How to Prepare for a Doctor's visit

Cheat Sheet for medical appointments

6 To-Do's before your visit

- 1. Make a list of your current medications and their dosages
- Make note of any allergies or sensitivities to medications
- Know your family history. Any common medical conditions or medical sudden deaths within your family are important to know.
- 4. Be able to explain your own medical history as a detailed record, especially for the past 5 years.
- 5. Jot down a list of symptoms and how you're feeling.
- 6. Write down any questions you may have beforehand.





What to expect

Always bring a valid form of I.D. and your health insurance card. They may ask for these at the reception desk.

 Give them your appointment time with your first and last name. "Hi, I have an appointment at 10 for [full name]"

- Doctors are there to inform you, however, don't elaborate unless asked to.
 Don't be afraid to ask them to speak in 'layman terms'.
- Oftentimes they ask you to describe pain such as, dull, achy, sharp, radiates, or tingling. And how long the pain lasts, if it's persistent or comes and goes or a gradual pain.

Common Medical Terminology

<u>Abatement:</u> A reduction in the severity of symptoms.

<u>Abiotic:</u> Unrelated to living organisms (physical, not biological).

<u>Abortive:</u> When a disease is cut short.

Abrasion: Damage to the skin caused by friction.

Abruption: A sudden separation or breaking off.

<u>Ambulatory:</u> Also referred to as outpatient care.

<u>Analgesia:</u> The removal of pain while a patient is conscious.

Benign: An abnormal but non-threatening growth or tumor.

<u>Compression</u>: The application of pressure to stop bleeding or prevent further injury.

Etiology: The cause of a certain disease or condition.

Exacerbation: Deterioration/worsening of a medical condition

Hematemesis: Vomiting of blood

<u>Hematology</u>: Study, treatment, and prevention of blood diseases and conditions

Hepatitis: inflammation of the liver

Idiopathic: Condition with an unknown cause.

Intractable: Medical conditions that are difficult to treat or cure.

Microbiology: Related to bacterial and viral infections

<u>Neurology:</u> Related to the disorders of the brain, spinal cord, or general nervous system

<u>Referred pain:</u> Pain felt in an area different from the actual source.

<u>Remission:</u> Signs of the disease disappear temporarily or permanently. <u>Stimulus:</u> Triggers a physical and/or behavioral change.

<u>Subcutaneous</u>: Either injected or naturally existing under the skin.

<u>Syndrome</u>: A set of symptoms that indicate a certain condition, disease, or abnormality.

<u>Urology:</u> Related to problems with the urinary tract or the reproductive system (in men)

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