findings regarding cva tenderness under abdomen see example

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taking the needed time to perform a full physical assessment at the beginning of the shift along with timely and accurate documentation allows nurses to acquire the knowledge they need to establish a patient's current clinical status and usual behaviors thereby facilitating early recognition of subtle changes that could indicate deterioration

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1 background and rationale the physical examination is an important component of translational research it yields noninvasive inexpensive and informative data that contributes to clinically relevant diagnoses prognosis and assessment of risk

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brief version gen healthy appearing well developed nad psych good judgment aox3 normal memory mood and affect heent head nc at eyes no discharge or redness

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