Weakness

Your exam shows you have weakness without a known cause. This may require further medical evaluation. Weakness can be caused by infections, physical exhaustion, internal bleeding, dehydration, medication side effects, and emotional upsets. Problems with circulation, heart disease, and nervous system disorders can also make you weak. Weakness can cause dizziness and fainting; this is usually due to a low blood pressure.

Full medical evaluation may require additional laboratory and x-ray tests, so be sure to see your doctor for follow up care as recommended. You should get plenty of rest and eat a nutritious diet over the next weeks. If you become very dizzy, nauseated, or feel like you are going to faint, please lie down flat right away and wait until all your symptoms have passed before you get up again. You should see your doctor or go to the emergency room right away if you have any of the following problems:

- Severe headache, chest pain, or abdominal pain.
- An irregular heartbeat or a very fast pulse (over 120 beats/minute).
- Chest pain, chest pressure, and/or difficulty breathing.
- Confusion, vision problems, difficulty walking, fever or chills.

Document Released: 12/18/2006 Document Re-Released: 06/30/2008
ExitCare® Patient Information ©2011 ExitCare, LLC.