History Taking

1. Patient Profile
   - Name
   - Age
   - Marital status
   - Education
   - Occupation
   - Residence
   - Blood group, some times

2. Chief complaint
   - 50% is Pain
   - Site
   - Onset
   - Character
   - Radiation
   - Associated symptoms
   - Timing
   - Exacerbating and relieving factors
   - Severity
   - Severity and associated signs
   - 50% not pain
   - E.g. abdominal distention

3. History of present illness
   - Analysis of complaint
   - Timing
   - Exacerbating and relieving factors
   - Severity
   - Severity and associated signs

4. Past medical and past surgical history
   - Ask about any previous operations or procedures
   - Previous anesthetics and treatments
   - Vaccinations

5. Drug history (DH)
   - What Drugs?
     - Compliance
     - Intolerance and allergies

6. Family history
   - Ask about any previous operations or procedures
   - Previous anesthetics and treatments
   - Vaccinations

7. Social history
   - Smoking
   - Alcohol
   - Drugs
   - Diet
   - Exercise
   - Lifestyle
   - Occupational history
   - Travel History
   - Sexual History

8. Systemic enquiry
   - First ask the patient if there is anything he/she wants to tell you about.
   - Then run through common symptoms of all the systems, present in page 24 of MacLeod
   - J - jaundice
   - A - anaemia & other haematological conditions
   - M - myocardial infarction
   - T - tuberculosis
   - H - hypertension & heart disease
   - R - rheumatic fever
   - E - epilepsy
   - A - asthma & COPD
   - D - diabetes
   - S - stroke

Another useful mnemonic that may be used to analyze any symptom is as follows:

Socrates
- Site
- Onset
- Character
- Radiation
- Associated symptoms
- Timing
- Exacerbating and relieving factors
- Severity
- Severity and associated signs

JAM THREADS
- J - jaundice
- A - anaemia
- M - myocardial infarction

Please carefully question this method for reliability and resilience
- Position (site and radiation)
- Character
- Quantity (severity)
- Transmission (associated features - transmitted from index symptom)
- Modifying factors (precipitating, aggravating, relieving factors)
- Exacerbating and relieving factors
- Rate (onset, progression, cessation, duration - as it is related to timing the word rate)
- Rhythm (periodicity)

Systemic enquiry in relation to complaint
- Management used to treat this complaint