

Condition	Associated Symptoms	When To Ask	
Suspected Disease Process	Fever	Only ask if disease suspected May not be appropriate to ask in acute trauma	
	Malaise		
	Fatigue		
	Weight loss		
	Unexplained weight changes		
	Loss of appetite		
Low Back Pain	N, T, W in legs		
	Locking		
	Catching		
	Giving way		
	Change to bowel or bladder function		
	Change in menses		
	Change in sexual function	When there is concern of nerve damage	
	N, T, W in legs		
	Locking		
	Catching		
	Giving way		
	Change to bowel or bladder function		
Low Back Pain with Leg Pain	Change in menses		
	Change in sexual function	When there is concern of nerve damage	
	Balance problems	When concerned about Lx stenosis	
	Tripping	When concerned about Lx stenosis, or L4/tib anterior weakness	
	Coughing, sneezing, bearing down		
	Stumbling	When concerned about Lx stenosis	
	Pain, N, T, W in UE		
	Pain, N, T, W in LE	When there is evidence of nerve involvement from history or leg symptoms	
	Change to bowel or bladder function		
	Balance problems	When concerned about Cx myelopathy / cord damage	
	Tripping		
	Stumbling		
Neck Pain	N, T, W in UE		
	Pain, N, T, W in LE	When there is evidence of nerve involvement from history or leg symptoms	
	Change to bowel or bladder function		
	Change in sexual function		
	Balance problems		
	Tripping		
	Stumbling		
	Coughing, sneezing, bearing down		
	Dexterity issues with hands		
	Neck Pain with Arm Pain	Change to bowel or bladder function	When concerned about Cx myelopathy / cord damage
		Change in sexual function	
		Balance problems	
Tripping			
Stumbling			
Coughing, sneezing, bearing down			
Dexterity issues with hands			



Condition	Associated Symptoms	When To Ask
Cervical Trauma (ex. WAD)	Headache	Want to document when each symptom came on after onset of trauma
	s/s of Cx fx, i.e., restriction of AROM, severe muscle spasm	
	LOC (how long were they unconscious)	
	Visual Changes	
	Changes in memory, concentration, "clear thinking"	
	Change in mood	
	Change in sleep	
	Vertigo, dizziness, loss of balance	
	N, T, W in arms / legs	
	Jaw pain	
	Trouble swallowing	
	Nausea	
	Vomiting	
	Headache	
Head Trauma	LOC (how long were they unconscious)	Want to document when each symptom came on after onset of trauma All questions on all acute head trauma Increasing HA is a red flag Consider post-concussion syndrome work-up for patients with duration > 1 month
	Visual changes	
	Sensitivity to sound	
	Changes in memory, concentration, "clear thinking"	
	Change in mood	
	Change in sleep	
	Nausea or vomiting	
	Vertigo, dizziness, loss of balance	
	Neck pain	
	N, T, W in arms / legs	
	Number of prior head injuries	
Headaches	Visual changes	May not be a useful routine question
	Aura	
	Nausea or vomiting	
	Tinnitus	
	Vertigo, dizziness, loss of balance	
	Sensitivity to light	
	Sensitivity to sound	
	Neck pain	
	Fever	
	Pain	
	Locking	
TMJ Dysfunction	Popping	May not be a useful routine question
	Swelling	
	Tinnitus	
	Vertigo	
	Catching	
	SOB / fatigue	

Condition	Associated Symptoms	When To Ask
Shoulder	Catching	
	Locking	
	Clunking, feeling of instability	
	Popping: painful or non-painful	
	Clicking: painful or non-painful	
	Neck pain	
	N, T, W in distal arm	
Elbow	Chest pain or pressure, dyspnea, palpitations	If history sounds inconsistent with NMS problem. Some faculty think this should be asked anytime.
	Weakness	
	Stiffness	
	Locking	
	Feeling of instability	
	Swelling	
	Stiffness	
	Popping: painful or non-painful	
	Clicking: painful or non-painful	
	Shoulder pain	
	Neck pain	
Wrist / hand	Wrist pain	
	Swelling	
	Stiffness	
	Popping: painful or non-painful	
	Clicking: painful or non-painful	
	Dropping items / clumsy hands	
	Locking	In the presence of trigger finger
	Feeling of instability	
	N, T, W	
	Elbow pain	
Hip	Catching	
	Locking	
	Giving way or feeling of instability	
	Stiffness	
	Crepitus	
	Clicking: painful or non-painful	
	Popping: painful or non-painful	
	Pain only with weight bearing	
N, T, W in legs	Presence of trauma, normal hip exam, or patient volunteers symptoms to foot	

