Learning Objectives for Head, Neck, and Lymphatic System Examination

After studying your lecture notes and Chapters 9 and 10 in the textbook, and completing the exercises in class, you should be able to:

1. Conduct a history related to the lymphatic system and the head and neck.
2. Discuss examination techniques for the lymphatic system and the head and neck.
3. Identify normal age and condition variations to the lymphatic system and the head and neck.
4. Recognize findings that deviate from expected findings.
5. Relate symptoms or clinical findings to common pathological conditions.

Key terms and concepts to know for the quiz, practical examination, and test:

1. Function of the lymphatic system.
2. Anatomy and circulation of the lymphatic system, including drainage patterns.
3. Anatomical sites of lymph nodes, including the most accessible nodes.
4. Anatomy, location, and function of the spleen and thymus.
5. Anatomy, location, and function of the tonsils.
6. Considerations in examination and findings in children, pregnant women, and older adults.
7. Review of systems for lymphatic “red flags”.
8. Proper inspection, auscultation, and palpation of lymph node masses.
10. Inspection, palpation, percussion, and auscultation of the head and neck.
11. Inspection and palpation of the thyroid gland.
12. Differential diagnoses of thyroid masses.
13. Inspection and palpation of the salivary glands.
14. Facies
15. Thyroglossal duct cyst
16. Branchial cleft cyst
17. Torticollis
18. Hypothyroidism and hyperthyroidism
19. Myxedema
20. Graves disease
21. Hashimoto disease
22. Encephalocele
23. Craniosynostosis