

The history and physical examination in oncology

This article has been translated from WikiSkripta; the **translation** needs to be checked.

== The change of health status and a suspicion of cancer ==

Local changes

- unusual resistance;
- altered configuration;
- konsistation;
- color changes;
- organ failure;
- localized pain;
- skin nevi changes;
- altered mucous membranes;
- blood in stool;
- blood in urine.

General changes

- weight loss (especially 10 % within a half a year);
- anorexia;
- fatigue;
- tiredness;
- increased sweating (mostly during night);
- fevers of unknown etiology;
- long-term hoarseness;
- cough;
- dyspnoea;
- urinary incontinence;
- depression.

History

- **RA (family history):** Besides classical heritability we can observe familiar incidence of tumors such as accumulation of mass.
- **OA (personal history):** It is important to search for the disease that can have direct link to cancer or can significantly influence therapeutic decisions.
- **AA (allergies)** Their significance is getting bigger.
- **SA, PA (social and job history)** carcinogen in a workplace
- **Abuse:** Smoking, number of cigarettes, alcohol, drugs.
- **GA (gynecology history):** etc.

Physical examination.

The basics are: inspection, palpation, percussion, a auscultation.

- **Inspection.**
 - We pay attention to skin and mucous; the visible tumor should be well described in relation to its surroundings.
 - The overall appearance of the patient is also important.
- **Palpation.**
 - Should be careful, we do not unnecessarily repeat the examination. We need to palpate also the organs in cases of metastasis – liver, spleen, lymph nodes.
 - **The digital rectal examination** should be done routinely in man over the age of 50 let and **breast examination** in woman (in practice from the age of 25).
- **Percussion and auscultation.**
 - They follow the basic principles.

Links

References

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- BENEŠ, Jiří. *Studijní materiály* [online]. [cit. 2010]. <http://jirben2.chytrak.cz/materialy/onko_JB.doc>.

Related articles

- Rodinná anamnéza
- Hereditární nádorové syndromy

Kategorie:Vnitřní lékařství Kategorie:Interní propedeutika