

# Acute upper gastrointestinal bleeding

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بیمارستان ۴۷۹۰۱۱۱۸ (۰۲۱)

## ESSENTIALS OF DIAGNOSIS

- Symptoms: Coffee ground vomiting, hematemesis, melena, hematochezia, anemic symptoms
- Past medical history: Liver cirrhosis, use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs
- Signs: Hypotension, tachycardia, pallor, altered mental status, melena or blood per rectum, decreased urine output
- Bloods: Anemia, raised urea, high urea to creatinine ratio
- Endoscopy: Ulcers, varices, Mallory-Weiss tear, erosive disease, neoplasms, vascular ectasia, and vascular malformations

# Causes

- Peptic ulcer (35–50%).
- Mallory–Weiss tear (5–15%).
- Gastroduodenal erosions (8–15%).
- Oesophagitis (5–15%).
- Gastro-oesophageal varices (7–10%).
- Vascular malformations (5%):
  - Hereditary haemorrhagic telangiectasia.
  - Gastric antral vascular ectasia (GAVE).
  - Portal hypertensive gastropathy.
  - Angiodysplasia.
  - Dieulafoy lesion.
- Rare miscellaneous causes (5%):
  - Hiatus hernia

## Management

• monitor airway, clinical status, vital signs, cardiac rhythm, urine output, nasogastric output (if nasogastric tube in place)

• Do NOT give patient anything by mouth

• Establish two large bore IV lines (16 gauge or larger)

• Give supplemental oxygen

• Treat hypotension initially with rapid, bolus infusions of isotonic crystalloid

• Indications for:

• Transfusion of packed red blood cells for dynamic instability despite crystalloid resuscitation

• Hemoglobin <10 g/dL (100 g/L) in high-risk patients (eg, elderly, coronary artery disease)

• Hemoglobin <7 g/dL (70 g/L) in low-risk patients

• Signs of over-transfusion with possible variceal bleeding

• Give cryoprecipitate or fresh frozen plasma for coagulopathy; give platelets for thrombocytopenia (platelets <50,000) or platelet dysfunction (eg, chronic aspirin)

• Obtain immediate consultation with gastroenterologist; obtain surgical and interventional radiology consultation for any large-scale bleed

• Indications for pharmacotherapy for all patients with suspected or known severe bleeding:

• Give a proton pump inhibitor (eg, Esomeprazole 80 mg IV bolus, followed by 8 mg/hour OR Pantoprazole 80 mg IV bolus, followed by 8 mg/hour infusion)

• Indications for pharmacotherapy for known or suspected esophagogastric variceal bleeding and/or cirrhosis:

• Give a somatostatin or an analogue (eg, Octreotide 50 mcg bolus, followed by 50 mcg/hour infusion)

• Give an antibiotic (eg, Ceftriaxone, Amoxicillin-clavulanate, or Quinolone)

• Endoscopic tamponade may be performed as a temporizing measure for patients with uncontrollable hemorrhage likely due to varices using a sump tube (Minnesota tube). Tracheal intubation is necessary if such a device is to be placed; ensure proper device placement prior to intubation.

# Initial management

## Stabilize the patient

- *Protect the airway.* Position patient on left side if actively vomiting.
- *Rapidly assess circulatory status.* Feel temperature of hands and feet. Does the patient look unwell? Is there pallor or sweating? Measure BP (including postural drop: significant if  $>20\text{mmHg}$  drop in systolic pressure on standing) and HR.
- *IV access.* Insert two large IV cannulae (e.g. 14–16G). Jugular, subclavian, or femoral vein cannulation may be necessary to assess CVP or if peripheral access limited. If the patient is shocked (systolic BP  $<100\text{mmHg}$ , HR  $>100/\text{min}$ ) or has other signs of hypovolaemia (such as pallor, sweating, cold peripheries, weak pulse, or postural hypotension), infuse 1L of 0.9% saline or 500mL colloid (e.g. Gelofusine<sup>®</sup>) 'stat'.

## توجه

- Hb and PCV do not fall till the plasma volume has been restored, but if low at presentation suggest massive blood loss or acute-on-chronic bleeding.
- WCC may be elevated but usually is  $<15 \times 10^9/L$ . If elevated, look for evidence of sepsis, which can predispose to haemorrhage.
- Low platelet count may suggest hypersplenism and chronic liver disease. Other causes of thrombocytopenia may predispose to GI bleeding.
- An elevated plasma urea out of proportion to plasma creatinine indicates renal hypoperfusion or the absorption of blood proteins from the gut. It signifies a significant GI bleed or dehydration. A ratio of (urea (mmol/L)  $\times$  100) divided by creatinine ( $\mu\text{mol/L}$ ) of  $>7.0$  indicates that the urea is disproportionately high.

## توجه

If the urea is disproportionately high, look for 'G' - gastrointestinal bleed, dehydration



## Restore circulating volume

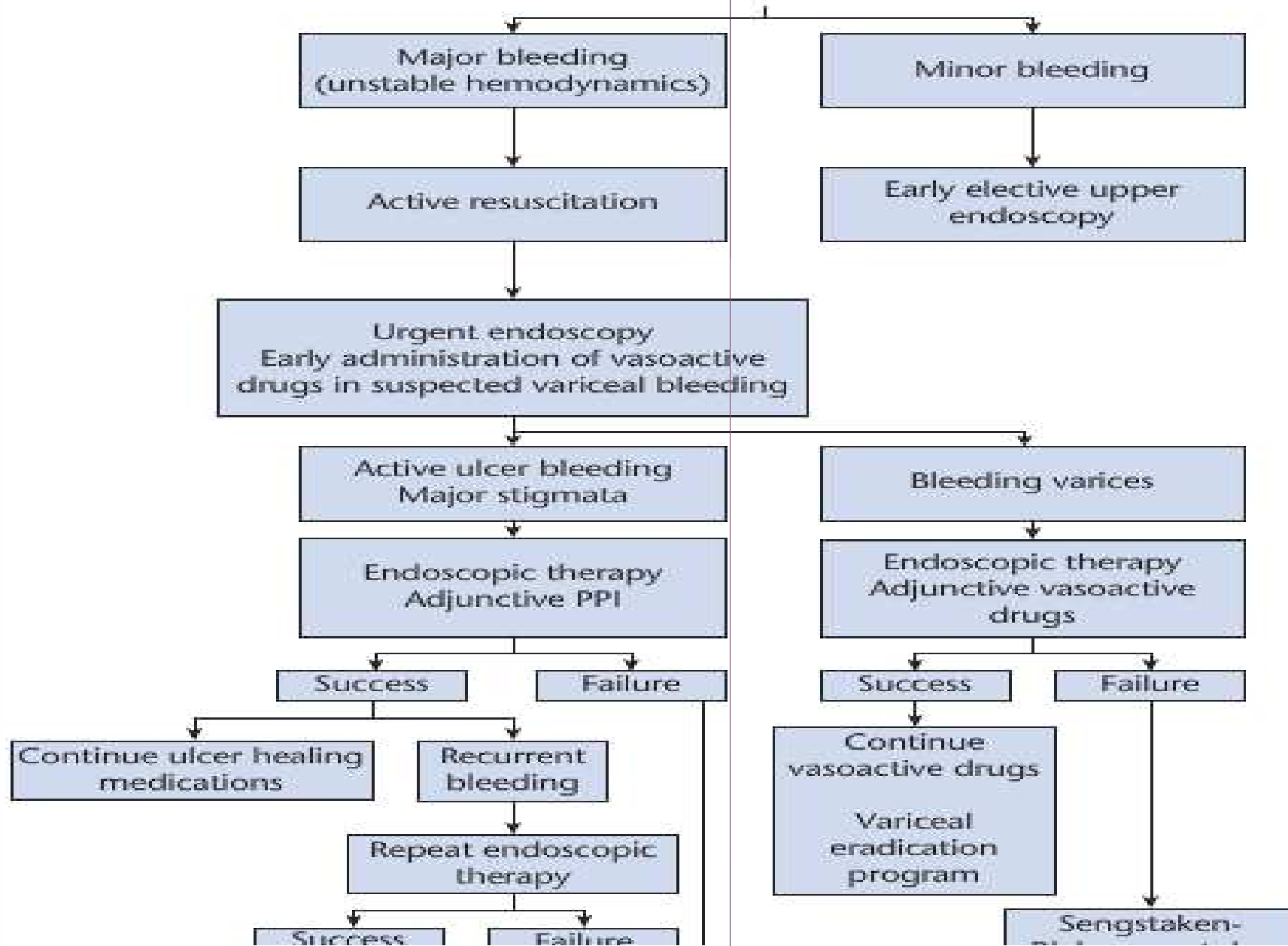
Tachycardia, hypotension, or postural hypotension suggest low intravascular volume. Initially, give 1–2L of crystalloid (0.9% saline or Hartman's solution) or 500mL–1L of colloid (e.g. Haemaccel<sup>®</sup> or Gelofusine<sup>®</sup>) 'stat'. If there are no signs of hypovolaemia, use a slower rate of infusion. Continue to monitor.

## Blood transfusion

Blood transfusion is indicated in moderate or massive, but not minor, haemorrhage (e.g. Hb >10g/dL after fluid resuscitation). Give blood at 1 unit until the circulating volume is restored or the CVP is between 5–10cm H<sub>2</sub>O measured from the mid-axilla with the patient supine. O-negative blood can be transfused immediately in massive bleeds. Serum calcium may fall after several units of citrate-containing blood. Give 10mL (4.5mEq) of 10% calcium gluconate for every 3–4U transfused. Supplement magnesium and phosphate as necessary (often low in alcoholics).



# Algorithm for management of acute GI bleeding



Glasgow Blatchford bleeding score – admission risk markers and

Admission risk markers	Score value
Urea (mmol/L)	
≥ 7	2
5-6	3
3-4	4
< 3	6
Hemoglobin for men (g/L)	
100-119	1
90-99	3
< 90	6

Hemoglobin for women (g/L)	
100-119	1
<100	6
Systolic blood pressure (mmHg)	
100-109	1
90-99	2
<90	3
Other markers	
Pulse ≥ 100/min	1
Presentation with melaena	1
Presentation with syncope	2
Hepatic disease	2
Cardiac failure	2

## 1.2 Hypovolemic shock: symptoms, signs and fluid replacement

Loss (mL)	<750	750–1500	1500–2000	>2000
Loss (%)	<15	15–30	30–40	>40
Rate	<100	>100	>120	>140
Pressure	Normal	Normal	Decreased	Decreased
Pressure	Normal or increased	Decreased	Decreased	Decreased
Respiratory rate	14–20	20–30	30–40	>35
Urine output (mL)	>30	20–30	5–15	Negligible
Consciousness	Slightly anxious	Mildly anxious	Anxious and confused	Confused and lethargic
Fluid replacement	Crystalloid	Crystalloid	Crystalloid and blood	Crystalloid and blood

### 10.3 Bleeding ulcers: prevalence, risk, and need for surgery

Endoscopic characteristics	Prevalence (%)	Further bleeding (%)	Surgery (%)	Mortality (%)
Base	42	5	0.5	2
Spot	20	10	6	3
Adherent clot	17	22	10	7
Non-bleeding visible vessel	17	43	34	11
Active bleeding	18	55	35	11



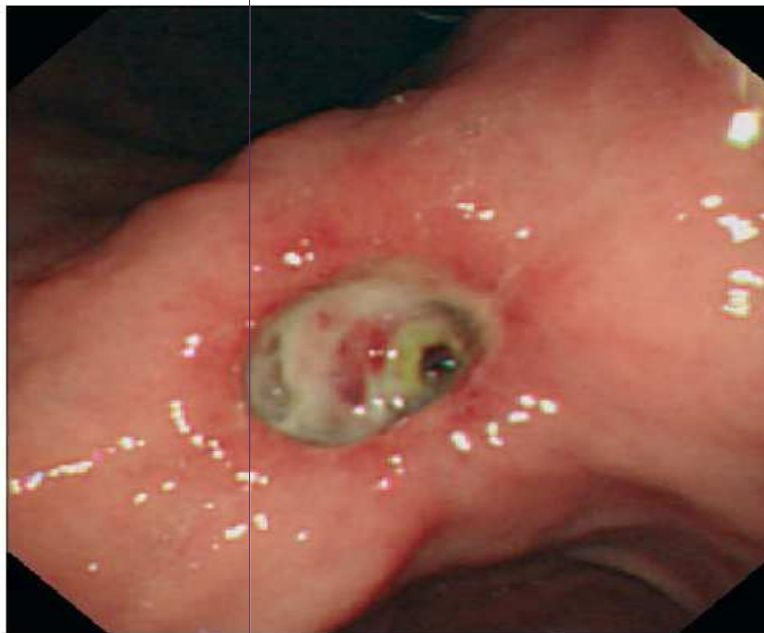
Endoscopic view of a clean based antral gastric ulcer in a patient on a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug. Tests for infection with *Helicobacter pylori* were negative.

