

In Clinical Scenario

Clinical pearl-Meningitis-

- Clinical features of Meningitis-:
 - o - Classic triad: 1) Fever, 2) Nuchal rigidity, 3) Altered mental status. All these three signs might not be seen altogether.
 - o - Physical exam: The diagnostic utility of these tests is quite poor and they have limited negative predictive values.
- Neck stiffness: Passively flex the patient's neck. This test is positive if there is palpable resistance.
- Kernig's sign: Inability to fully extend knees when patient is supine with hips flexed. Position the patient's supine with their hips flexed to 90°. This test is positive if there is pain on passive extension of the knee.
- Brudzinski's sign: Flexion of legs/thighs that is brought on by passive flexion of neck. Position the patients supine and passively flex their neck. This test is positive if this manoeuvre causes reflex flexion of the hip and knee.
- Jolt test: Painful to turn head side-to-side.

Difference between Meningitis and Meningism

Meningitis	Meningism
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a disease characterised by inflammation of the meninges. • Meningitis may be due to bacterial, tuberculous, viral or fungal infections, or may be aseptic. • Causes of aseptic meningitis include partially treated infections, neoplastic disease, drug administration and systemic inflammatory diseases. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a clinical syndrome of signs and symptoms that are suggestive of meningeal irritation. • Symptoms may include headache, photophobia, neck stiffness and seizures. • Signs may include nuchal rigidity, Kernig's sign, Brudzinski's sign or jolt accentuation headache.

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