



UNIVERSIDAD DEL SURESTE

SYNOPTIC TABLE

“SEMIOLOGY OF VITAL SIGNS”

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SEMIOLOGY OF VITAL SIGNS

Vital signs

Definition

Values that allow estimating the effectiveness of physiological actions and their response to different physiological and pathological stimuli.

Function

They indicate that an individual is alive and the quality of organic functioning. Any alteration of normal values points towards poor organic functioning.

Types

Heart rate and rhythm, respiratory rate, body temperature, blood pressure and oximetry.

arterial pulse

Definition

Pulsatile wave of blood, originating in the contraction of the left ventricle of the heart and resulting in the regular expansion and contraction of the caliber of the arteries.

Characteristics

Frequency is the number of waves perceived in one minute. The rhythm, volume or amplitude that is the force of the blood in each heartbeat.

Alterations

Sinus tachycardia, sinus bradycardia, arrhythmic pulse, weak pulse.

Body temperature

Definition

Degree of heat conserved by the balance between the heat generated (thermogenesis) and the heat lost (thermolysis) by the organism.

Places to take it

CT can be monitored in several areas: oral, axillary, otic, inguinal and rectal.

Alterations

Body temperature may be abnormal due to fever (high temperature) or hypothermia (low temperature).

Respiratory rate

Definition

Number of times a person breathes per minute. It includes an inspiration phase and an expiration phase.

Characteristics

In respiration the body takes in oxygen from the air. In addition to the organs of the respiratory system, the different structures of the rib cage are involved.

Alterations

Bradypnea, tachypnea, apnea, dyspnea, orthopnea, indrawing and alterations in respiratory pattern and rhythm.

Pressure or blood pressure

Definition

The force of the blood against the arterial wall is blood pressure and the resistance opposed by its walls is blood pressure.

Characteristics

The greater the arrival pressure that forces blood from the veins to the heart, the greater the volume of blood expelled. BP rises during systole and decreases during diastole.

Alterations

Arterial hypertension, arterial hypotension.

Oximetry

Definition

Technique that measures the amount of oxygen in the blood or in a specific tissue. It is performed with a pulse oximetry device.

Characteristics

The oximeter calculates for each wavelength the difference between the light emitted and that received, indicating the amount of light that the pulsating blood has absorbed.

Places to take it

A part of the body whose skin is "translucent" and with good blood flow, such as the fingers or toes and the earlobe.

Bibliography

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Translator.

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