

TAKE 2 - THINK, DO

Take 2 minutes to deliberate the diagnosis

While deliberating the diagnosis:

- Document the differential diagnoses
- Detect any 'red flag' symptoms
- Acknowledge uncertainty in diagnostic dilemmas
- Rule out the worst case scenario
- Identify when something isn't quite right

Think about situations when it may be necessary to take a closer look or re-evaluate the diagnosis

Take a closer look when:

There are risk factors impacting diagnostic decision making:

- HALT (Hungry, Angry, Late, Tired)
- Cognitive biases (e.g. context, framing bias)
- Patient engagement difficulties
- Knowledge deficit or workload pressures

Facility or specialty specific high risk presentations - *Take 2 for you*

Take time to review at specific patient journey checkpoints:

- Things aren't going as planned
- The patient is deteriorating
- The expected response to treatment is not achieved
- At handover between teams and discharge from care
- The patient or carer is expressing concern over the diagnosis

Do something to take a closer look and review the diagnosis

Strategies to review and challenge the diagnosis:

- Individual strategies eg. Diagnostic Time-out
- Team based strategies eg. Red Team Blue Team Challenge
- Seek a second opinion
- Refer to specialist services
- Escalate care for senior medical officer evaluation and input

Outcomes

- The worst case scenario is ruled out
- Atypical or rare presentations are identified
- There is a high suspicion for repeat presentations
- Diagnosis is re-evaluated when things aren't quite right
- The patient and carers' concerns are heard and acknowledged
- Locally identified high-risk patient groups are recognised
- There is an environment that enables discussion around diagnosis
- There is appropriate referral and escalation for diagnostic dilemmas
- There is effective communication when transferring care



For further information on the Take 2 – Think, Do project, please contact:
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