

Cognitive Errors Taxonomy

SELECTED COGNITIVE BIASES CONTRIBUTING TO DIAGNOSTIC ERRORS

1. Premature closure	Accepting a diagnosis before it has been fully verified
2. Anchoring	Fixating on specific symptom or piece of information early in the diagnostic process with subsequent failure to appropriately adjust
3. Confirmation bias	Looking for confirming evidence to support one's diagnostic hypothesis, rather than disconfirming evidence to refute it
4. Search satisficing	Calling off a search once a piece of data is found, and not considering/searching for additional findings or diagnoses
5. Availability bias	Giving too much weight to diagnoses that come more readily to mind (e.g., recent dramatic case)
6. Base-rate neglect	Failing to adequately consider the prevalence of a particular disease (e.g., erroneously interpreting positive test as indicating disease in a low prevalence population using test with 5% false positive rate)
7. Knowledge deficit	Lack of cognitive ability with accompanying lack of awareness or overconfidence
8. Framing bias	Judgement/perceptions being overly influenced based on the way the information is presented (how it was framed in words, settings, situations)
9. Social/ demographic/ stereotype bias	Biases from personal or cultural beliefs about women, minorities or other patient groups for whom prejudices may distort diagnostic assessment
10. Other (please specify)	