Bahavar Medicine Lit

**ulcer with adherent clot**

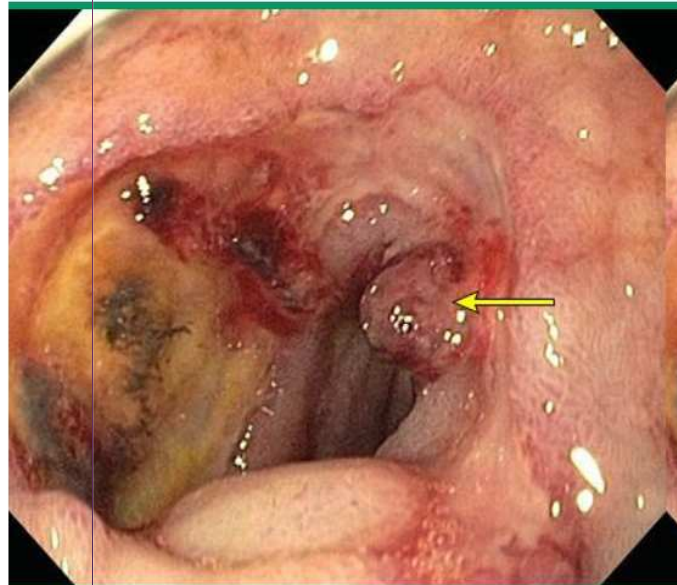


Endoscopy showing a gastric ulcer with an adherent clot (Forrest classification IIb).



**Figure 53-2.** Endoscopic appearance of a gastric ulcer at the angularis with a flat spot (Forrest type IIc).

**Duodenal ulcer with visible vessel**



Upper endoscopy showing a duodenal ulcer with a nonbleeding visible vessel in a large circumferential ulcer (Forrest classification IIa)



**Figure 20.1** Ulcer with spurting hemorrhage.







# Acute lower gastrointestinal bleeding



## ESSENTIALS OF TREATMENT OF SEVERE HEMATOCCHEZIA

- Initial resuscitation in a monitored care setting
- Colonoscopy to provide both diagnosis and therapeutic hemostasis of focal lesions (with epinephrine-saline injection, hemoclips, multipolar electrocoagulation), angiomas (with MPEC) and internal hemorrhoids (with band ligation)
- Angiography with transcatheter embolization
- Emergency surgery when bleeding not controlled by endoscopic hemostasis and angiography

## CAUSES OF SEVERE HEMATOCHEZIA

### **Colonic source**

- Diverticulosis
- Internal hemorrhoids
- Ischemic colitis
- Rectal ulcers
- Other colitis
- Post-polypectomy ulcer
- Polyp/cancer
- Angiomas

### **UGI source**

- Ulcer
- Varices
- Angiomas

### **Small bowel source**

- Angiomas

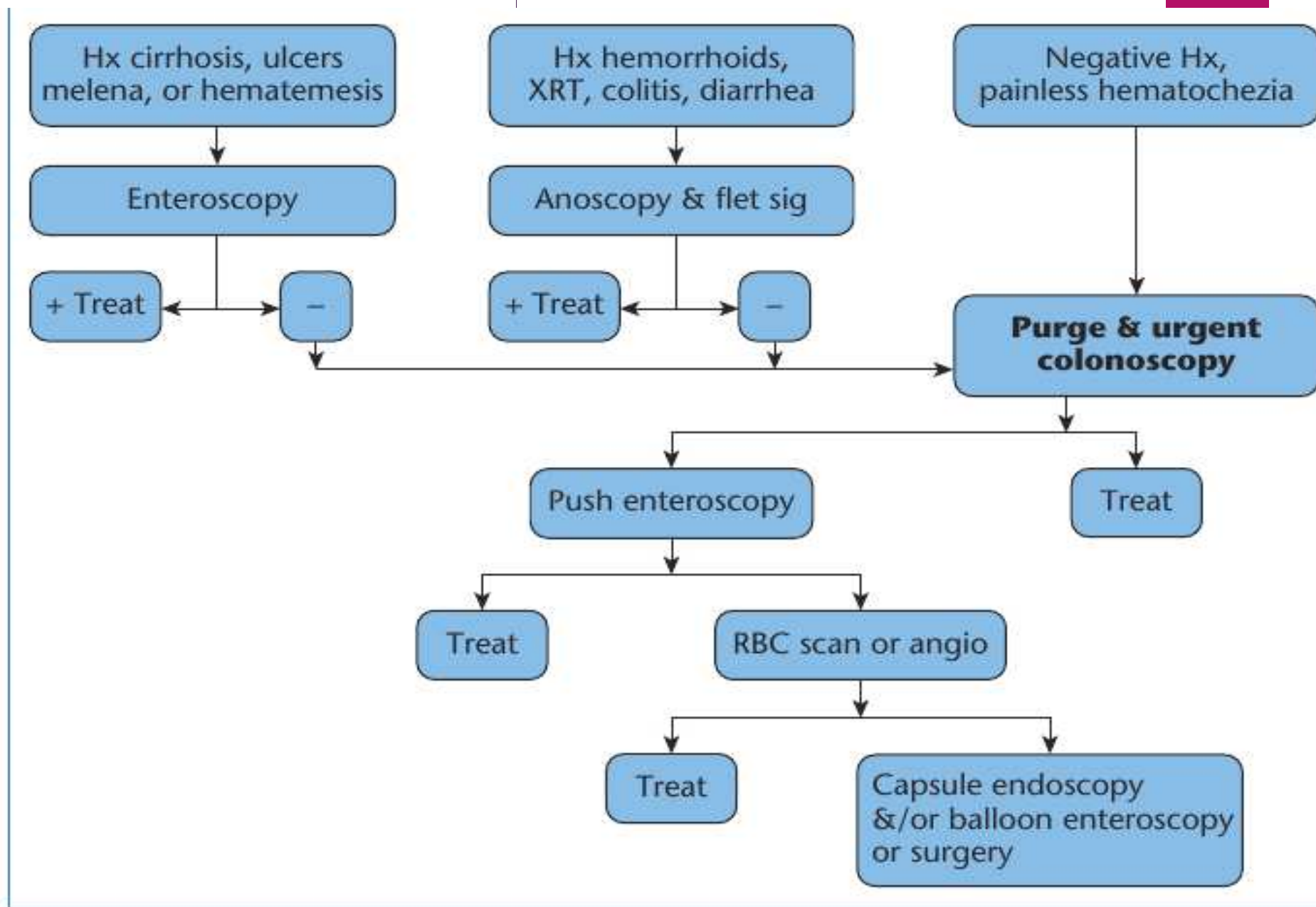


Figure 21.1 Algorithm for severe hematochezia.



## Treatment of lower gastrointestinal bleeding

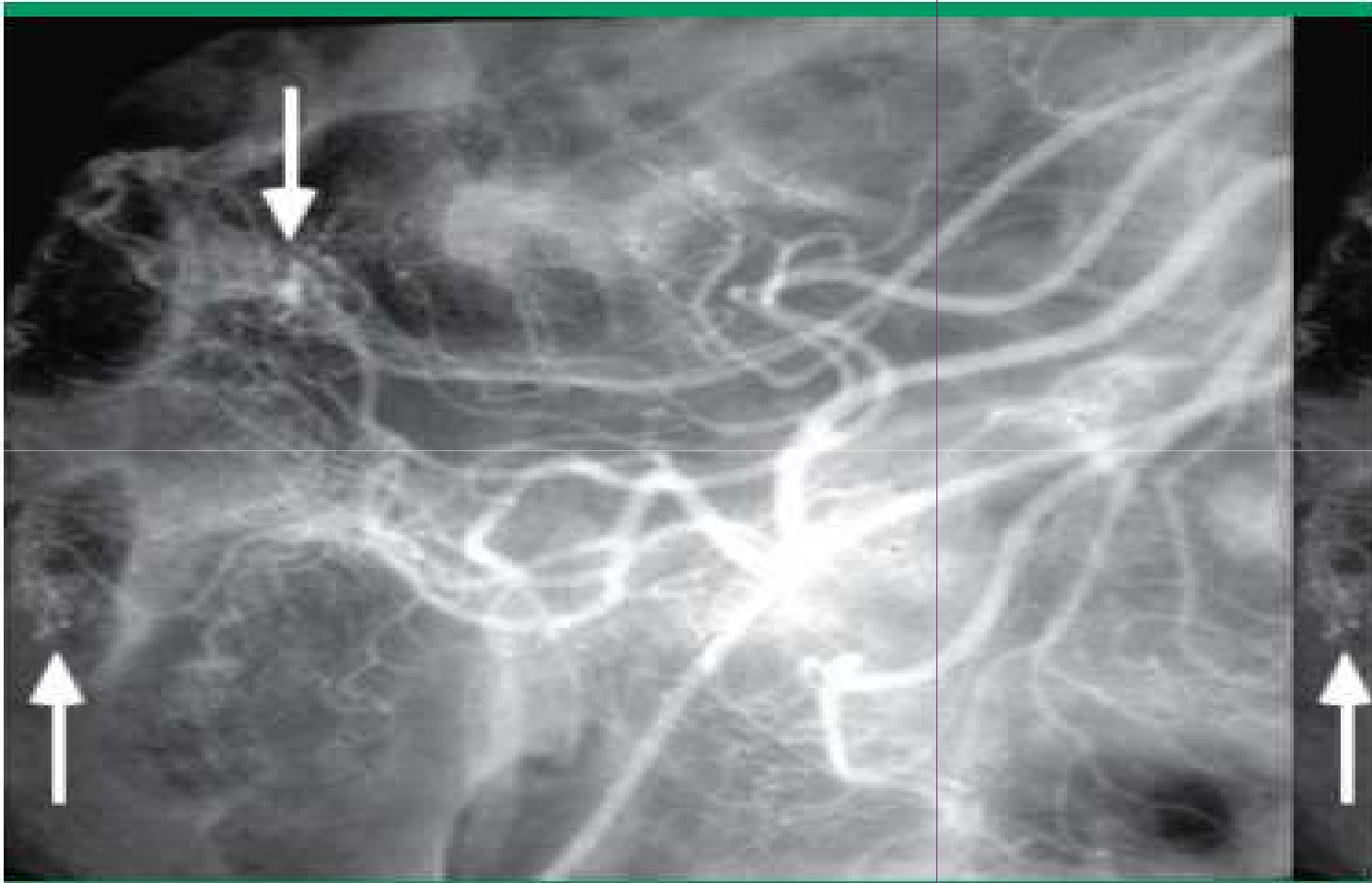


## Procedures used for evaluation of lower gastrointestinal bleeding

Technique	Advantages	Disadvantages
Radionuclide imaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noninvasive</li> <li>Sensitive to low rates of bleeding</li> <li>Can be repeated for intermittent bleeding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has to be performed during active bleeding</li> <li>Poor localization of bleeding site</li> <li>Not therapeutic</li> <li>Not widely available</li> </ul>
Angiography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noninvasive</li> <li>Accurately localizes bleeding source</li> <li>Provides anatomic detail</li> <li>Widely available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has to be performed during active bleeding</li> <li>Not therapeutic</li> <li>Radiation and IV contrast exposure</li> </ul>
Angiography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accurately localizes bleeding source</li> <li>Therapy possible with super-selective embolization</li> <li>Does not require bowel preparation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has to be performed during active bleeding</li> <li>Potential for serious complications</li> </ul>
Colonoscopy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Precise diagnosis and localization regardless of active bleeding or type of lesion</li> <li>Endoscopic therapy is possible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need colon preparation for optimal visualization</li> <li>Risk of sedation in acutely bleeding patient</li> <li>Definite bleeding source (stigmata) infrequently identified</li> </ul>



## Angiodysplasia of the colon



A superior mesenteric arteriogram demonstrates puddling of contrast material in tortuous distended vessels in the cecal wall (arrows).

### **vessel within a colonic diverticulum**



...y showing a blood vessel within a diverticulum. The blood vessel is separated from the bowel lumen only by mucosa. Over time, the vessel wall is exposed to injury along its luminal aspect, possibly due to segmental weakness which predisposes to rupture into the lumen.

### **Normal sigmoid colon**



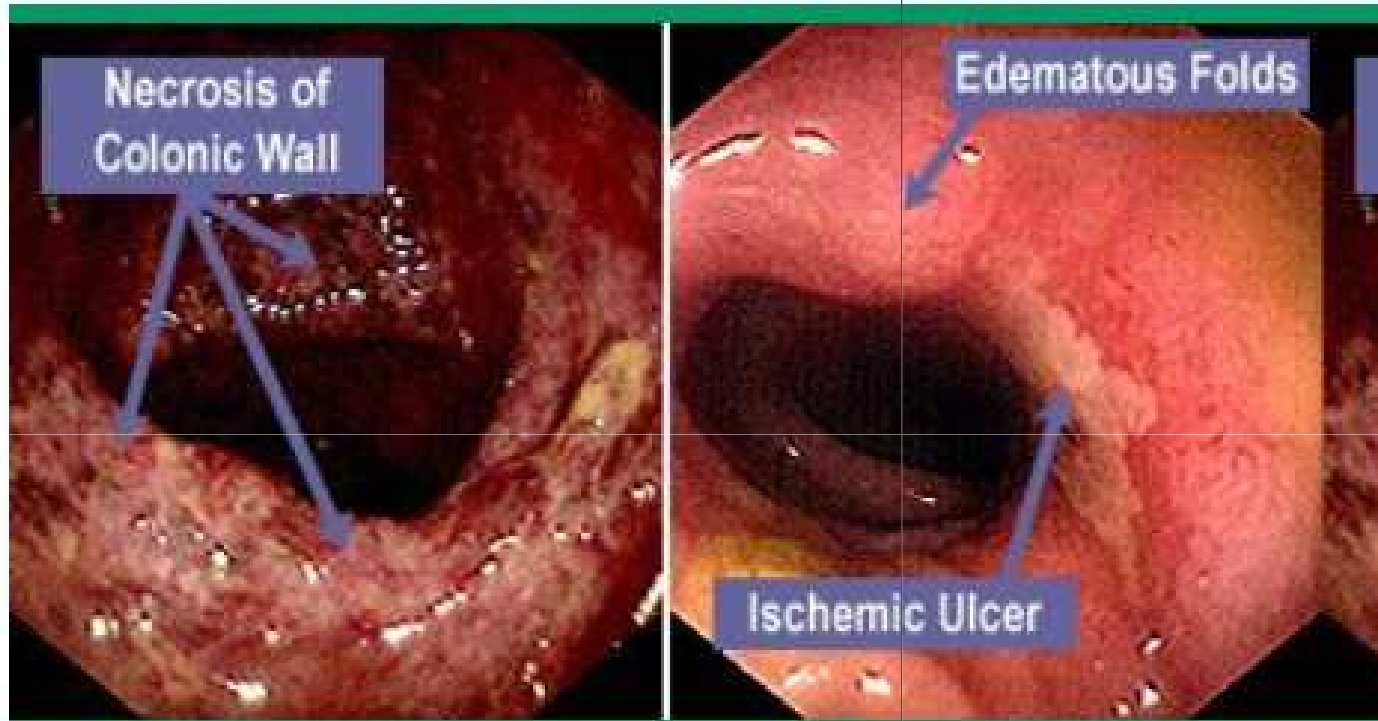
Endoscopic appearance of the normal sigmoid colonic mucosa. The fine vasculature is easily visible, and the surface is shiny and smooth. The folds are of normal thickness.

