

# Women's Health Mnemonics for the Nurse Practitioner

As a Nurse Practitioner providing women's health care, you'll encounter a diverse range of conditions and concerns. To assist you in providing comprehensive and efficient care, this guide presents a collection of essential mnemonics to help you recall key information and make informed clinical decisions.



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by Josephine Atluri

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## Menstrual Disorders

### POME

This mnemonic helps you remember the four common menstrual disorders:

- **Polynenorrhea:** Excessive bleeding
- **Oligomenorrhea:** Infrequent bleeding

- **M**enorrhagia: Heavy bleeding
- **E**ndometriosis: Tissue growth outside the uterus

### ### DOTS

DOTS aids in recalling the causes of irregular menstruation:

- **D**rug-induced
- **O**vulatory dysfunction
- **T**issue abnormalities
- **S**ystemic disease

### ### C-SHE

C-SHE helps you remember the management options for heavy menstrual bleeding:

- **C**ontraception
- **S**urgical (e.g., endometrial ablation)
- **H**ormonal (e.g., progestin IUD)
- **E**ndometrial destruction (e.g., NovaSure)

## Breast Health

### ### BEMS

BEMS aids in recalling the five breast exam components:

- **B**reast inspection
- **E**xamine the nipples
- **M**anual palpation
- **S**elf-breast exam education

### ### TIC TAC TOE

TIC TAC TOE helps you remember the nine breast cancer risk factors:

- **T**umor suppressor gene mutations (e.g., BRCA1, BRCA2)
- **I**ncreased breast tissue density
- **C**onsumption of alcohol
- **T**obacco use
- **A**typia on breast biopsy
- **C**hildlessness
- **T**ardiness in childbirth
- **O**besity
- **E**arly menarche

### **Contraception**

### ### CHOICE

CHOICE helps you remember the five main contraceptive methods:

- **C**ondoms
- **H**ormonal methods (e.g., birth control pills, patches)
- **O**ther barrier methods (e.g., diaphragm, cervical cap)
- **I**nteruterine devices (IUDs)
- **C**ontraceptive sterilization (e.g., tubal ligation, vasectomy)

### ### PEARLS

PEARLS aids in recalling the benefits of hormonal contraception:

- **P**regnancy prevention
- **E**ndometriosis prevention
- **A**cne reduction
- **R**egulation of menstrual cycles
- **L**essening of heavy menstrual bleeding
- **S**ymptoms of premenstrual syndrome (PMS)

### **Menopause**

### ### SWAN

SWAN helps you remember the four main symptoms of menopause:

- **S**leep disturbances
- **W**asomotor symptoms (e.g., hot flashes, night sweats)

- **A**trophic changes (e.g., vaginal dryness, urinary incontinence)
- **N**eurocognitive symptoms (e.g., memory loss, difficulty concentrating)

### ### CARS

CARS aids in recalling the risk factors for osteoporosis in postmenopausal women:

- **C**orticosteroid use
- **A**lcohol consumption
- **R**heumatoid arthritis
- **S**moking

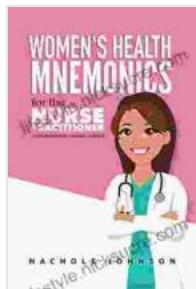
### ### HERS

HERS helps you remember the three main treatment goals for menopausal symptoms:

- **H**eatly lifestyle
- **E**strogen replacement therapy (ERT)
- **R**isk reduction strategies (e.g., for osteoporosis)
- **S**upport (e.g., from family, friends, support groups)

These mnemonics provide a valuable tool for Nurse Practitioners in women's health care. By committing these memory aids to memory, you can enhance your ability to recall essential information, make informed

clinical decisions, and provide comprehensive and effective care to your patients.



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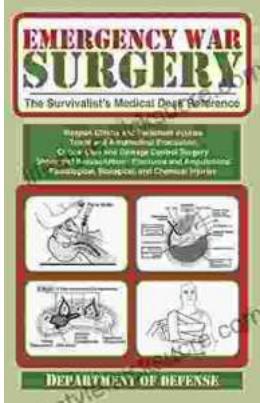
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