
Contents

Chapter 1	
A new approach to primary health care	1
A. Primary health care	1
B. Identification of health problems	1
C. Task of outpatient diagnosis	2
D. Objectives of new diagnostic method	4
E. Summary of Chapter 1	4
Chapter 2	
Development of diagnostic flow charts	5
A. Required knowledge and skills	5
B. Steps taken to construct flow charts	5
1. Identification of presenting symptoms	5
2. Identification of diseases	6
3. Selection of symptoms and signs	8
4. Identification of the diagnostic pathway	8
5. Construction of diagnostic flow chart	8
6. Diagnosis of a disease with many symptoms	11
C. Summary of Chapter 2	13
Chapter 3	
Use of flow charts	14
A. Rules	14
1. When to use the charts	14
2. How to select the charts	14
3. How to answer the boxes	15
4. What to do if uncertain	16
B. Self testing	16
1. Exercises in answering boxes	16
2. Diagnosis without flow charts	16
3. Diagnosis with flow charts	16
C. Practical use	21
1. Outpatient testing	21
2. Ward inpatient testing	22
D. Summary of Chapter 3	22

Chapter 4	
Clinical skills	23
General physical signs	23
Physical signs in head and neck	25
Physical signs of abdominal disease	27
Chest symptoms and signs	30
Signs of disease of vertebrae	33
Eye symptoms and signs	33
Chapter 5	
Flow charts and disease tables	35
INDEX OF FLOW CHARTS	35
Symptom charts	
<i>General symptoms of disease</i>	
1. Fever in adult	38
2. Fever in child	40
3. General body weakness	42
4. Weakness of legs or difficulty in walking	44
5. Weight loss in adult	46
6. Weight loss in child	48
<i>Pains and irritations</i>	
7. Abdominal pain mild	50
8. Abdominal pain severe in adult without fever	52
9. Abdominal pain severe in adult with fever	54
10. Abdominal pain severe in child	56
11. Backache	58
Breast pain see chart 60	
12. Chest pain	60
13. Dysmenorrhoea (painful periods)	62
14. Dysphagia (pain on swallowing)	64
15. Dysuria (pain on passing urine)	66
16. Ear pain	68
17. Eye irritation	70
18. Headache	72
19. Joint pain or swelling in adult (one joint)	74
20. Joint pain or swelling in adult (more than one joint)	75
21. Joint pain or swelling in child	76
22. Pruritus of anus or vulva	78
23. Pruritus generalized	80
Scrotal pain, see chart 61	
Vision poor, see chart 17	
<i>Discharges</i>	
24. Diarrhoea	82
Discharge—ear see chart 16	
—eye see chart 17	

25. Discharge from penis or vagina	84
26. Haematuria (blood in urine)	86
27. Incontinence of urine	88
28. Rectal bleeding	90
29. Vaginal bleeding	92
30. Vomiting in adult	94
31. Vomiting in child (over 1 month old)	96
32. Vomiting in first month of life	98

Chest symptoms

33. Cough in adult	100
34. Cough in child	102
35. Dyspnoea in adult	104
36. Dyspnoea in child	106

Swellings

See physical sign charts

Physical sign charts

37. Anaemia in adult	108
38. Anaemia in child	110
39. Ascites	112
40. Fever cause unknown	114
41. Fits in adult	116
42. Fits in child (over 1 month old)	118
43. Fits in first month of life	120
44. Jaundice in adult	122
45. Jaundice in child (over 1 month old)	124
46. Jaundice in first 4 weeks of life	126
47. Lymph gland enlargement generalized	128
48. Lymph gland enlargement in axilla only	128
49. Lymph gland enlargement in groin only	130
50. Lymph gland enlargement in neck only	131
51. Mental confusion	132
52. Oedema in adult	134
53. Oedema in child	136
54. Skin rash	138, 139
55. Skin ulcer	142
56. Shock with severe abdominal pain	144
57. Shock without severe abdominal pain	146
58. Swelling—abdominal in adult	148
59. Swelling—lower abdomen	150
60. Swelling—breast or breast pain	152
Swelling—joints, see charts 19, 20, 21	
Swelling—legs, see charts 52, 53	
61. Swelling—scrotal	154
62. Unconsciousness in adult	156
63. Unconsciousness in child	158

Chapter 6	
Problems of outpatient management	160
A. No evident disease	160
B. Analysis of errors	162
C. Communication	164
1. Referral letter	165
2. Discharge note	165
Health problem index	166