### **Ulcerative colitis**



Endoscopic appearance of ulcerative colitis. Extensive ulceration of the mucosa is the most common endoscopic finding (panel A). The surface is irregular, friable, and erythematous, with loss of the normal vascular markings. Pseudopolyps may form as a reaction to inflammation (panel B); these can become quite extensive (panel C).

## Ischemic colitis on colonoscopy



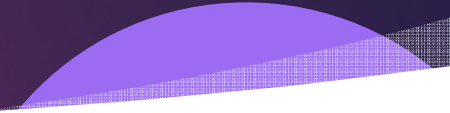
Endoscopy of ischemic colitis may reveal continuous necrosis and mucosal friability that resembles ulcerative colitis (left panel); discrete ulcers with surrounding edema may also be seen (right panel).

Diagnosed lesion	Frequency (%) <sup>2</sup>
1. Diverticulosis	31.9
2. Internal hemorrhoids	12.8
3. Ischemic colitis	11.9
4. Rectal ulcers	7.6
5. Colon angiomas or radiation telangiectasia	7.0
6. Ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, other colitis	6.2
7. Other LGI diagnoses	5.6
8. Post-polypectomy ulcer	4.7





# SEVERE VOMITING





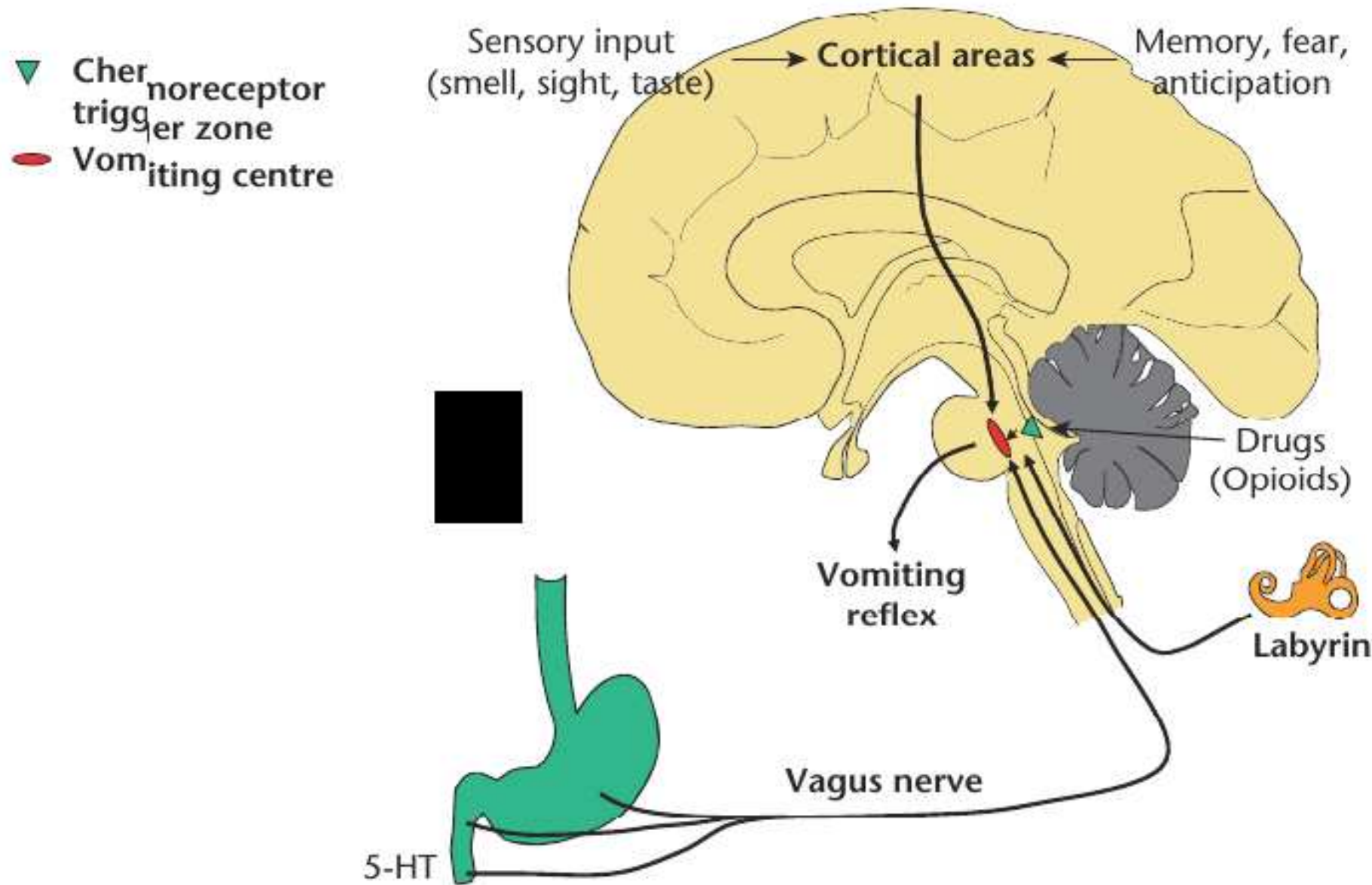


Figure 5.1 Pathways involved in triggering nausea and vomiting. (This figure was published in *Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology*)

# CAUSES OF NAUSEA AND VOMITING

## INTRAPERITONEAL

Obstructing disorders  
 Pyloric obstruction  
 Small bowel obstruction  
 Colonic obstruction  
 Superior mesenteric artery syndrome  
 Enteric infections  
 Viral  
 Bacterial  
 Inflammatory diseases  
 Cholecystitis  
 Pancreatitis  
 Appendicitis  
 Hepatitis  
 Impaired sensorimotor function  
 Gastroparesis  
 Intestinal pseudoobstruction  
 Gastroesophageal reflux  
 Chronic idiopathic nausea  
 Functional vomiting  
 Cyclic vomiting syndrome  
 Biliary colic  
 Abdominal irradiation

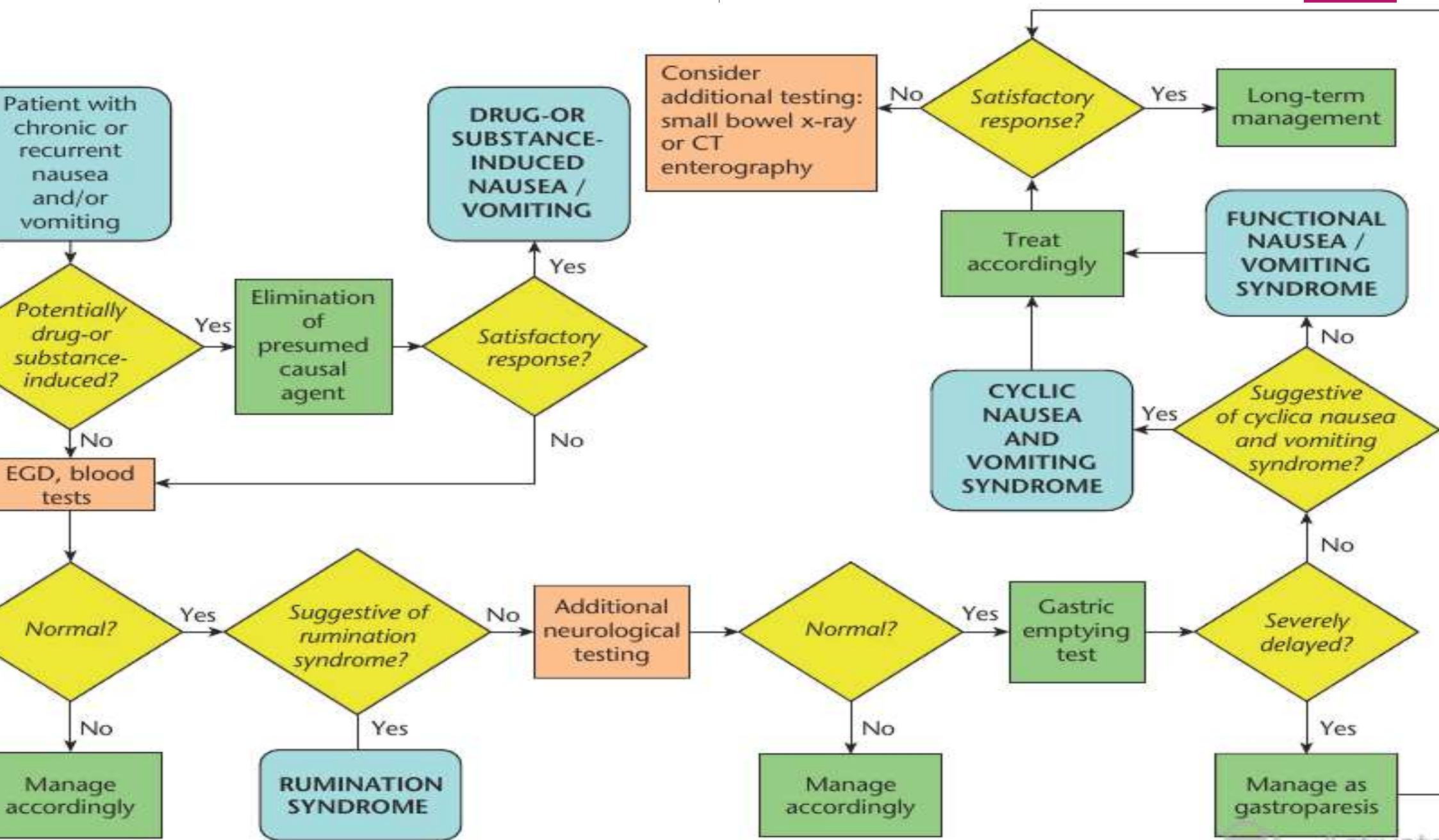
## EXTRAPERITONEAL

Cardiopulmonary disease  
 Cardiomyopathy  
 Myocardial infarction  
 Labyrinthine disease  
 Motion sickness  
 Labyrinthitis  
 Malignancy  
 Intracerebral disorders  
 Malignancy  
 Hemorrhage  
 Abscess  
 Hydrocephalus  
 Psychiatric illness  
 Anorexia and bulimia nervosa  
 Depression  
 Postoperative vomiting

## MEDICATIONS/METABOLIC DISORDERS

Drugs  
 Cancer chemotherapy  
 Antibiotics  
 Cardiac antiarrhythmics  
 Digoxin  
 Oral hypoglycemics  
 Oral contraceptives  
 Endocrine/metabolic disease  
 Pregnancy  
 Uremia  
 Ketoacidosis  
 Thyroid and parathyroid disease  
 Adrenal insufficiency  
 Toxins  
 Liver failure  
 Ethanol





## TREATMENT OF NAUSEA AND VOMITING

TREATMENT	MECHANISM	EXAMPLES	CLINICAL INDICATIONS
Antiemetic agents	Antihistaminergic	Dimenhydrinate, meclizine	Motion sickness, inner ear disease
	Anticholinergic	Scopolamine	Motion sickness, inner ear disease
	Antidopaminergic	Prochlorperazine, thiethylperazine	Medication-, toxin-, or metabolic-induced emesis
	5-HT <sub>3</sub> antagonist	Ondansetron, granisetron	Chemotherapy- and radiation-induced emesis, postoperative emesis
	NK <sub>1</sub> antagonist	Aprepitant	Chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting
	Tricyclic antidepressant	Amitriptyline, nortriptyline	Chronic idiopathic nausea, functional vomiting, cyclic vomiting syndrome, ?gastroparesis
	Other antidepressant	Mirtazapine	?Functional vomiting, ?gastroparesis
Prokinetic agents	5-HT <sub>4</sub> agonist and antidopaminergic	Metoclopramide	Gastroparesis
	Motilin agonist	Erythromycin	Gastroparesis, ?intestinal pseudoobstruction
	Peripheral antidopaminergic	Domperidone	Gastroparesis
	Somatostatin analogue	Octreotide	Intestinal pseudoobstruction
	Acetylcholinesterase inhibitor	Pyridostigmine	?Small intestinal dysmotility /pseudoobstruction
Special settings	Benzodiazepines	Lorazepam	Anticipatory nausea and vomiting with chemotherapy
	Glucocorticoids	Methylprednisolone,	Chemotherapy-induced emesis

