

# NURSINGKAMP

**NCLEX on Symptomology**

# CRITICAL THINKING ON SYMPTOMOLOGY

**Objective:** The student will critically think through each presented symptom and classify it according to system outline below and base it on an acuity rating.

**Primary Classification** (though several organs may be involved narrow down to the most likely condition or presentation symptom that would be included in a nclex style question)

## **Primary System or Specialty Involvement**

- P= Pulmonary Symptom
- C= Cardiac Symptom
- R=Renal Symptom
- E=Endocrine Symptoms
- N-Neurological
- L-Labor Deliver Kids Maternal Health
- B-Behavioral Health
- I-Infection
- X-Procedural Complication

## **Conceptual Focus**

- O- Oxygenation Related
- B- Perfusion Related
- S- Safety Related
- M- Higher Maslow- (ie. Requiring education, teaching)

## **Acuity Rating**

- 1- Stay in the room Urgent-Notify Provider
- 2- Intervention Needed
- 3- Assess Patient gather more Data
- 4- Anticipate Medication Being Ordered
- 5- Non Urgent

**Complication- Main complication 3 word or less**

**SYMPTOMOLOGY CLASSIFICATION**

Abdominal distention	Breast nodule	Deep tendon reflexes (hyperactive)	Flank pain
Abdominal mass	Breast pain	Deep tendon reflexes (hypoactive)	Flatulence
Abdominal pain	Breast ulcer	Delirium	Fontanel (bulging)
Abdominal rigidity	Breath odor (ammonia)	Depression	Fontanel depression
Accessory muscle use	Breath odor (fecal)	Diaphoresis	Footdrop
Agitation	Breath odor (fruity)	Diarrhea	Gag reflex abnormalities
Alopecia	Brudzinski sign	Diplopia	Gait (bizarre)
Amenorrhea	Bruit	Dizziness	Gait (propulsive)
Amnesia	Buffalo hump	Doll's eye reflex (absent)	Gait (scissors)
Analgesia	Butterfly rash	Drooling	Gait (spastic)
Anhidrosis	Café-au-lait spots	Dysarthria	Gait (steppage)
Anorexia	Capillary refill time (increased)	Dysmenorrhea	Gait (waddling)
Anosmia	Carpopedal spasm	Dyspareunia	Gallop, atrial (S4)
Anuria	Cat's cry	Dyspepsia	Gallop, ventricular (S3)
Anxiety	Chest expansion (asymmetrical)	Dysphagia	Genital lesions (male)
Aphasia (dysphasia)	Chest pain	Dyspnea	Gum bleeding
Apnea	Cheyne-Stokes respirations	Dystonia	Gum swelling
Apneustic respirations	Chills	Dysuria	Gynecomastia
Apraxia	Chorea	Earache	Halitosis
Arm pain	Chvostek sign	Edema (arm)	Halo vision
Ascites	Clubbing	Edema (face)	Headache
Asterixis (liver flap, flapping tremor)	Cogwheel rigidity	Edema (generalized)	Hearing loss
Ataxia	Cold intolerance	Edema (leg)	Heat intolerance
Athetosis	Confusion	Enophthalmos	Heberden nodes
Babinski reflex	Conjunctival injection	Enuresis (nocturnal)	Hematemesis
Back pain	Constipation	Epistaxis	Hematochezia
Barrel chest	Corneal reflex (absent)	Erectile dysfunction	Hematuria
Battle sign	Costovertebral angle tenderness	Eructation	Hemianopsia
Biot respirations	Cough (barking)	Erythema	Hemoptysis
Bladder distention	Cough (nonproductive)	Exophthalmos	Hepatomegaly
Blood pressure decrease	Cough (productive)	Eye discharge	Hiccups
Blood pressure increase	Crackles	Eye pain	Hirsutism
Bowel sounds (absent, silent)	Crepitation (bony)	Facial pain	Hoarseness
BS Borborygmus(hyperactive)	Crepitation (subcutaneous)	Fasciculations	Homans sign
Bowel sounds (hypoactive)	Cry (high-pitched, cerebral)	Fatigue	Hyperpigmentation
Bradycardia	Cyanosis	Fecal incontinence	Hyperpnea
Bradypnea	Decerebrate posture	Fetor hepaticus	Hypopigmentation
Breast dimpling	Decorticate posture	Fever	Insomnia

