

CEDIS Presenting Complaint List

CEDIS and CTAS National Working Groups

Substance Misuse (Subst)

Substance misuse / Intoxication
Overdose ingestion
Substance withdrawal

Mental health & psychosocial

Depression/Suicidal/Deliberate self harm
Anxiety / Situational crisis
Hallucinations / Delusions
Insomnia
Violent / Homicidal behaviour
Social problem
Bizarre behaviour
Concern for patient's welfare
Paediatric Disruptive behaviour

Neurologic (Cns)

Altered level of consciousness
Confusion
Vertigo
Headache
Seizure
Gait disturbance / Ataxia
[Head injury](#)
Tremor
Extremity weakness/Symptoms of CVA
Sensory loss / Parasthesias
Floppy child

Ophthalmologie (Ophth)

Chemical exposure, eye
Foreign body, eye
Visual disturbance
Eye pain
Red Eye, discharge
Photophobia
Diplopia
Periorbital swelling
[Eye trauma](#)
Re-check eye

ENT - Nose

Epistaxis
Nasal congestion / Hay fever
Foreign body, nose
URTI complaints
[Nasal trauma](#)

ENT - Ears

Earache
Foreign body ear
Loss of hearing
Tinnitus
Discharge, ear
[Ear injury](#)

ENT - Mouth, Throat, Neck

Dental / Gum problems
[Facial trauma](#)
Sore throat
Neck swelling / pain
[Neck trauma](#)
Difficulty swallowing / Dysphagia
Facial pain (non-traumatic/non-dental)

Respiratory (Resp)

Shortness of breath
Respiratory arrest
Cough / Congestion
Hyperventilation
Hemoptysis
Respiratory foreign body
Allergic reaction
Stridor
Wheezing - no other complaints
Apneic spells in infants

Trauma complaints are written in "blue"

Cardiovascular

Cardiac arrest (non traumatic)
[Cardiac arrest \(traumatic\)](#)
Chest pain (cardiac features)
Chest pain (non cardiac features)
Palpitations / Irregular heart beat
Hypertension
General weakness
Syncope / Pre-syncope
Edema, generalized
Bilateral leg swelling / Edema
Cool pulseless limb
Unilateral reddened hot limb

Gastrointestinal (GI)

Abdominal pain
Anorexia
Constipation
Diarrhea
Foreign body in rectum
Groin pain / mass
Vomiting and/or nausea
Rectal / Perineal pain
Vomiting blood
Blood in stool / Melena
Jaundice
Hiccoughs
Abdominal mass / distention
[Anal / Rectal trauma](#)
Oral / Esophageal Foreign Body
Feeding difficulties in newborn
Neonatal jaundice

Ob - Gyn (Ob - Gyn)

Menstrual problems
Foreign body, vagina
Vaginal discharge
Sexual assault
Vaginal bleed
Labial swelling
Pregnancy issues < 20 wks
Pregnancy issues > 20 wks
Vaginal pain / itch

Genitourinary (Gu)

Flank pain
Hematuria
Genital discharge / lesion
Penile swelling
Scrotal pain and/or swelling
Urinary retention
UTI complaints
Oliguria
Polyuria
[Genital trauma](#)

Orthopedic (Ortho)

Back pain
[Traumatic back / spine injury](#)
[Amputation](#)
Upper extremity pain
Lower extremity pain
[Upper extremity injury](#)
[Lower extremity injury](#)
Joint(s) swelling
Paediatric gait disorder /painful walk
Cast check

Trauma (T)

[Major trauma - penetrating](#)
[Major trauma - blunt](#)
[Isolated chest trauma - penetrating](#)
[Isolated chest trauma - blunt](#)
[Isolated abdominal trauma - penetrating](#)
[Isolated abdominal trauma - blunt](#)

Environmental

[Frostbite / Cold injury](#)
Noxious inhalation
[Electrical injury](#)
Chemical exposure
Hypothermia
Near Drowning

Skin (Skin)

[Bite](#)
[Sting](#)
[Abrasion](#)
[Laceration / Puncture](#)
[Burn](#)
Blood and body fluid exposure
Pruritus
Rash
Localized swelling / redness
Wound check
Other skin conditions
Lumps, bumps, calluses
Redness / tenderness, breast
Rule out infestation
Cyanosis
Spontaneous bruising
Foreign body, skin
Removal staples / sutures

General & Minor (Gen)

Exposure to communicable disease
Fever
Hyperglycemia
Hypoglycemia
Direct referral for consultation
Dressing change
Imaging tests
Medical device problem
Prescription / Medication request
Ring removal
Abnormal lab values
Pallor / Anemia
Post-operative complications
Inconsolable crying in infants
Congenital problem in children
Minor complaints NOS
Newly born

Reference: Grafstein E, Bullard MJ, Warren D, Unger B, the CTAS National Working Group. Revision of the Canadian Emergency Department Information System (CEDIS) presenting complaint list version 1.1. CJEM 2008;10:151-61