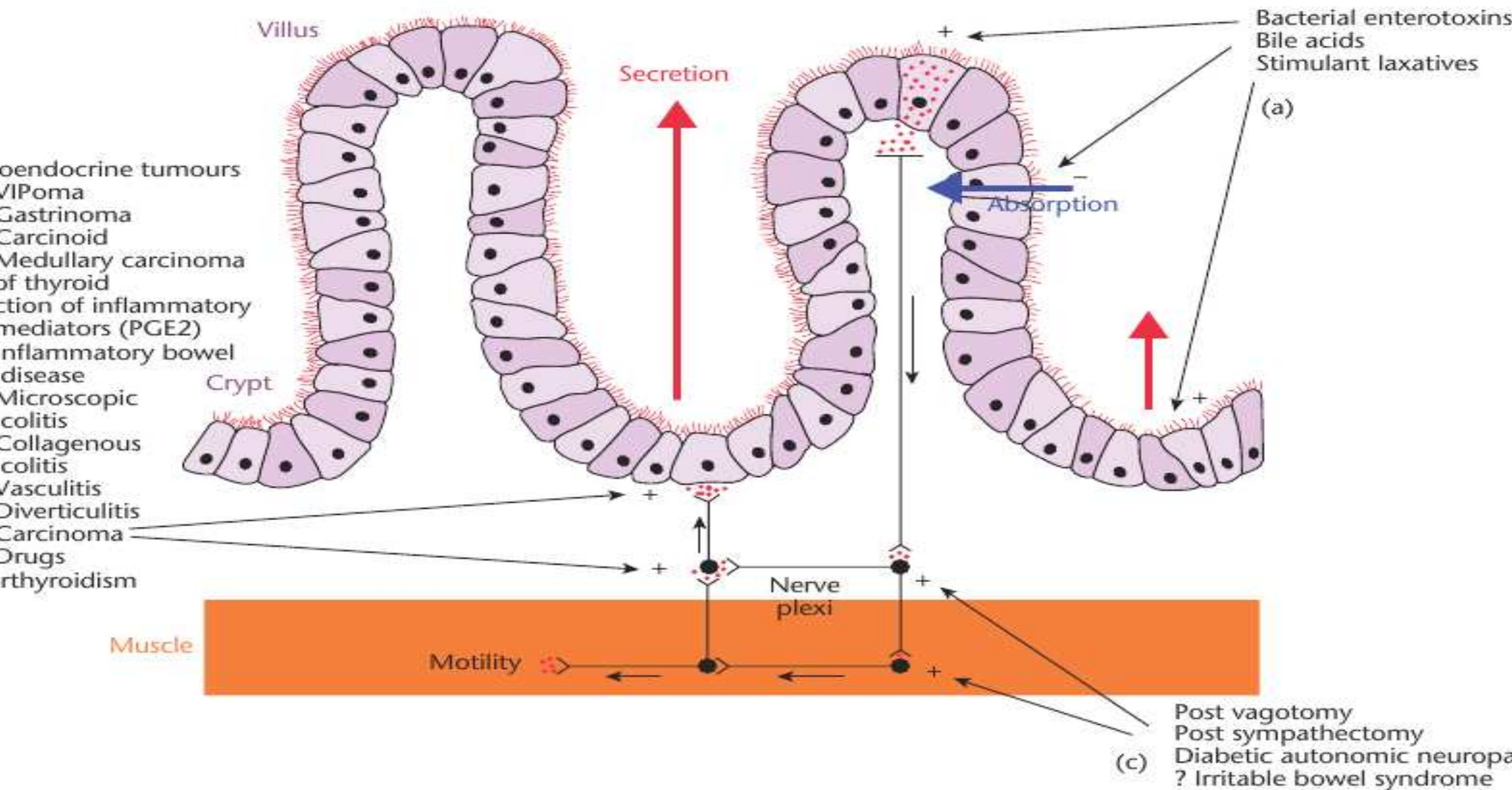




# Severe and acute diarrhea







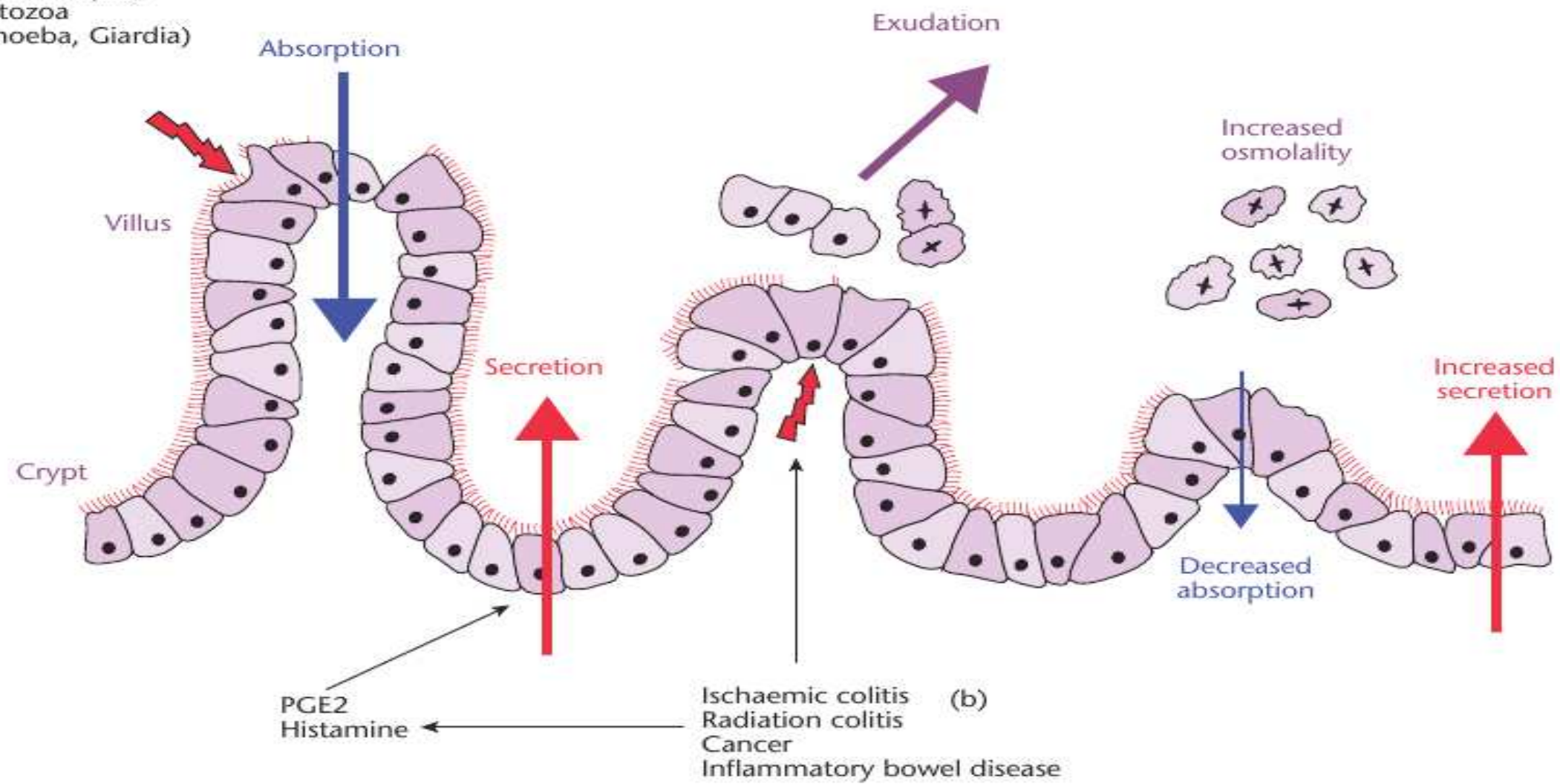
1 Causes and pathophysiology of secretory diarrhea. The figure illustrates the intestinal mucosa with the villi projecting into the lumen. The muscle layers represent the lamina propria and the present the afferent, efferent and interneurons of the enteric

induce secretion by binding to the serosal surface of the epithelium or activating the secretomotor nerves. These include intestinal hormones such as vasoactive intestinal peptide (VIP) and inflammatory mediators such as prostaglandin E<sub>2</sub> and histamine. (c) The function of the enteric nervous

Infections

- Invasive bacteria (Salmonella, Shigella)
- Ulcerating viruses (CMV, Herpes)
- Protozoa (Amoeba, Giardia)

(a)



2 Causes and pathophysiology of inflammatory diarrhea. The diagram demonstrates the destruction of the intestinal mucosa, with a loss of villi and crypts. This is caused by luminal invasive infections (a) and intrinsic causes of inflammation (b).

luminal osmolality; 2. cell exudation further increases the luminal osmolality; 3. immune recruitment of inflammatory mediators such as prostaglandins and histamine, which increase secretion directly and through intermediate

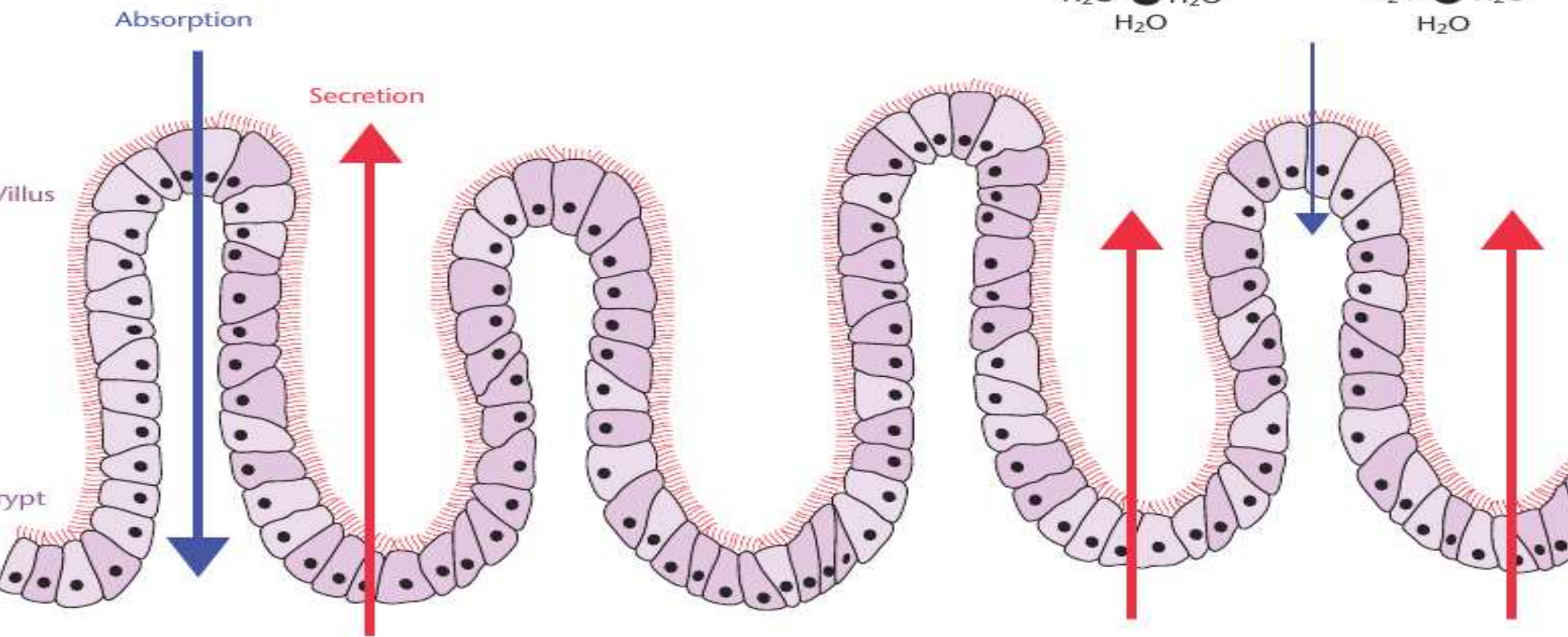
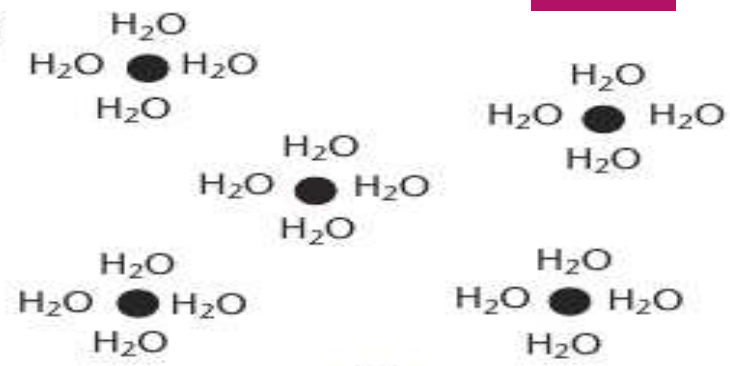


a)



Carbohydrate malabsorption  
 Osmotic laxatives  
 Malabsorption syndromes  
 -short bowel  
 -bacterial overgrowth  
 -mucosal destruction  
 -pancreatic insufficiency

