



11: Alterations of the Gastrointestinal Tract - Clinical Manifestations

Terms in this set (21)

Projectile vomiting	Spontaneous vomiting with preceding nausea
Retching	Nonproductive vomiting
Causes of constipation	Low-residue diet, sedentary lifestyle, changes in bowel habits, disease conditions (GI/neurogenic), and medications (e.g. opioids)
Characteristics of Diarrhea	Increase in volume, fluidity, and weight of stools
Causes of diarrhea	Drugs/medications (e.g. laxatives), infection (e.g. bacteria or parasite), malabsorption syndromes, autoimmune disease
Parietal Pain	Abdominal pain resulting from irritation of the peritoneal lining; also called somatic pain
Visceral Pain	Abdominal pain directly related to the organ; usually less severe, poorly localized, and dull or aching

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Referred Pain	Visceral pain felt in another area of the body, and usually occurs when organs share a common nerve pathway
Anorexia	Lack of desire to eat despite physiological stimuli that would normally produce hunger
Nausea	Subjective experience of feeling "sick" or "wanting to vomit" that is associated with a number of conditions
Vomiting	Forceful projection of stomach contents
Constipation	Infrequent or difficult defecation (having a bowel movement)
Diarrhea	Increased frequency of bowel movements (causes may exist in multiple locations along digestive tract)
Gastrointestinal bleeding	Bleeding from upper or lower GI that may occur in the forms of hematemesis, melena, hematochezia, occult, and/or per rectum
Dysphagia/odynophagia	Difficulty/pain in swallowing. May be related to mechanical or functional obstructions