Condition	Associated Symptoms	When To Ask
Knee	Catching	
	Locking	
	Giving way, buckling, or feeling of instability	
	Swelling	
	Stiffness	
	Crepitus	
	Clicking: painful or non-painful	
	Popping: painful or non-painful	
	N, T, W in legs	
Ankle / foot	Catching	Presence of trauma, normal knee exam, or patient volunteers symptoms to foot
	Locking	
	Giving way or feeling of instability	
	Muscle weakness	
	Swelling	
	Stiffness	
	Crepitus	
	Clicking: painful or non-painful	
	Popping: painful or non-painful	
Eye	N, T, W	Consider Achilles tendon rupture
	Pain	
	Changes to vision	
	Blind spots	
	Blurry vision	
	Double vision	
	Loss of depth perception	
	New onset of fatigue	
	Redness	
	Tearing	
Ears	Discharge	
	Pain	
	Changes in hearing	
	Dizziness or balance problems	
	Tinnitus	
	Drainage	
	Fever	
Chills		

Condition	Associated Symptoms	When To Ask	
Nose / sinus	Trouble breathing	Cardinal clue in sinusitis	
	Change in sense of smell		
	Runny nose		
	Headache		
	Facial pressure	Cardinal clue in sinusitis	
	Nasal congestion	Cardinal clue in sinusitis	
	Discharge: if yes, ask what color	Cardinal clue in sinusitis	
	Sneezing		
	Fever		
	Chills		
	Malaise or fatigue		
	Myalgias		
	Sore throat		
	Cough		
Throat	Sore throat		
	Trouble swallowing: if yes, liquids or solids		
	Fever		
	Chills		
	Swollen lymph nodes		
	Cough (helps to decrease probability of a strep throat Dx)		
	Trouble breathing		
	Pain with breath		
	Dry or productive cough		
	Coughing up blood		
	Fever		
	Chills		
	Myalgias		
	Wheezing		
Cough	URI symptoms		
	Pain		
	Swelling		
	Itching		
	Bleeding		
	Nevis change in appearance		
	Erythemia (especially enlarging)		
	Fluid filled lesions		
	Any discharge from lesion		
	Skin		

Condition	Associated Symptoms	When To Ask
Chest Pain	Dyspnea	
	Dizziness	
	Diaphoresis	
	Nausea	
	General weakness or fatigue	
	Presyncope / syncope	
	Palpitations	
	Fatigue	
	Increased s/s with exertion	
	SOB / fatigue	
	Changes with respiratory effort	
	UE, neck, jaw, or midback pain	
Abdominal Pain	Nausea	
	Vomiting	
	Reflux	
	Bloating	
	Diarrhea: identify how long, how much fluid, any blood or mucus in stool	
	Constipation: identify how long, what is the patient's baseline	
	Change in stool: (caliber, color, blood, floaters)	
	Change in appetite	
	Unintentional weight loss	
	Heart palpitations	Ask with patients assigned female at birth (AFAB)
	Chest pain / tightness	Ask with patients assigned female at birth (AFAB)
	Inflammatory Arthritide	Associated with menstrual cycle
Associated with eating or drinking		
Rash		
Swollen or stiff joints		
Mono or poly joint involvement		
Eye pain or vision changes		If a seronegative arthropathy is suspected
Painful urination		If Reactive Arthritis is suspected
Change in weight		
Patient with known primary CA Dx	loss of appetite	
	Fatigue	
	Malaise	
	Pain without positional relief	
	Night pain	
	New persisting pain	