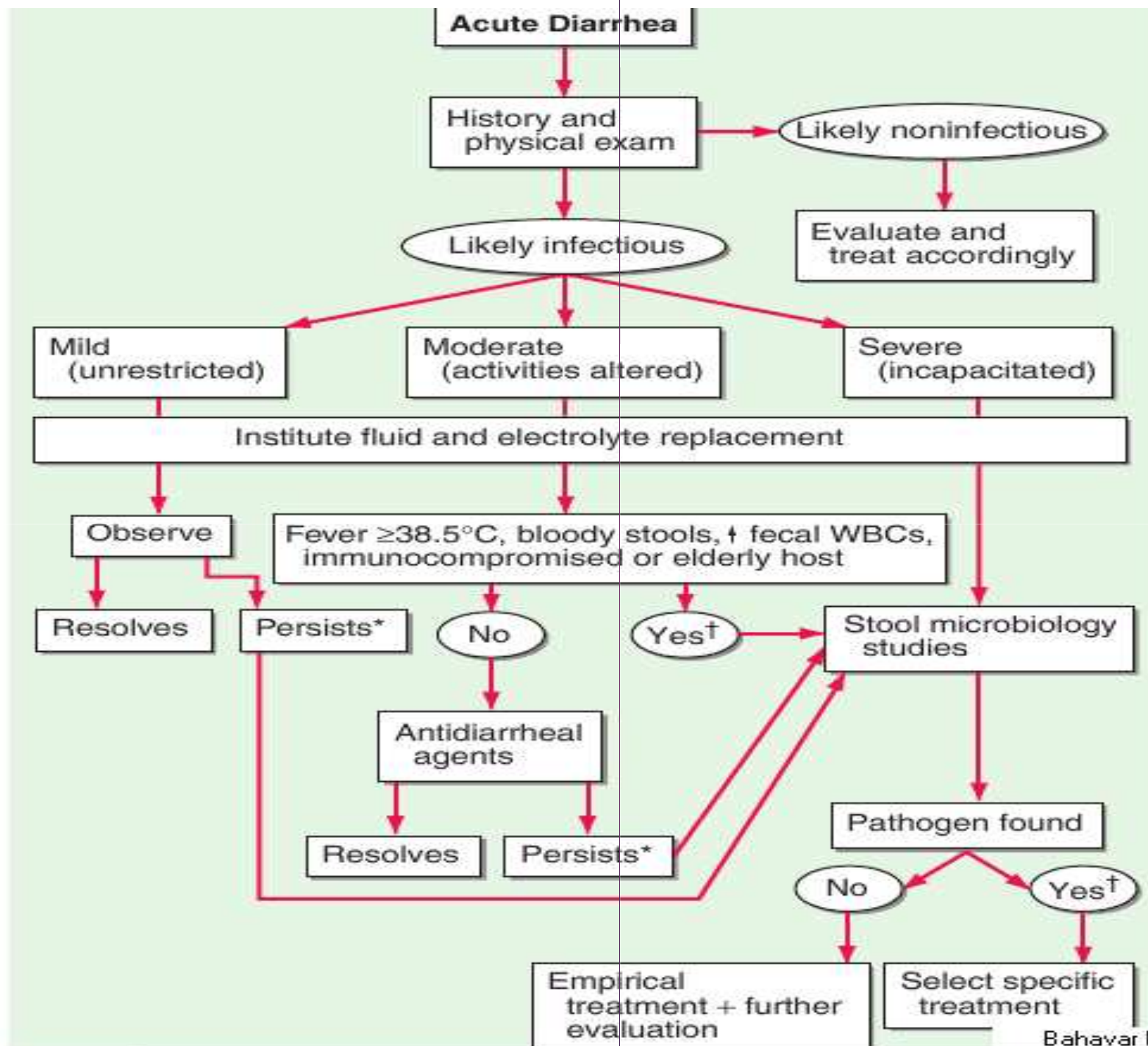
(b)



3 Causes and pathophysiology of osmotic diarrhea. The figure illustrates the pro-secretory effects of osmotic

carbohydrates. (This figure was published in *Clinical Gastroenterology* and M. Weinstein, Christopher J. Hawkey, Jaime Bos

PATHOBIOLOGY/AGENTS	INCUBATION PERIOD	VOMITING	ABDOMINAL PAIN	FEVER	DIARRHEA
<p>Toxin producers</p> <p>Preformed toxin</p> <p><i>Bacillus cereus</i>, <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>, <i>Clostridium perfringens</i></p> <p>Enterotoxin</p> <p><i>Vibrio cholerae</i>, enterotoxigenic <i>Escherichia coli</i>, <i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>, <i>Aeromonas</i> species</p>	<p>1–8 h</p> <p>8–24 h</p> <p>8–72 h</p>	<p>3–4+</p> <p>2–4+</p>	<p>1–2+</p> <p>1–2+</p>	<p>0–1+</p> <p>0–1+</p>	<p>3–4+, watery</p> <p>3–4+, watery</p>
<p>Enteroadherent</p> <p>Enteropathogenic and enteroadherent</p> <p><i>E. coli</i>, <i>Giardia</i> organisms, cryptosporidiosis, helminths</p>	<p>1–8 d</p>	<p>0–1+</p>	<p>1–3+</p>	<p>0–2+</p>	<p>1–2+, watery, mushy</p>
<p>Cytotoxin producers</p> <p><i>C. difficile</i></p> <p>Hemorrhagic <i>E. coli</i></p>	<p>1–3 d</p> <p>12–72 h</p>	<p>0–1+</p> <p>0–1+</p>	<p>3–4+</p> <p>3–4+</p>	<p>1–2+</p> <p>1–2+</p>	<p>1–3+, usually watery, occasionally bloody</p> <p>1–3+, initially watery, quickly bloody</p>
<p>Invasive organisms</p> <p>Minimal inflammation</p> <p>Rotavirus and norovirus</p> <p>Variable inflammation</p> <p><i>Salmonella</i>, <i>Campylobacter</i>, and</p>	<p>1–3 d</p> <p>12 h</p>	<p>1–3+</p>	<p>2–3+</p>	<p>3–4+</p> <p>3–4+</p>	<p>1–3+, watery</p> <p>1–4+, watery or</p>





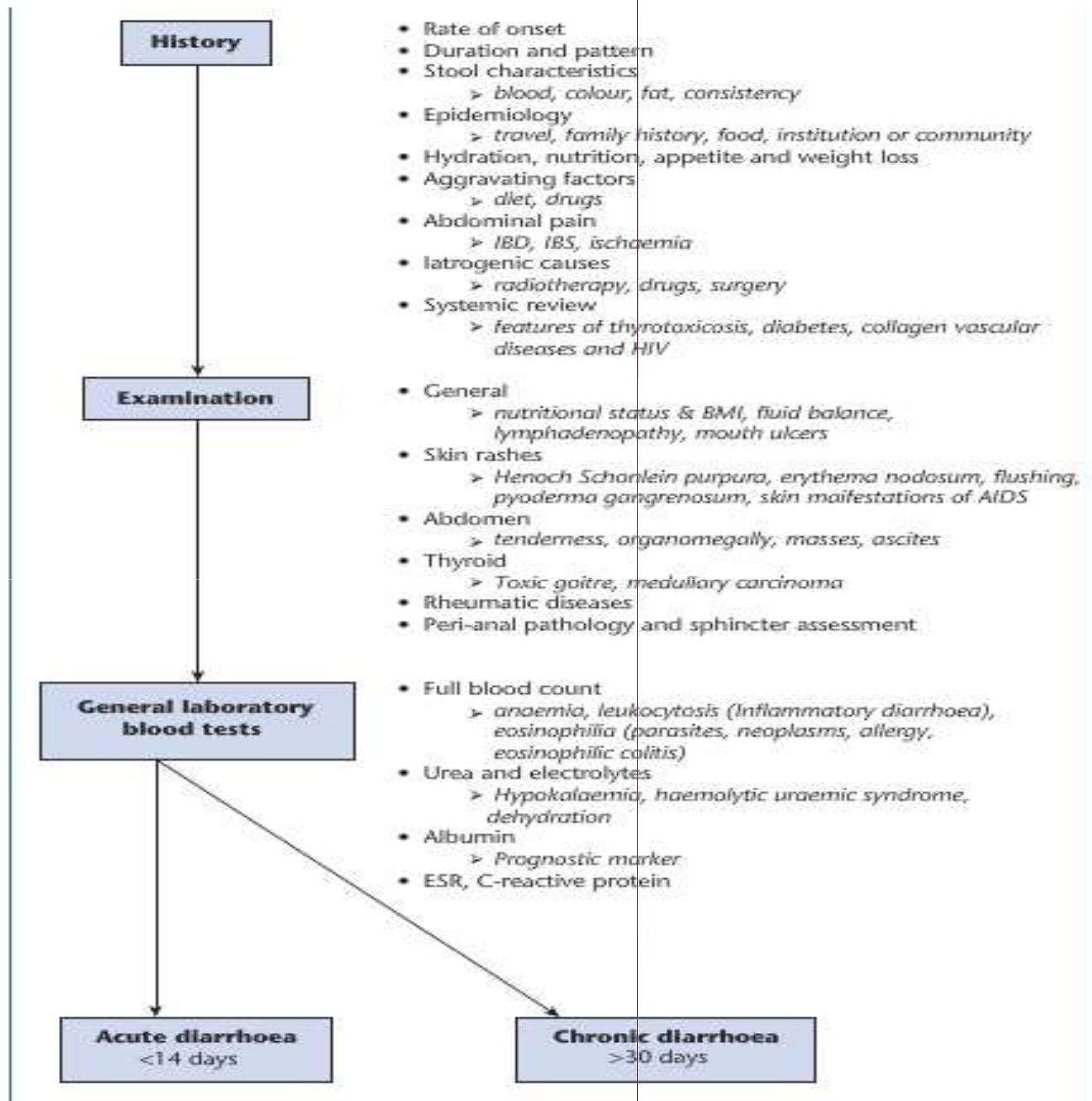


Figure 6.4 General investigations for diarrhea. (This figure was published in *Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology*, Wilfred M. Weinstein, Christopher J. Hawkey, Jaime Bosch, Diarrhea, Pages 1–8. Copyright Elsevier 2005.)

**Acute diarrhea**  
< 14 days

**Community acquired or  
traveller's diarrhea**

**Stools**

- *Campylobacter* spp.
- *Shigella* spp.
- *Salmonella* spp.
- *Escherichia coli* 0157:H7
- *Clostridium difficile* toxin if history of antibiotic use

**Institution acquired diarrhea**  
> 3 days in hospital

**Stools**

- *Clostridium difficile* toxins A and B

(a)

**Chronic diarrhea  
> 30 days**

**Basic investigations**

- Observation
  - > consistency, pale, blood, fat
- Microscopy and culture
  - > leukocytes (Inflammatory diarrhea), bacteria and protozoa (Giardia, Cryptosporidia, Cyclospora, Isospora belli)

**Comprehensive investigations**

- Quantitative 48 hr stool weight, >500 g/day
- Osmotic gap and osmolality
  - > osmotic or secretory diarrhea, dilutional diarrhea
- pH
  - > <5 indicates carbohydrate malabsorption
- Fat content
- TSH
- Celiac disease serology

- Sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy and biopsy
- Small bowel biopsy and aspirate

- Small intestinal barium
- CT abdomen

- Watery: secretory or osmotic
- Fatty

Stool examination

Additional blood tests

Endoscopy

Radiology

Investigation for specific categories of chronic diarrhea

(b)

**Watery diarrhea**

Osmotic gap <50 mOsm/kg  
Unresponsive to fasting

Osmotic gap >50 mOsm/kg  
Responsive to fasting

Secretory diarrhea

Osmotic diarrhea

- **Blood tests:** VIP, gastrin, calcitonin, enteroglucagon
- **Urine:** 5-hydroxyindole acetic acid, Vanillylmandelic acid
- **SeHCAT test.** If not available a trial of bile salt sequestrants

- **Stools:** Clinitest for reducing sugars, pH < 5 suggests carbohydrate malabsorption, Laxative screen, including Mg
- **Lactose H<sub>2</sub> breath test**

(c)

- **Small intestinal biopsy**
- **Breath tests:** H<sub>2</sub> glucose or lactulose breath test for bacterial overgrowth
- **Pancreatic radiology:** pancreatic protocol CT scan or MRCP
- **Pancreatic function testing:** fecal elastase, secretin test, pancreolauryl test, trial of pancreatic enzymes.
- **Small intestinal barium study**



History and examination

- Association of the onset of diarrhea and use of protease inhibitor
- Features of systemic infection

Blood tests

- HIV load
- CD4 count
- If febrile, blood culture

Stool examination

- Culture for *Shigella* spp., *Salmonella* spp., *Campylobacter* spp.
- Ova, cysts and paracytes
- *Clostridium difficile* toxins A and B
- Smears for acid-fast bacilli (AFB) and culture for *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC)
- Weber's modified trichrome for microsporidia
- Cryptosporidia ELISA

Endoscopy

- Select patients with CD4 < 200 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>, fever and weight loss
- Colonoscopy and ileoscopy (39% greater yield for CMV than sigmoidoscopy)
- Small intestinal biopsy

