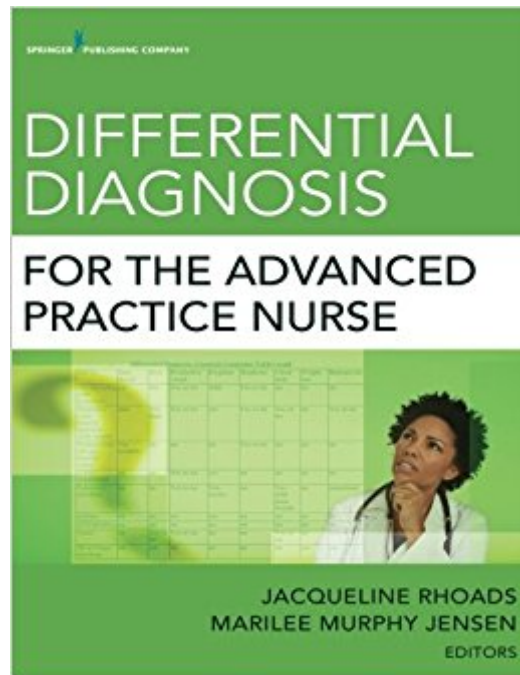




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# Differential Diagnosis For The Advanced Practice Nurse



## Synopsis

Developing a comprehensive differential diagnosis for a specific complaint is a daunting task even for experienced advanced practice nurses. This user-friendly clinical guide provides a strategy or standard format for working through this complex task. It is a wonderful tool for both student and new advanced practice nurses... 5 stars." -- Kathleen M. Woodruff, DNP, Doody's Book Reviews

Establishing a differential diagnosis can be challenging even for expert advanced practice nurses (APRNs), let alone students. This easy-access clinical guide to commonly seen symptoms, written for APRN students and new practitioners, describes step by step how to obtain a reliable patient history and choose the appropriate directed physical exam for the presenting problem, followed by how to use this patient history and physical exam findings to form a differential diagnosis. Unfolding case scenarios provided for each symptom further demonstrate a sound process for formulating a differential diagnosis that the APRN can use throughout clinical practice. The book features 38 of the most commonly presented symptoms, each of which includes exam findings and differential diagnosis. It describes diagnostic tests with a guide to when they should be ordered (or delayed) based on clinical findings, and common management plans for diagnostic testing. It discusses the correct approach to diagnostic reasoning including determining the focused assessment, choosing the appropriate assessment tests or lab tests, and critically thinking through the assessment and diagnostic data to arrive at an appropriate diagnosis. A unique feature of the guide is its provision of a Case Study History (presenting directed questions and patient responses), Physical Exam Findings, a Differential Diagnosis Table (clearly comparing potential diagnostic choices based on symptoms), a Diagnostic Examination Table (including estimated costs and codes), and a Case Study Summary, to further clarify strategies for arriving at the correct diagnosis.

**Key Features:**

- Helps students and novice nurses obtain directed problem-focused history and examination for common patient symptoms
- Demonstrates a step-by-step approach to building clinical decision-making skills
- Offers quick access to common differential diagnoses, requisite diagnostic tests, and clinical decision making
- Uses unfolding case scenarios for each symptom to illustrate the clinical decision-making, diagnostic process
- Includes unique tables that help to clarify strategies for diagnostic decision making

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Jacqueline Rhoads, PhD, ACNP-BC, ANP-C, PMHNP-BE, CNL-C, FAANP is Professor of Nursing at University of Texas University at Galveston Health Science Center School of Nursing, USA, and has held many faculty positions during her career. Dr. Rhoads has taught in nurse practitioner programs since 1994. She has been awarded major research funding for a variety of research projects and continues to foster an evidenced based practice implementing outcomes focused care. Dr. Rhoads earned her PhD from the University of Texas, Austin, USA and has earned post-Master's degrees in Acute Care NP, Community Health Primary Care Adult NP, Gerontology NP, and Psych/Mental Health NP and recently her Clinical Nurse Leader certification. She is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, and was awarded numerous commendations and medals for meritorious service in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. Dr. Rhoads has authored three books for major nursing publishers as well as numerous articles. Her recent publication Nurses' Clinical Consult to Psychopharmacology won first place as AJN Book of the Year Award 2012. Her textbook Clinical Consult to Psychiatric Mental Health Care, won second place as AJN Book of the Year Award in 2011. Marilee Murphy Jensen, MN, ARNP, is a Family Nurse Practitioner with more than 20 years of clinical experience as well as 16 years experience as a lecturer and clinician teacher. She is Director of the Family Nurse Practitioner Program at Seattle University College of Nursing, USA where she coordinates the program and teaches in all aspects of family practice. Her FNP experience includes in-depth clinical work in Gynecology, Urgent care, Internal Medicine, Rheumatology, Asthma, and Family Practice. Honors include Preceptor of the Year (University of Washington Nursing/2003), and nominations for Distinguished Faculty of the Year (University of Washington Nursing 2001, 2002, and 2003). She is certified as an FNP by the ANCC and is licensed as an FNP in both Washington state and Oregon.

This is an essential reference book for all NP students. I have another Differential Diagnosis book (Sellers) but this book is written from the viewpoint of the RN to NP. I found the "questions to ask" in each section particularly helpful when trying to drill down to the differentials.

Excellent

Wonderful book. Easy read and very helpful. I read it as prep for a class in about a week. It was written so it was engaging and helpful.

This book was not helpful :(If you are having a hard time understanding differential this book is not the book for.

It is a good book for most-I just didn't use it much. It is a great reference to have on hand.

Excellent. Book!!

Could have used in the school. Searched and asked teachers, clinical instructors. Then after finishing school, I ran across it. Have never used it....

Quite useful. Full of case studies based on symptoms, PE findings, differentials. Good for practicing differentials and how to examine based on CC.

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