

DIAGNOSIS OF CHRONIC PAIN

CHRONIC VS ACUTE PAIN

- Chronic pain is pain that last beyond what would be expected based on the disease process
- Chronic pain and acute pain are two distinct entities

DIAGNOSING CHRONIC PAIN

- History is the key
 - When, where, how long?
- Chronic pain vs. addiction

DIAGNOSING CHRONIC PAIN

- A good psychological history will be very beneficial
- Doesn't have to be a formal assessment

DIAGNOSING CHRONIC PAIN

- Must assess substance abuse risk

DIAGNOSIS OF CHRONIC PAIN

- A specific diagnosis
- Do not use “chronic pain syndrome”

DIAGNOSING CHRONIC PAIN

- Be careful how you phrase things to patients

DIAGNOSING CHRONIC PAIN

- Avoid excessive diagnostic tests

DIAGNOSING CHRONIC PAIN

- Opioid use in chronic pain

KEY POINTS

- History
- Specificity