CLINICAL PREDICTION RULE

Goal
At the completion of this unit the participant will be able to determine whether a report of a clinical predication rules reaches conclusions that are both valid (true) and applicable to one’s own clinical practice.

Instructional Objectives
At the completion of this session you will be able;
1. To assess the validity of an article about a clinical predication rule.
2. To understand the principles that guide evidence use for topics of clinical prediction rule
3. To determine the applicability of clinical prediction rule to a particular clinical situation.

Reference


Recommended

Problem Based Educational Strategy
1. Read the clinical scenario.
2. Compose a well-built clinical (foreground) question about the clinical problem.
3. Complete a literature search using the headings from your well-built clinical question, and bring the results to the session.
4. Read the EBCP Essentials reference article.
5. Complete the attached EBCP Worksheet.
6. Determine whether the result of this clinical prediction rule should change your approach to the patient/population.
Clinical Scenario
You are seeing 5 year old Maxwell who has arrived in the Emergency Department. The family physician has refereed Max to evaluate whether he has a septic arthritis of his right hip.

You walk into the room and notice that young Maxwell that appears ill. His father reports that Max will not walk or weight bear, and that is why he took him to the family physician. Max was well until about 4 days ago when he looked like he a flu-like illness. He has been complaining that it hurts to walk for one day. He points to his right leg his father reports. There is no history of trauma.

On physical examination, Max’s temperature is 39.2 degrees Celsius. He is lying on the examination bed looking apprehensive as you approach. He has his right hip externally rotated and slightly flexed. Any attempt at examination brings tears.

The blood work was ordered by the refereeing family physician and has been drawn before you had a chance to examine Max. The laboratory technician has signed off that a complete blood count and erythrocyte sedimentation rate have been sent.

While you await the blood results, you are determined to find out if there is anyway to predict which children may truly have septic arthritis versus toxic synovitis. Is there any clinical information that might help make a more accurate decision regarding who needs to be placed on antibiotics? Perhaps a clinical prediction rule is available to determine the need for antibiotics.

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