

A “Diagnostic Workup” refers to the process of gathering medical information and performing diagnostic tests to determine the cause of a patient's symptoms or condition. This is typically done by healthcare professionals and involves a series of steps to evaluate and diagnose the patient accurately. A typical diagnostic workup may include the following components:

1. **Patient History:** Detailed information about the patient's symptoms, medical history, family history, lifestyle factors, and any relevant previous treatments or conditions.
2. **Physical Examination:** A thorough examination of the patient by a healthcare provider, which might include checking vital signs (e.g., blood pressure, heart rate), listening to the heart and lungs, and palpating different areas of the body for tenderness, swelling, or abnormalities.
3. **Laboratory Tests:** A variety of blood tests, urine tests, or other bodily fluid analysis to check for markers of disease or abnormal function. These can include tests like complete blood count (CBC), liver function tests, and metabolic panels.
4. **Imaging Studies:** Techniques such as X-rays, CT scans, MRIs, ultrasounds, or other imaging modalities may be ordered to visualize internal organs, bones, or tissues to detect abnormalities.
5. **Specialized Tests:** Depending on the suspected condition, additional specialized tests may be performed, such as ECGs for heart problems, biopsies for cancer, or neurological tests for conditions affecting the brain and nervous system.
6. **Consultations:** A referral to specialists may be necessary for further investigation if the primary physician suspects a particular type of disease or condition that requires expert knowledge.

The goal of a diagnostic workup is to collect enough data to form an accurate diagnosis and guide the development of an appropriate treatment plan.

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