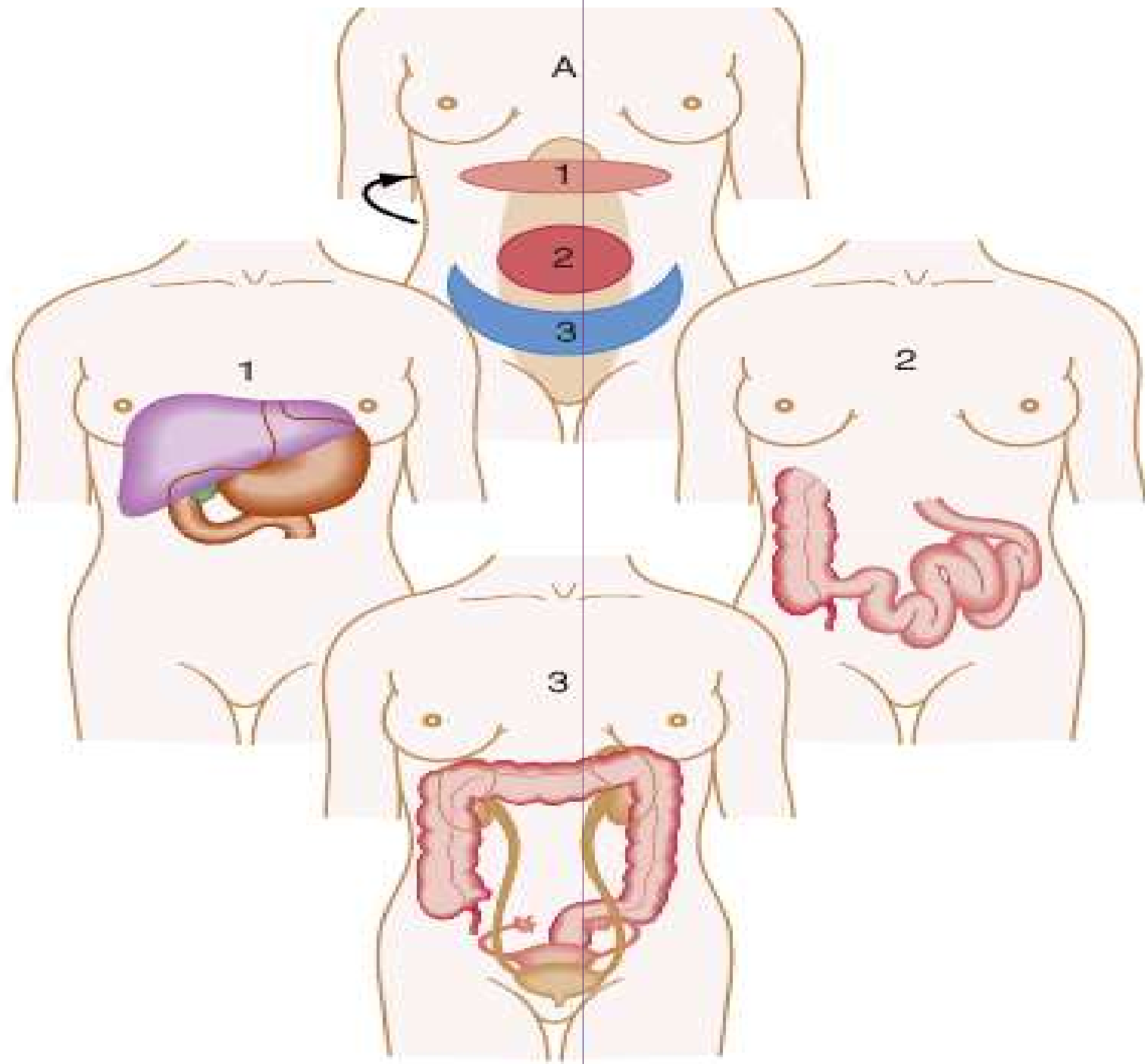






# Acute abdominal pain





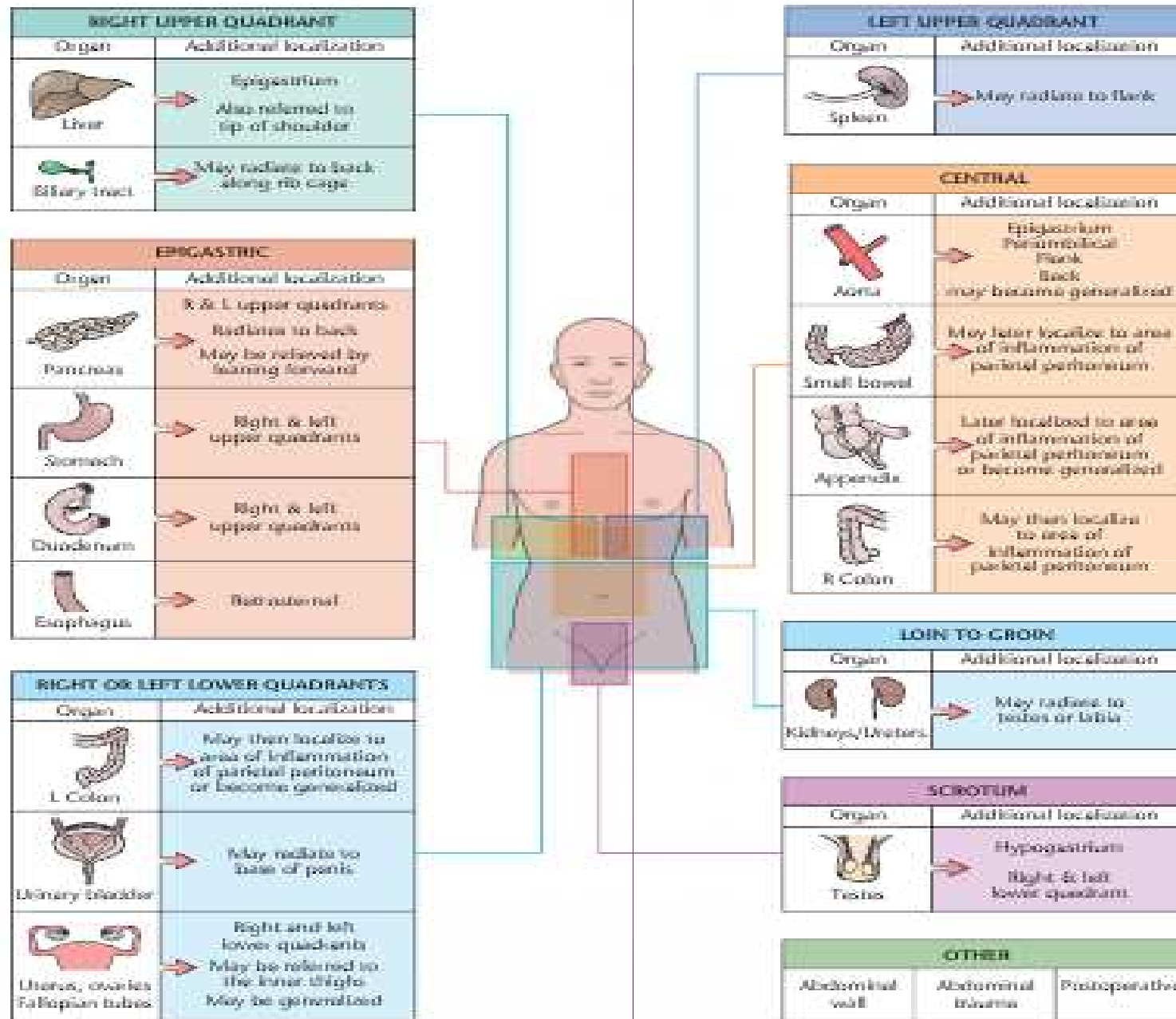
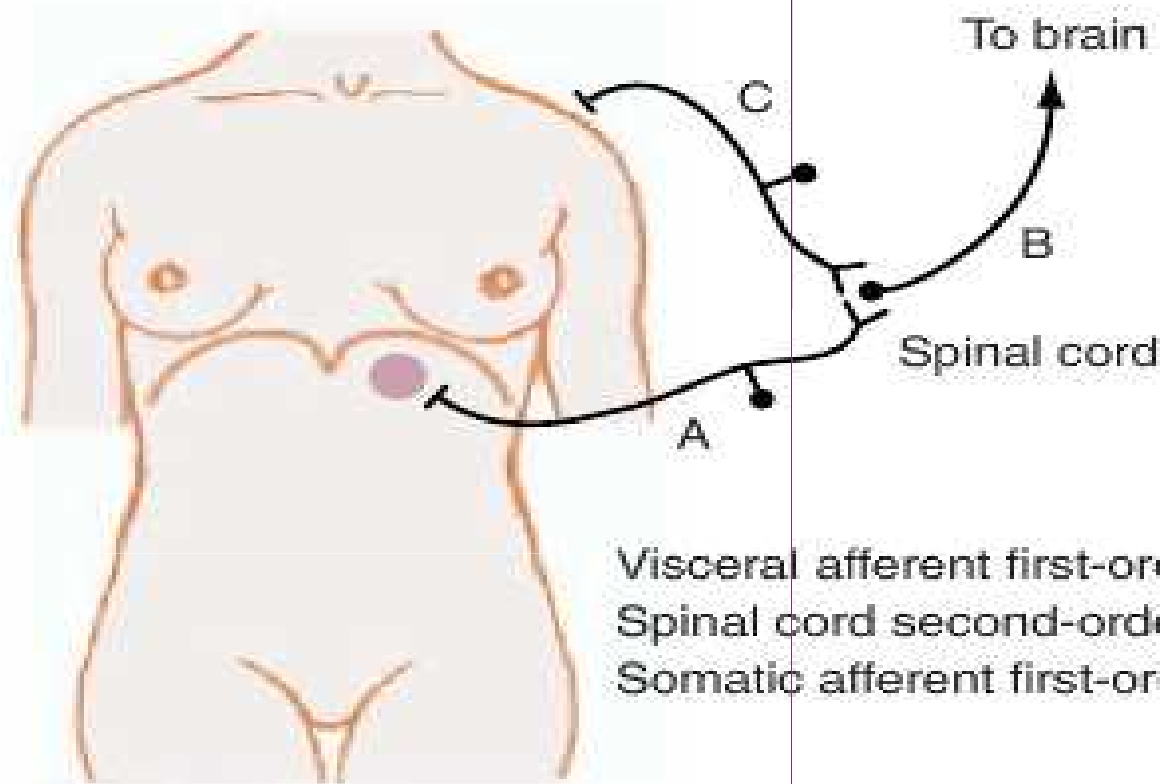
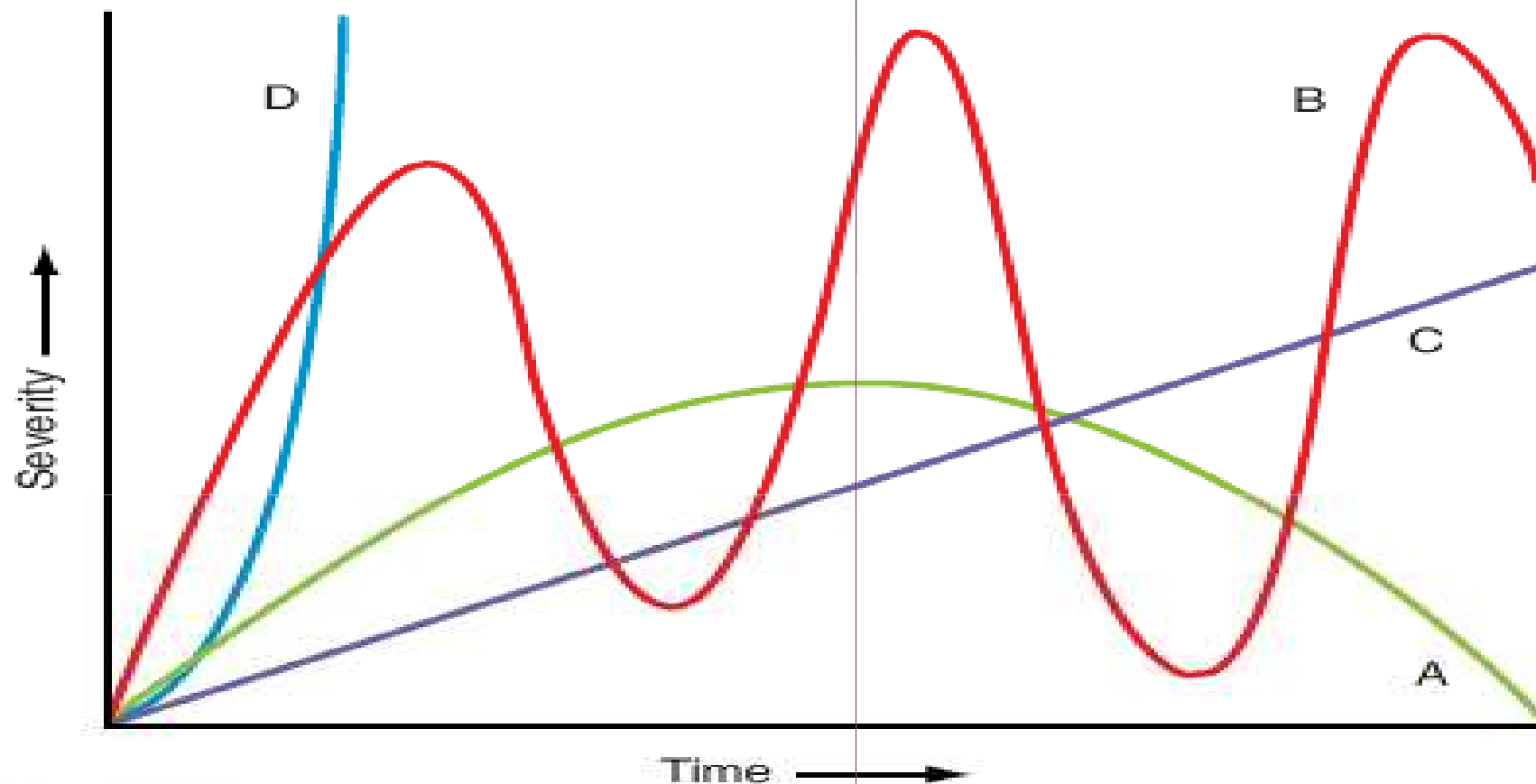


Figure 19.3 Sites of acute abdominal pain. (This figure was published in Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Wilfred M. Weinstein, Christopher J. Hawkey, James Booth, Acute abdominal pain, Pages 1-14; Copyright Elsevier, 2005.)



- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Visceral afferent first-order neuron | A |
| Spinal cord second-order neuron      | B |
| Somatic afferent first-order neuron  | C |

**Figure 10-3.** Demonstration of the neuroanatomic basis of referred pain. Visceral afferent fibers that innervate the diaphragm can be stimulated by local irritation (e.g., subdiaphragmatic abscess [circle]). These visceral afferent fibers (A) synapse with second-order neurons in the spinal cord (B) as well as somatic afferent fibers (C) arising from the left shoulder area (cervical roots 3 to 5). The brain interprets the pain to be somatic in origin and localizes it to the shoulder.



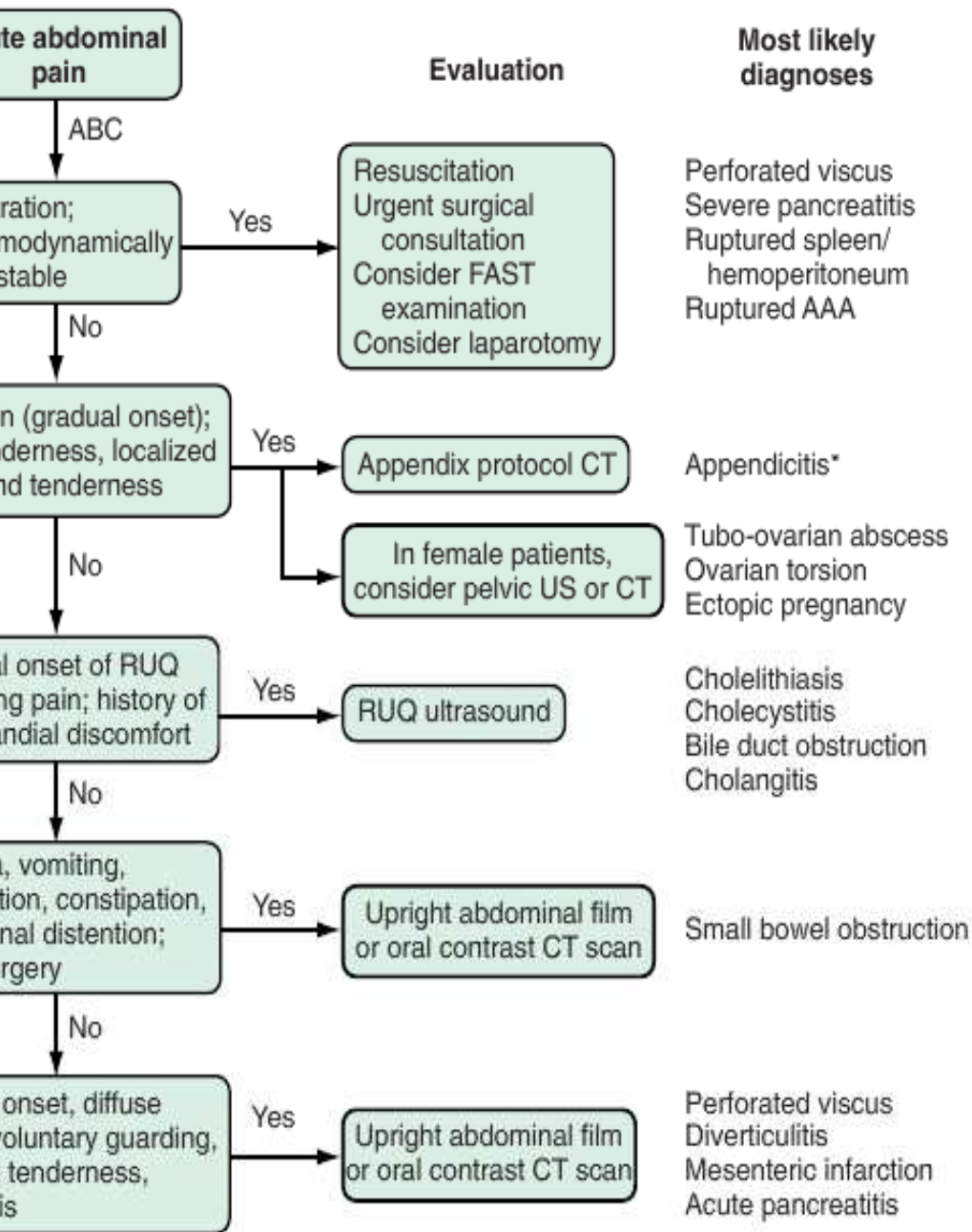
**Figure 10-4.** Patterns of acute abdominal pain. *A*, Many causes of abdominal pain subside spontaneously with time (e.g., gastroenteritis). *B*, Some pain is colicky (i.e., the pain progresses and remits over time); examples include intestinal, renal, and biliary pain (colic). The time course may vary widely from minutes in intestinal and renal pain to days, weeks, or even months in biliary pain. *C*, Commonly, acute abdominal pain is progressive, as in acute appendicitis or diverticulitis. *D*, Certain conditions have a catastrophic onset, such as ruptured abdominal aortic aneurysm.



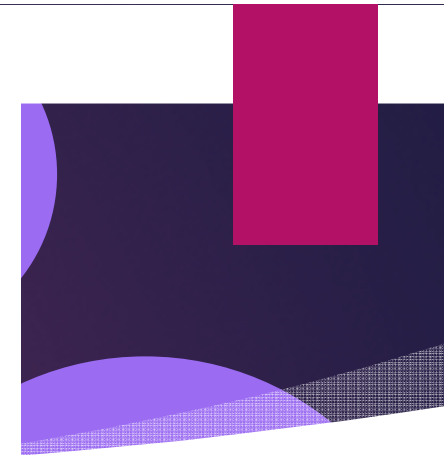
## 10-1 Comparison of Common Causes of Acute Abdominal Pain

CAUSE	ONSET	LOCATION	CHARACTER	DESCRIPTOR	RADIATION	INTENSITY
Appendicitis	Gradual	Periumbilical area early; RLQ late	Diffuse early; localized late	Ache	None	++
Cholecystitis	Acute	RUQ	Localized	Constricting	Scapula	++
Hepatitis	Acute	Epigastrium, back	Localized	Boring	Midback	++ to +++
Diverticulitis	Gradual	LLQ	Localized	Ache	None	++
Unhealed peptic ulcer	Sudden	Epigastrium	Localized early, diffuse late	Burning	None	+++
Small bowel obstruction	Gradual	Periumbilical area	Diffuse	Cramping	None	++
Mesenteric ischemia, infarction	Sudden	Periumbilical area	Diffuse	Agonizing	None	+++
Dissecting abdominal aortic aneurysm	Sudden	Abdomen, back, flank	Diffuse	Tearing	None	+++
Enteritis	Gradual	Periumbilical area	Diffuse	Spasmodic	None	+ to ++
Inflammatory disease	Gradual	Either LQ, pelvis	Localized	Ache	Upper thigh	++
Ruptured ectopic pregnancy	Sudden	Either LQ, pelvis	Localized	Sharp	None	++

++ = moderate; +++ = severe; LLQ = left lower quadrant; LQ = lower quadrant; RLQ = right lower quadrant; RUQ = right upper quadrant.



**Figure 10-5.** An approach to the urgent evaluation of abdominal pain. Specific complaints and physical examination findings are coupled with appropriate radiologic imaging. AAA, abdominal aortic aneurysm; ABC, airway, breathing, circulation; CT, computed tomography; FAST, focused abdominal sonogram for trauma; RLQ, right lower quadrant; RUQ, right upper quadrant; US, ultrasound. \*For left lower quadrant pain, the most likely diagnosis is diverticulitis.



## SOME IMPORTANT CAUSES OF ABDOMINAL PAIN

### Pain Originating in the Abdomen

Parietal peritoneal inflammation  
Bacterial contamination  
Perforated appendix or other perforated viscus  
Pelvic inflammatory disease  
Chemical irritation  
Perforated ulcer  
Pancreatitis  
Mittelschmerz  
Mechanical obstruction of hollow viscera  
Obstruction of the small or large intestine  
Obstruction of the biliary tree  
Obstruction of the ureter

Vascular disturbances  
Embolism or thrombosis  
Vascular rupture  
Pressure or torsional occlusion  
Sickle cell anemia  
Abdominal wall  
Distortion or traction of mesentery  
Trauma or infection of muscles  
Distention of visceral surfaces, e.g., by hemorrhage  
Hepatic or renal capsules  
Inflammation of a viscus  
Appendicitis  
Typhoid fever  
Typhlitis

### Pain Referred from Extraabdominal Source

Cardiothoracic  
Acute myocardial infarction  
Myocarditis, endocarditis, pericarditis  
Congestive heart failure  
Pneumonia  
Pulmonary embolus

Pleurodynia  
Pneumothorax  
Empyema  
Esophageal disease, spasm, rupture, inflammation  
Genitalia  
Torsion of the testis

### Metabolic Causes

Diabetes  
Uremia  
Hyperlipidemia  
Hyperparathyroidism

Acute adrenal insufficiency  
Familial Mediterranean fever  
Porphyria  
C'1 esterase inhibitor deficiency (angioneurotic edema)

### Neurologic/Psychiatric Causes

Herpes zoster  
Tabes dorsalis  
Causalgia  
Radiculitis from infection or arthritis

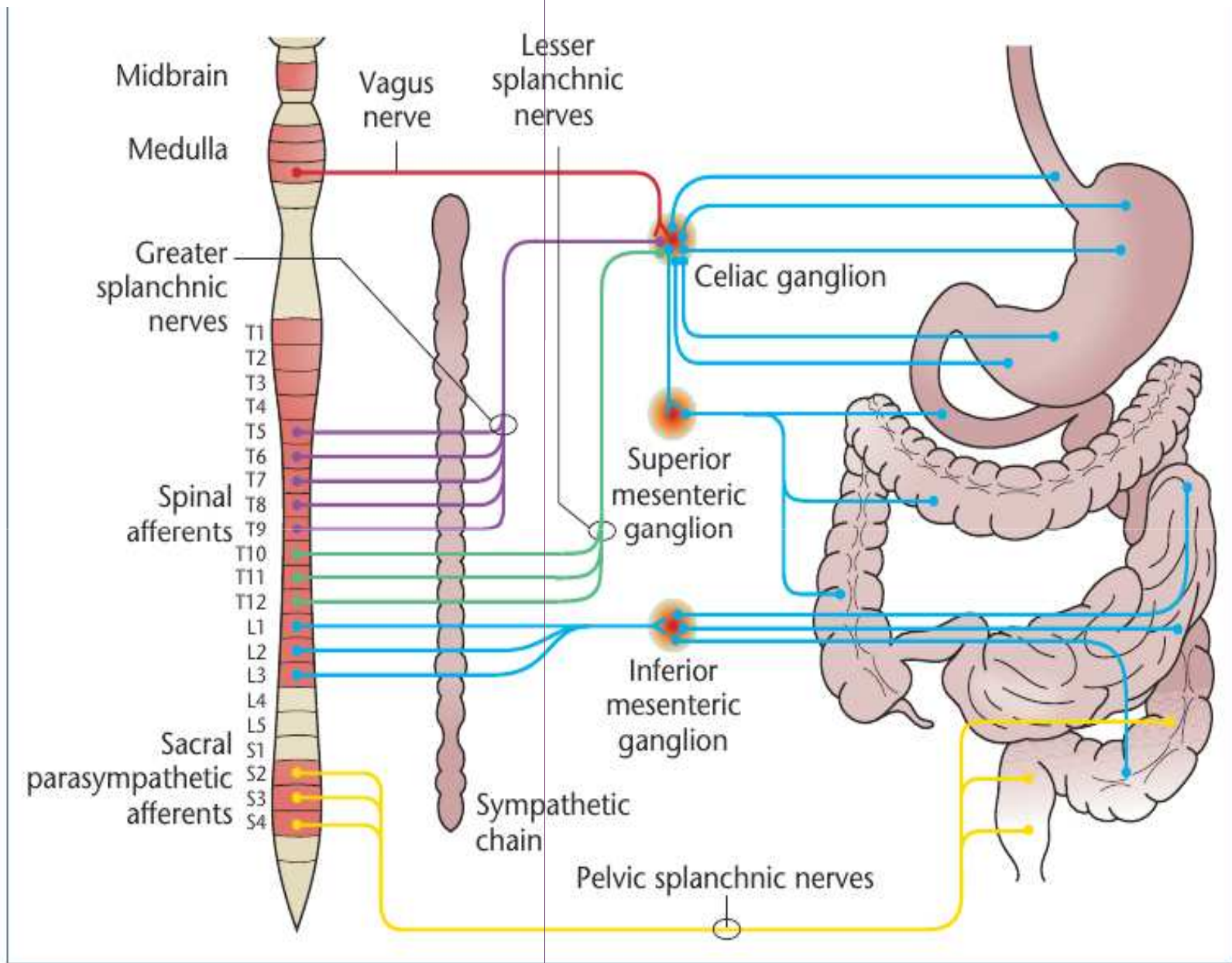
Spinal cord or nerve root compression  
Functional disorders  
Psychiatric disorders

### Toxic Causes

Lead poisoning  
Insect or animal envenomations  
Black widow spiders  
Snake bites

### Uncertain Mechanisms

Narcotic withdrawal  
Heat stroke



**Figure 19.1** Efferent autonomic pathways of the gastrointestinal tract. The parasympathetic pathways are shown in purple and the sympathetic pathways are shown in red. (Reproduced from Mertz HR, Mayer EA. Functional gastrointestinal syndromes. In: Zinner MJ, Schwartz SI, Ellis H, eds. *Maingot's abdominal surgery*. Philadelphia: JB Lippincott Williams & Wilkins; 2000:100-101.)



