### PHYSICAL ASSESSMENT EXAMINATION STUDY GUIDE

### Percussion

### Proper Technique

- Hyperextend the middle finger of one hand and place the distal interphalangeal joint firmly against the patient's chest.
- With the end (not the pad) of the opposite middle finger, use a quick flick of the wrist to strike first finger.
- Categorize what you hear as normal, dull, or hyperresonant.
- Practice your technique until you can consistently produce a "normal" percussion note on your (presumably normal) partner before you work with patients.



### Diaphragmatic Excursion

- Find the level of the diaphragmatic dullness on both sides.
- Ask the patient to inspire deeply.
- The level of duliness (diaphragmatic excursion) should go down 3-5 m symmetrically.



Posterior Chest



Anterior Chest

### Anterior Chest

- Percuss from side to side and top to bottom using the pattern shown in the illustration.
- Compare one side to the other looking for asymmetry.
- 3. Note the location and quality of the percussion sounds you hear.

#### Posterior Chest

- Percuss from side to side and top to bottom using the pattern shown in the illustration. Omit the
  areas covered by the scapulae.
- Compare one side to the other looking for asymmetry.
- Note the location and quality of the percussion sounds you hear.
- 4. Find the level of the diaphragmatic dullness on both sides.

### Interpretation

Percussion Notes and Their Meaning		
Flat or Dull	Pleural Effusion or Lobar Pneumonia	
Normal	Healthy Lung or Bronchitis	
Hyperresonant	Emphysema or Pneumothorax	

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Jarvin, C., (2011). Physical examination of health assessment, (6° Ed). Elsevier: St. Louis.MO.
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# Nln Physical Assessment Exam Study Guide

**JS Bruner** 

NIn Physical Assessment Exam Study Guide:

This book delves into Nln Physical Assessment Exam Study Guide. Nln Physical Assessment Exam Study Guide is a crucial topic that needs to be grasped by everyone, ranging from students and scholars to the general public. This book will furnish comprehensive and in-depth insights into Nln Physical Assessment Exam Study Guide, encompassing both the fundamentals and more intricate discussions.

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