Diagnostic tests are an important part of clinical medicine. They help screen for disease in asymptomatic patients, establish or rule out a diagnosis in symptomatic patients, provide important prognostic information and allow for objective monitoring of the disease process and its management. Diagnostic errors can therefore result in significant medical harm. A major burden of diagnostic errors resides not in the improper ordering or performance of the test, but rather in the improper follow up of a properly completed test – system errors. This study provides a six step program to abolish the potential for these errors (Ref: Shashi K Agarwal. Diagnostic Tests: Improving Timely Completion, Ensuring Professional Review and Executing Appropriate Intervention. A Six Step Approach to Reduce Errors. Medical Science, 2015, 16(63), 1-4). (Image: http://www.urmc.rochester.edu/).
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