

Reliable Diagnosis Challenges (RDC) Taxonomy

FACTORS THAT MAY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO MAKING DIAGNOSIS DIFFICULT

1. Challenging Disease Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Rare diagnosisb. Atypical presentationc. Nonspecific signs and symptomsd. Unfamiliar/outside specialtye. Masking/mimicking diagnosisf. Red herring misleading finding (history, exam, lab/imaging)g. Rapidly progressiveh. Slowly evolvingi. Deceptively benign (or intermittent) course
2. Patient Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Language/communication/cultural issuesb. Signal: noise (noisy pts with multiple nonspecific sx)c. Patient failure to shared. Patient failure to follow-up
3. Testing Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Test availability, access, costb. Logistical issues in obtaining, performing testsc. False positive/negative resultsd. Performance/interpretation challengese. Equivocal results/reportsf. Test follow-up issues
4. Stressors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Time constraintsb. Discontinuitiesc. Fragmentation of cared. Memory reliance/challenges
5. Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Recognition of acuity/urgency/severityb. Diagnosis of complication(s)c. Recognizing failure to respond to treatmentd. Diagnosis of underlying causee. Recognizing misdiagnosis

