

Acute abdominal conditions

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Acute abdominal conditions

Usually acute onset

Quick progression

Most of them need surgery

Causes

1. Inflammation
2. Ileus
3. Bleeding into GI
4. Trauma

Food poisoning

Strain of muscles

1. Inflammation

Appendicitis, cholecystitis, pancreatitis, peritonitis

2. Ileus – distension of the intestine

Mechanical simple, obstruction
 strangulation

Neurogenic paralytic
 spastic

Vascular trombosis of GI vessels

3. Bleeding into GI

Peptic ulcer, peptic erosions, cancer

4. Trauma of the abdomen

Blunt or open injury

Abdominal wound

Bleeding into GI

Haematemesis – vomiting of blood

Causes

Stomach erosions, peptic ulcer,
carcinoma of stomach, varices of oesophagus

Signs

Anemia, hypovolemia
melaena, shock

Bleeding in the stools

Melaena

Enterorrhagia

Rectorrhagia

Causes: tumors, colitis ulcerosa, Crohn disease
hemorrhoids

Signs

Anemia, hypovolemia

Signs

Intense pain

Nausea and vomiting

Obstipation, flatulence

Inflation of the abdomen

Dehydration, paleness, sweating

Fever, tachycardia, flat breathing

Muscular spasms of the abdominal wall

No signs of GI function

First aid

Rest, warm, nothing to eat or drink

Container for vomiting

Avoid aspiration of stomach content

Positioning

Sterile dressing of the wound

Transport

Colic pain

The pain that comes and goes in waves

Renal colic

Gall bladder colic

Incarcerated abdominal hernia

Renal colic

Blockage of urine flow from kidney pelvis
most often by urolithiasis

First aid

Warm, hot bath, spasmolytics

Gall bladder colic

Causes

cholecystitis acuta, cholelithiasis
choledocholithiasis

Signs

Intense pain, nausea, vomiting, shock

First aid

Positioning, spasmolytics

Transport

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Incarcerated abdominal hernia

Signs

Intense pain

Nausea and vomiting

Obstipation, flatulence

Inflation of the abdomen

First aid

To minimise the shock

Transport

Abdominal wound

Stub wound, gunshot, crush injury

Organs or blood vessels can be punctured

lacerated or ruptured

External bleeding

Internal bleeding

Protrusion of abdominal content

First aid

Cover the area with plastic bag or kitchen film

Cover the wound with sterile dressing

No eat or drink

Positioning, minimise the shock

Transport