

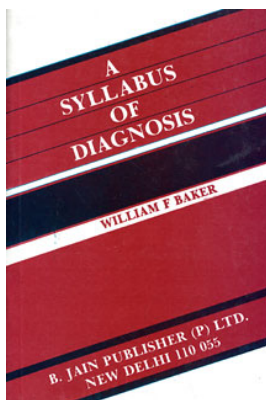
William Baker A Syllabus of Diagnosis

Leseprobe

[A Syllabus of Diagnosis](#)

von [William Baker](#)

Herausgeber: B. Jain



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CHAPTER II.

TEMPERATURE

1. What is the only accurate way for determining the Bodily Temperature?

By observation of the same, with a good clinical *thermometer*, allowing sufficient time-to obtain a correct reading.

2. What are the necessary factors in order that the observation with the Thermometer should be accurate ?

(i) *Accuracy* of the instrument. (ii) Allowance of *sufficient time*, (iii) *Proper placing*—avoiding the seat of the local disease as the place of observation.

3. How long should a Thermometer be kept in situ when taking the Temperature ?

An ordinary one—for 5 minutes. Rapidly-acting thermometers—double the time instructed in the instrument.

4. How does the Age of the Thermometer affect its Reading ?

After an year or so, the instrument records about a degree above the correct temperature.

5. How do local diseases influence the reading of the Thermometer ?

In the seat of local diseases the heat is much higher than the general temperature of the body.

6. What places are available for Thermometric observations ?

The mouth. The axilla. The rectum. The vagina. The folds of the groins-

7. What precautions are to be adopted when taking Temperature Observations in the Mouth ?

The bulb should be placed well beneath the tongue and completely covered by that organ. The thermometer should be thoroughly disinfected after use.

8. What precautions are to be observed when taking Axillary Temperature ?

The bulb should be placed in the thoroughly dried axillary folds, not too deep as to protrude posteriorly. The muscles must be thoroughly relaxed.

9. What precautions are to be adopted when taking Temperature Observations in the Rectum and Vagina ?

The bulb should be inserted about 2 inches in the verge of the anus or vagina.

10. In what class of cases would you use the Rectum or Vagina for taking Temperature ?

In *comatose* and *convulsive* patients.

11. Under what circumstances is the taking of the Mouth Temperature inadmissible ?

After partaking of any kind of food or when the patient suffers from stomatitis or dental diseases.

12. What are the relative differences of Temperatures taken in the Mouth, Axilla and Rectum ?

In the mouth about a degree higher than those taken in the axilla; in the rectum and vagina half a degree higher than those of the mouth.

13. How frequently should Temperature Observations be taken ?

Depends upon the nature of the case; generally 4 times a day.

14. Name the Physiological Influences causing variations in the Temperature.

Taking of food; exercise; atmospheric heat; age; time of the day; and mental excitement.

CHAPTER III.

THE PULSE.

1. How do you examine the Pulse—(a) by Hand;
(b) by Instrument ?

(a) Conducted by palpating usually one of the radial arteries of the patient with three fingers, in a way, so that the index finger is placed towards the circulatory centre, subject to precautions as enumerated in answer to Q. 4 of this chapter.

(b) Conducted by *Sphygmograph* and *Polygraph*.

2. Give the methods for recording information learned from the Pulse.

(a) When by *hand*—the pulse-rate, its ilhythym, the size, force and character of the waves, the resistance of the artery to pressure between the pulse-beats and difference in the two radial pulses in their beats are recorded in plain or printed sheets.

(b) When by *instrument*—recorded in a sphygmogram.

3. When examining the Pulse to what points should you pay attention.

(1) The frequency, (2) regularity, (3) force or strength and (4) tensipn of the pulse. (5) The thickness and size of the arterial walls. (6) The condition of the arterial walls. (7) The character of onset and subsidence of the individual beats,

4. What precautions are necessary in order to avoid errors in taking of the Pulse ?

Avoidance of the time of physical or mental excitement of the patient. The counting should be for full one minute to find its average frequency.

5. What is the Normal Pulse Frequency ?

The normal pulse frequency of an adult is 72 *beats* per minute.

6. What Physiological factors vary the Pulse ?

Age. Sex. Posture. Exercise. Excitement. Temperature. Diet. Time of day.

7. What is the effect of Age ?

At birth—140, at one year—120, at two years—^v 108, at ten years—90, in the old *age* 80 or thereabout, beats per minute.

8. What is the effect of Sex ?

With the advent of puberty the female pulse becomes slightly greater in frequency which continues till the old age.

9. What is the effect of (a) Posture : (b) Exercise ?

(a) The sitting posture increases the pulse rate by about 10 beats per minute than while lying ; standing, by about 10 beats more than sitting.

10. What is the effect of Temperature on Pulse ?

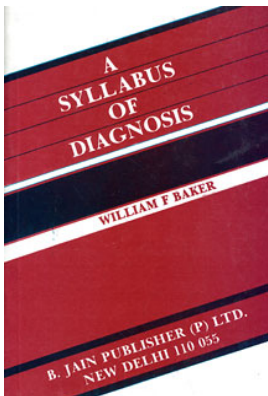
Intense heat may increase the pulse frequency to a great extent, it may even double the pulse-rate. With the cold it is the reverse.

11. Name the Pathological causes for increase in the Pulse Rate.

Fevers. Asthenia. Pain. Reflex irritation. Pulmonary diseases. Alcoholic excesses. Excessive indulgence in Tobacco. Convulsions. Irritable heart Tachycardia. Organic heart diseases.

12. What is the general rule for increase in the Pulse Rate for every degree of rise in the temperature ?

As a rule, each degree increases the pulse-rate by 8 to 10 beats per minute. Notable exceptions may be found in Typhoid Fever, Meningitis, Scarletina, Diphtheria and Peritonitis. In the first two, it is disproportionately slow, while in the last three, disproportionately rapid.



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428 Seiten, kart.
erschienen 1999



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