

Limping Patient/PGS (VPL)

Template:PGS

Diagnostics

- **Skin color and temperature:**
 - pinkish cold (arterial circulation disorders);
 - flushed hot (DVT);
 - red streak (thrombophlebitis);
 - reddened swollen joints (arthritis - gout, rheumatoid arthritis, rheumatic fever).
- **Difference in the circumference of the calf'**... usually over 2 cm (HVT, arthritis...).
- **Arterial pulsation in the leg:**
 - absent often in advanced ICHDK;
 - permanently absent in acute arterial occlusion;
 - many times pulsation cannot be demonstrated in significant swellings.
- **Reflexes:**
 - absent/reduced in prolapsed intervertebral discs, other neurological disorders – e.g. radicular sensitivity disorders, paresis, bladder emptying disorders;
 - polyneuropathy (diabetic – characteristically the Achilles tendon reflex is extinguished first, look for disorders of deep sensitivity – tuning fork – also impaired in peripheral paresis).
- **Sensitivity:**
 - acral sensitivity disorders – hosiery in polyneuropathies, especially deep sensitivity is affected;
 - segmental failures – intervertebral disc prolapse, tumors, radiculitis.
- **Starting pain**... characteristic of degenerative joint diseases - gonarthrosis, coxarthrosis, osteoporosis.
- **Claudication:**
 - typical for ICHDK – calf pain, unilateral/bilateral, dependent on length of walk;
 - spinal canal stenosis – usually both limbs are affected, especially when walking down.
- **Further diagnosis** according to the current symptomatology of the disease...== Differential diagnosis ==

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| Vascular Disorders | ICHDK, acute thrombotic occlusion of an artery, HŽT, thrombophlebitis, ergotism (vascular form) |
| Orthopedic | pelvic tilt, pseudoradicular lumbar vertebrogenic syndrome, coxarthrosis, intervertebral disc prolapse, spinal canal stenosis (claudicatio spinalis), aseptic bone necrosis (morbus Perthes), Köhler, Osgood-Schlatter), osteoporosis |
| Neurological | nerve compression syndromes (meralgia paresthetica), polyneuropathy, multiple sclerosis, rheumatological, rheumatoid polyarthritis, fibromyalgia syndrome, spondyloarthritis, collagenosis |
| Muscular | myelogenous, calf cramps, dermatomyositis, myopathy, e.g. muscular dystrophy |
| Traumatic | muscle ruptures, fractures, compartment sy, Sudeck's dystrophy, dislocation, tendon injury, meniscus lesion, psychogenic, depression with somatizing tendency, somatizing neurosis |
| Other | metabolic – gout, inguinal ev. femoral hernia |

Links

References

- GESENHUES, S – ZIESCHÉ, R. *Vademecum of physicians*. 1. Czech edition. Galen, 2006. ISBN 80-7262-444-X.