**SYMPTOMOLOGY CLASSIFICATION**

Intermenstrual bleeding	Nuchal rigidity	Pulsus bisferiens	Tachycardia
Intermittent claudication	Nystagmus	Pulsus paradoxus	Tachypnea
Janeway lesions	Ocular deviation	Pupils (nonreactive)	Taste abnormalities
Jaundice	Oligomenorrhea	Pupils (sluggish)	Tearing (increased)
Jaw pain	Oliguria	Purple striae	Throat pain
Jugular vein distention	Opisthotonos	Purpura	Thyroid enlargement
Kehr sign	Orofacial dyskinesia	Pustular rash	Tics
Kernig sign	Orthopnea	Pyrosis	Tinnitus
Leg pain	Orthostatic hypotension	Raccoon eyes	Tracheal deviation
Level of consciousness (decreased)	Ortolani sign	Rebound tenderness	Tracheal tugging
Lid lag	Osler nodes	Rectal pain	Tremors
Light flashes	Otorrhea	Respirations (grunting)	Trismus
Low birth weight	Pallor	Respirations (shallow)	Tunnel vision
Lymphadenopathy	Palpitations	Respirations (stertorous)	Uremic frost
Masklike facies	Papular rash	Retractions (costal and sternal)	Urethral discharge
McBurney sign	Paralysis	Rhinorrhea	Urinary frequency
McMurray sign	Paresthesia	Rhonchi	Urinary hesitancy
Melena	Paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnea	Romberg sign	Urinary incontinence
Menorrhagia	Peau d'orange	Salivation (decreased)	Urinary urgency
Miosis	Pericardial friction rub	Salivation (increased)	Urine cloudiness
Moon facies	Peristaltic waves (visible)	Salt craving	Urticaria
Mouth lesions	Photophobia	Scotoma	Vaginal bleeding (postmenopausal)
Murmurs	Pleural friction rub	Scrotal swelling	Vaginal discharge
Muscle atrophy	Polydipsia	Seizures (focal aware)	Venous hum
Muscle flaccidity	Polyphagia	Seizures (focal with impaired awareness)	Vertigo
Muscle spasms	Polyuria	Seizures (generalized absence)	Vesicular rash
Muscle spasticity	Postnasal drip	Seizures (generalized tonic-clonic)	Violent behavior
Muscle weakness	Priapism	Setting sun sign	Vision loss
Mydriasis	Pruritus	Skin (bronze)	Visual blurring
Myoclonus	Psoas sign	Skin (clammy)	Vaginal bleeding (postmenopausal)
Nasal flaring	Psychotic behavior	Skin (mottled)	Visual Floaters
Nasal obstruction	Ptosis	Skin (scaly)	Vomiting
Nausea	Pulse (absent or weak)	Skin turgor (decreased)	Vulvar Lesions
Neck pain	Pulse (bounding)	Spider angioma	Weight Gain(Excessive)
Night blindness	Pulse pressure (narrowed)	Splenomegaly	Weight Loss(Excessive)
Nipple discharge	Pulse pressure (widened)	Stools (clay-colored)	Wheezing
Nipple retraction	Pulse rhythm (abnormal)	Stridor	Wrist Drop
Nocturia	Pulsus alternans	Syncope	

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Abdominal distention				
Abdominal mass				
Abdominal pain				
Abdominal rigidity				
Accessory muscle use				
Agitation				
Alopecia				
Amenorrhea				
Amnesia				
Analgesia				
Anhidrosis				
Anorexia				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Anosmia				
Anuria				
Anxiety				
Aphasia (dysphasia)				
Apnea				
Apneustic respirations				
Apraxia				
Arm pain				
Ascites				
Asterixis (liver flap, flapping tremor)				
Ataxia				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Athetosis				
Aura				
Babinski reflex				
Back pain				
Barrel chest				
Battle sign				
Biot respirations				
Bladder distention				
Blood pressure decrease				
Blood pressure increase				
Bowel sounds (absent, silent)				
Bowel sounds (hyperactive)				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
Bowel sounds (hypoactive)				
Bradycardia				
Bradypnea				
Breast dimpling				
Breast nodule				
Breast pain				
Breast ulcer				
Breath odor (ammonia)				
Breath odor (fecal)				
Breath odor (fruity)				
Brudzinski sign				
Bruit				



SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
Buffalo hump				
Butterfly rash				
Café-au-lait spots				
Capillary refill time (increased)				
Carpopedal spasm				
Cat's cry				
Chest expansion  (asymmetrical)				
Chest pain				
Cheyne-Stokes respirations				
Chills				
Chorea				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Chvostek sign				
Clubbing				
Cogwheel rigidity				
Cold intolerance				
Confusion				
Conjunctival injection				
Constipation				
Corneal reflex (absent)				
Costovertebral angle tenderness				
Cough (barking)				
Cough (nonproductive)				
Cough (productive)				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Crackles				
Crepitation (bony)				
Crepitation (subcutaneous)				
Cry (high-pitched, cerebral)				
Cyanosis				
Decerebrate posture				
Decorticate posture				
Deep tendon reflexes (hyperactive)				
Deep tendon reflexes (hypoactive)				
Delirium				
Depression				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Diaphoresis				
Diarrhea				
Diplopia				
Dizziness				
Doll's eye reflex (absent)				
Drooling				
Dysarthria				
Dysmenorrhea				
Dyspareunia				
Dyspepsia				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Dysphagia				
Dyspnea				
Dystonia				
Dysuria				
Earache				
Edema (arm)				
Edema (face)				
Edema (generalized)				
Edema (leg)				
Enophthalmos				
Enuresis (nocturnal)				
Epistaxis				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Erectile dysfunction				
Eructation				
Erythema				
Exophthalmos				
Eye discharge				
Eye pain				
Facial pain				
Fasciculations				
Fatigue				
Fecal incontinence				
Fetor hepaticus				
Fever				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Flank pain				
Flatulence				
Fontanel (bulging)				
Fontanel depression				
Footdrop				
Gag reflex abnormalities				
Gait (bizarre)				
Gait (propulsive)				
Gait (scissors)				
Gait (spastic)				
Gait (steppage)				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Gait (waddling)				
Gallop, atrial (S4)				
Gallop, ventricular (S3)				
Genital lesions (male)				
Gum bleeding				
Gum swelling				
Gynecomastia				
Halitosis				
Halo vision				
Headache				
Hearing loss				
Heat intolerance				



SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Heberden nodes				
Hematemesis				
Hematochezia				
Hematuria				
Hemianopsia				
Hemoptysis				
Hepatomegaly				
Hiccups				
Hirsutism				
Hoarseness				
Homans sign				
Hyperpigmentation				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Hyperpnea				
Hypopigmentation				
Insomnia				
Intermenstrual bleeding				
Intermittent claudication				
Janeway lesions				
Jaundice				
Jaw pain				
Jugular vein distention				
Kehr sign				
Kernig sign				
Leg pain				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
Level of consciousness (decreased)				
Lid lag				
Light flashes				
Low birth weight				
Lymphadenopathy				
Masklike facies				
McBurney sign				
McMurray sign				
Melena				
Menorrhagia				
Miosis				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Moon facies				
Mouth lesions				
Murmurs				
Muscle atrophy				
Muscle flaccidity				
Muscle spasms				
Muscle spasticity				
Muscle weakness				
Mydriasis				
Myoclonus				
Nasal flaring				
Nasal obstruction				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Nausea				
Neck pain				
Night blindness				
Nipple discharge				
Nipple retraction				
Nocturia				
Nuchal rigidity				
Nystagmus				
Ocular deviation				
Oligomenorrhea				
Oliguria				
Opisthotonos				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Orofacial dyskinesia				
Orthopnea				
Orthostatic hypotension				
Ortolani sign				
Osler nodes				
Otorrhea				
Pallor				
Palpitations				
Papular rash				
Paralysis				
Paresthesia				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
Paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnea				
Peau d'orange				
Pericardial friction rub				
Peristaltic waves (visible)				
Photophobia				
Pleural friction rub				
Polydipsia				
Polyphagia				
Polyuria				
Postnasal drip				
Priapism				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Pruritus				
Psoas sign				
Psychotic behavior				
Ptosis				
Pulse (absent or weak)				
Pulse (bounding)				
Pulse pressure (narrowed)				
Pulse pressure (widened)				
Pulse rhythm (abnormal)				
Pulsus alternans				
Pulsus bisferiens				
Pulsus paradoxus				



SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Pupils (nonreactive)				
Pupils (sluggish)				
Purple striae				
Purpura				
Pustular rash				
Pyrosis				
Raccoon eyes				
Rebound tenderness				
Rectal pain				
Respirations (grunting)				
Respirations (shallow)				
Respirations (stertorous)				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Retractions (costal and sternal)				
Rhinorrhea				
Rhonchi				
Romberg sign				
Salivation (decreased)				
Salivation (increased)				
Salt craving				
Scotoma				
Scrotal swelling				
Seizures (focal aware)				
Seizures (focal with impaired awareness)				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
Seizures (generalized absence)				
Seizures (generalized tonic-clonic)				
Setting sun sign				
Skin (bronze)				
Skin (clammy)				
Skin (mottled)				
Skin (scaly)				
Skin turgor (decreased)				
Spider angioma				
Splenomegaly				
Stools (clay-colored)				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Stridor				
Syncope				
Tachycardia				
Tachypnea				
Taste abnormalities				
Tearing (increased)				
Throat pain				
Thyroid enlargement				
Tics				
Tinnitus				
Tracheal deviation				
Tracheal tugging				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Tremors				
Trismus				
Tunnel vision				
Uremic frost				
Urethral discharge				
Urinary frequency				
Urinary hesitancy				
Urinary incontinence				
Urinary urgency				
Urine cloudiness				
Urticaria				
Vaginal bleeding				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Vaginal discharge				
Venous hum				
Vertigo				
Vesicular rash				
Violent behavior				
Vision loss				
Visual blurring				
Visual floaters				
Vomiting				
Vulvar lesions				
Weight gain (excessive)				
Weight loss (excessive)				

SYMPTOM	Primary	Concept	Acuity	Complication
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Wheezing				
Wrist drop				

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