

Complexity of Medical Decision Making:

I. Type and Number of Presenting Problems	A	x	B	=	C
<input type="checkbox"/> single self-limited or minor problem: stable, improved or worsening	max = 2		1		
<input type="checkbox"/> established problem (to examiner): stable, improved, resolving/resolved			1		
<input type="checkbox"/> established problem (to examiner): worsening, inadequately controlled			2		
<input type="checkbox"/> new problem (to examiner): no additional work-up planned	max = 1		3		
<input type="checkbox"/> new problem (to examiner): with additional assessment , consult or diagnostic studies			4		
Total					
II. Amount and Complexity of Data	Points				
<input type="checkbox"/> review and/or order of clinical tests	1				
<input type="checkbox"/> review and/or order of tests in CPT radiology section	1				
<input type="checkbox"/> review and/or order of tests in CPT medicine section	1				
<input type="checkbox"/> discussion of test results with performing physician	1				
<input type="checkbox"/> independent review of image, tracing or specimen	2				
<input type="checkbox"/> decision to obtain old records and/or obtain history from someone other than patient	1				
<input type="checkbox"/> review and summarization of old records &/or obtaining hx from someone other than patient	2				
Total					

III. TABLE OF RISK

Level of Risk	Presenting Problem (s)	Diagnostic Procedures Ordered	Management Options Selected
Minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One self-limited or minor problem (rash or oral ulcers, cold, insect bites) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lab tests requiring venipuncture • Chest x-rays • EKG/ECG • UA • Ultrasound 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rest • Splints • Superficial dressings
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two or more self-limited or minor problems or symptoms • One stable chronic illness (well-controlled HTN or NIDDM, BPH) • Acute uncomplicated illness (e.g., cystitis, allergic rhinitis, simple sprain) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRI/CT, PFT's • Superficial needle biopsies • Clinical lab test requiring arterial puncture • Skin biopsies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OTC drugs • Minor surgery w/ no identified risk factors • PT/OT • IV fluids w/o additives
Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One or more chronic illness w/ mild exacerbation, progression, or side effect of treatment • Acute illness with systemic symptoms, eg. pyelonephritis, pneumonitis, colitis • Two or more stable chronic illnesses • Acute complicated injury (vertebral compression fracture, head injury w/ brief LOC) • Undiagnosed new problem with uncertain prognosis, eg. lump in breast 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnostic endoscopies with no identified risk factors • Cardiovascular imaging studies w/ contrast, no risk factors (arteriogram) • Arthrocentesis, LP • Physiologic tests under stress test eg. (cardiac stress test) • Deep needle or incisional biopsy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescription drug management • Minor surgery w/ identified risk factors • IV fluids w/ additives • Therapeutic nuclear medicine • Elective major surgery (open, percutaneous or endoscopic) w/ no identified risk factors • Closed treatment of fx or dislocation without manipulation
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One or more chronic illnesses w/ severe exacerbation, progression, or side effects of tx • Acute or chronic illness that may pose a threat to life or bodily function (eg. progressive severe RA, multiple trauma, acute MI, PE, severe respiratory distress, psych illness w/ threat to self or others, acute renal failure) • An abrupt change in neurological status, eg. Seizure, TIA, weakness, or sensory loss 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardiac EP tests • Cardiovascular imaging studies w/contrast, w/ identified risk factors • Diagnostic endoscopies w/ identified risk factors • Discography 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elective major surgery w/ risk factors • Emergency major surgery • Administration of parenteral controlled substances • Drug therapy requiring intensive monitoring for toxicity • Decision not to resuscitate or to de-escalate care because of poor prognosis

The highest level of risk in any one category (presenting problem(s), diagnostic procedure(s) or management options determines the overall risk

To qualify for a given type of decision making, two of the three elements in the table must be either met or exceeded:

Type of Decision Making:	<u>StrForward</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>High</u>
I. Presenting Problems =	0 or 1	2	3	4 (+)
II. Amount of Data =	0 or 1	2	3	4 (+)
III. Overall risk =	Minimal	Low	Moderate	High