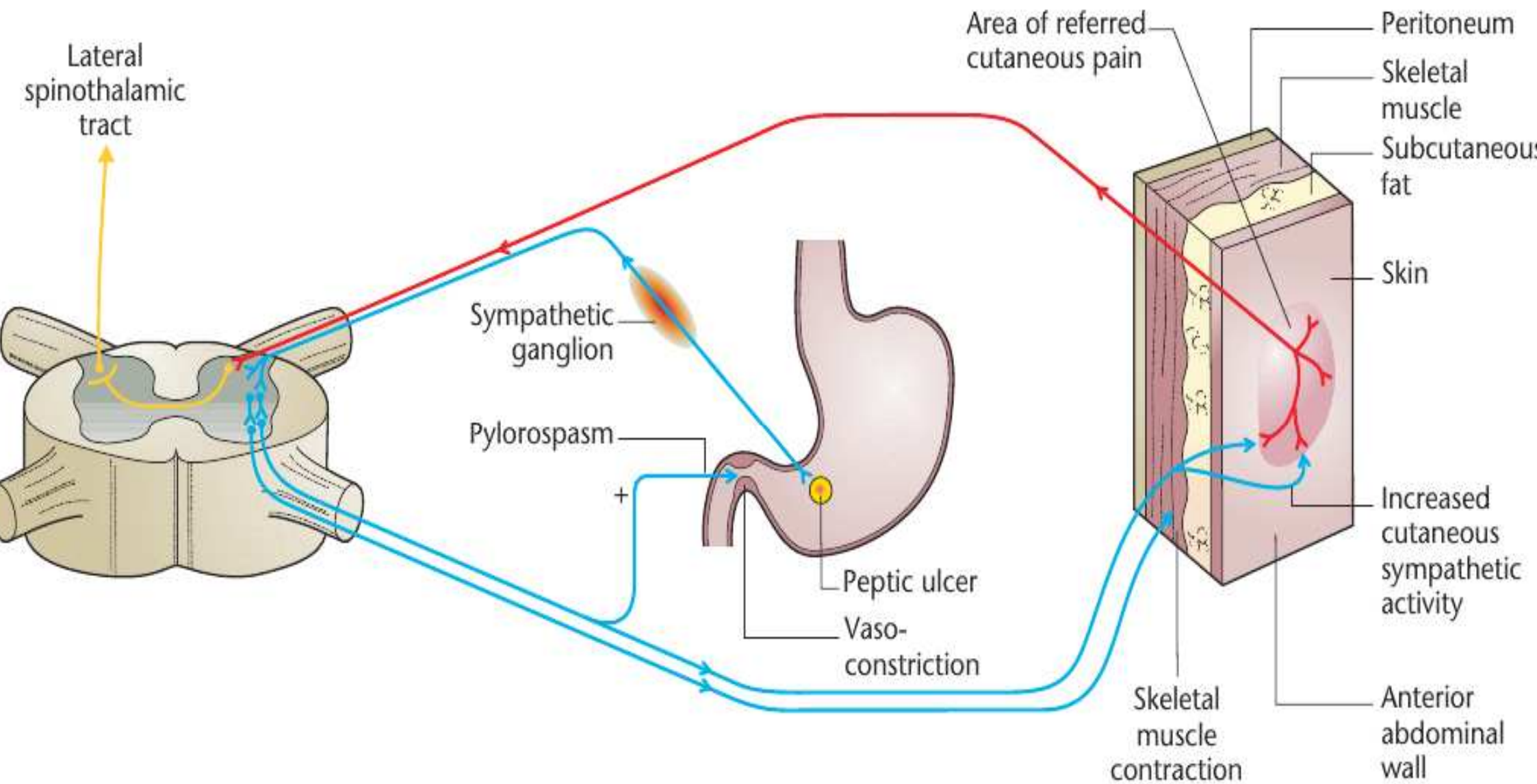


Figure 19.2 Visceral pain pathway from the gastrointestinal tract. (This figure was published in *Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology*, Wilfred M. Weinstein)



**Table 19.2** Extra-abdominal/systemic causes of acute abdominal pain

Lungs	Lobar pneumonia Pleurisy Pulmonary embolism
Heart	Acute myocardial infarction Congestive cardiac failure Myocarditis
Metabolic/endocrine	Porphyrias Diabetic ketoacidosis Lead poisoning Hypercalcemia Adrenal insufficiency
Vasculitis	Henoch-Schonlein purpura Systemic lupus Polyarteritis nodosa Familial Mediterranean fever

**Table 19.4** Questions to ask when taking the patient history

- When and where did the pain start?
- Was the onset sudden and what brought the pain on?
- Where is it now?
- What is the character of the pain?
- How severe is it?
- Does the pain radiate elsewhere?
- Are there any aggravating or relieving factors?
- Has this happened before?
- Are there any associated symptoms? (e.g., distention, nausea, vomiting, fever, diarrhea, absolute constipation, anorexia, jaundice, pruritus, gastrointestinal bleeding, dysuria, oliguria, chest pain)
- When was your last period and is there any chance of you being pregnant?
- History of alcohol intake
- Drug (medicinal and recreational) history
- History of ingestion of toxins, poisons or foreign bodies
- History of previous surgery
- History of pre-existing disease
- History of travel, especially foreign travel
- Family history

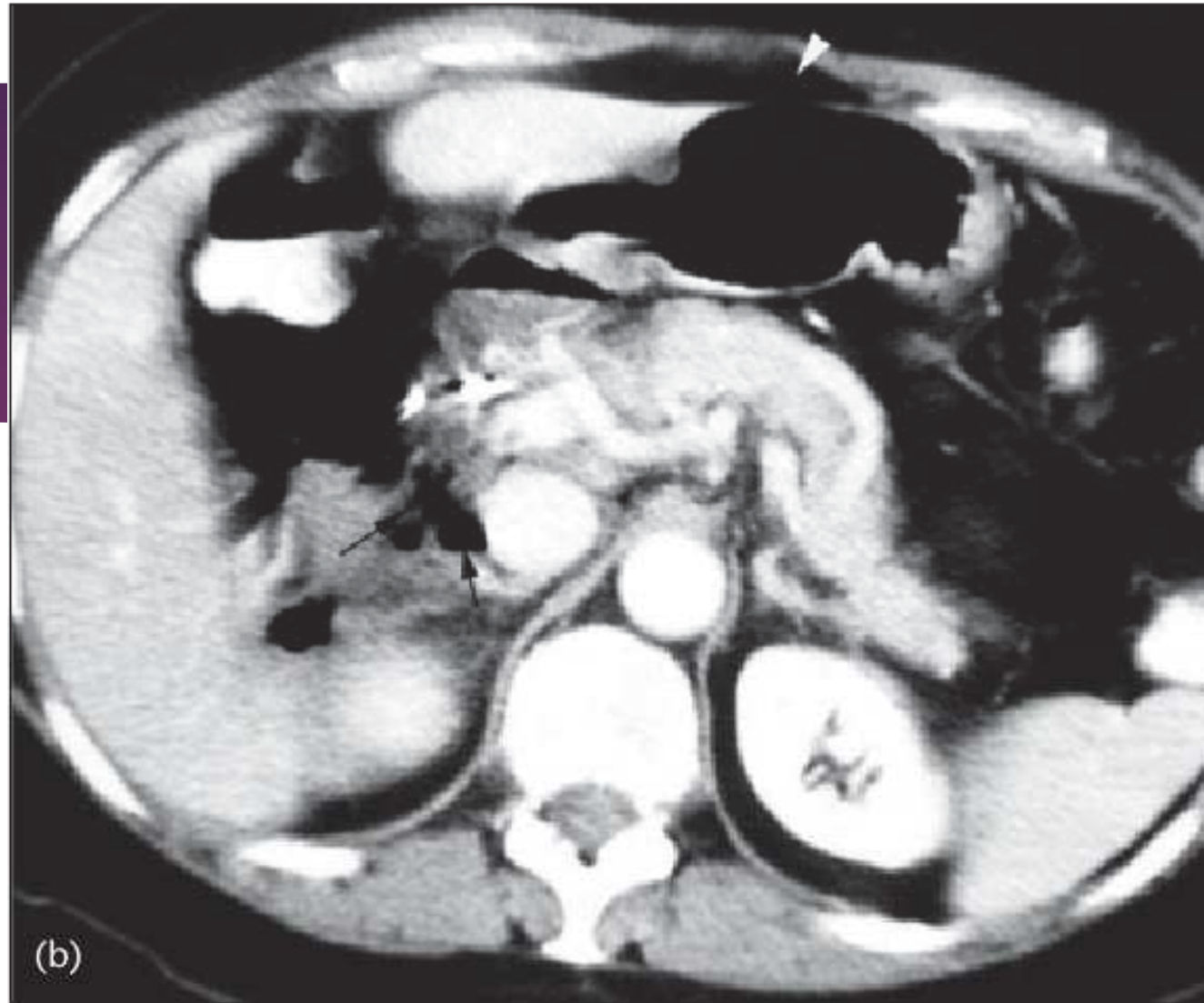
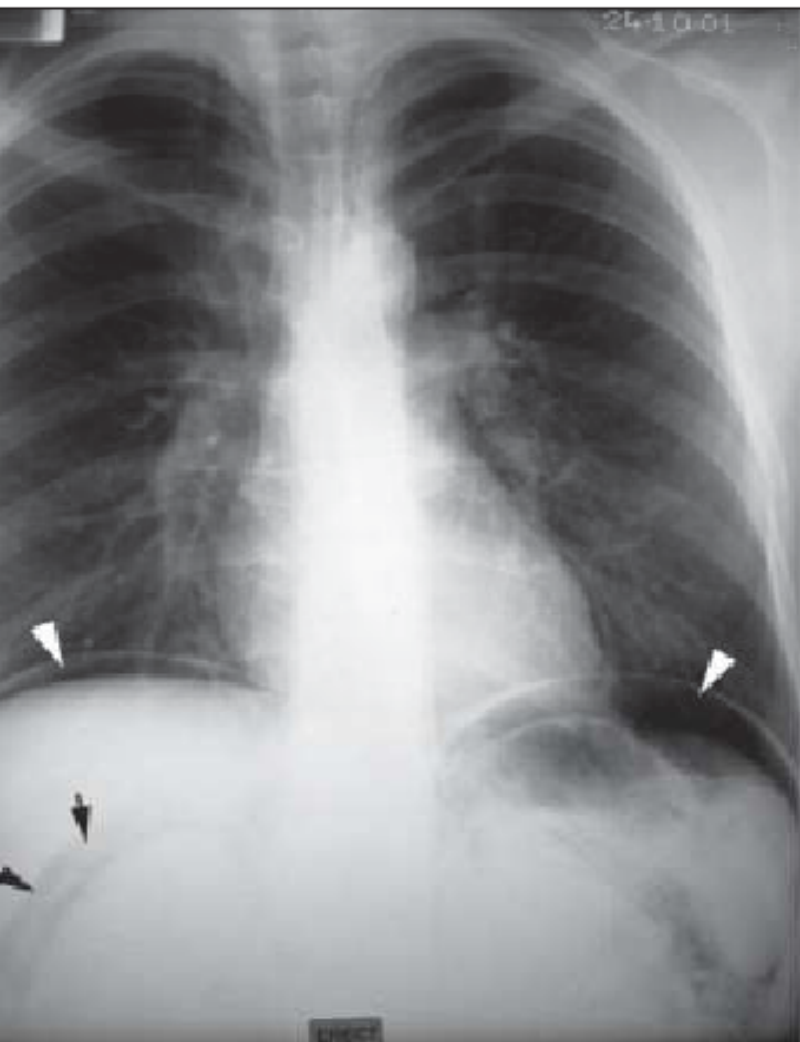
## 19.5 Investigations for acute abdominal pain

Investigations	Subcategory/comment	Interpretation/usefulness
Full blood count	Hemoglobin ↓ Hemoglobin ↑ Leukocytes ↑ Leukocytes ↓ Platelets ↑ Platelets ↓	Blood loss Dehydration/hemoconcentration/polycythemia Inflammation or infection Overwhelming inflammation Active inflammatory bowel disease Overwhelming sepsis
Urea and electrolytes	Creatinine ↑ Urea ↑ Electrolytes	Renal failure Dehydration/hemoconcentration
Serum amylase	Fourfold increase Lesser increases	Acute pancreatitis (but may be normal) Almost any acute abdominal condition
Liver function tests	Biliary enzymes Transaminases/mixed	Obstructive jaundice (but alkaline phosphatase slow to rise with acute obstruction) Acute liver injury sepsis, cholangitis
Ionized calcium	Calcium ↑	Medical cause of abdominal pain
Fasting blood glucose	Glucose ↑	Ketoacidosis can cause abdominal pain
Cultures	Urine/blood	Prelude to antibiotics
Group and cross match		Prelude to surgery, transfusion



Investigations	Subcategory/comment	Interpretation/usefulness
Pregnancy test		Ruptured ectopic
Electrocardiogram		Myocardial infarction as cause of abdominal pain. Preoperative investigation for patients over the age of 50 years
Supine abdominal X-ray	Intestinal lumen and pattern	Obstruction; ileus, IBD
Erect chest x-ray	Calcification Pneumobilia Foreign bodies Skeletal abnormalities Soft tissue masses	Gallstones(10%), renal stones, pancreatic calcification, aortic rim Ascending cholangitis
Lateral decubitus film	Detection of free subdiaphragmatic air	Perforation. Also look at lung fields and cardiac contour
Abdominal ultrasound	≥1 mL of free peritoneal gas can be visualized	Perforation
Abdominal CT scan	Percutaneous ultrasound Transvaginal ultrasound	Bile duct dilatation, gallstones, fluid collections, aortic aneurysms Gynecological causes
Intravenous urography/CT kidney, ureters and bladder (KUB)	Value high especially with intravenous and intraluminal contrast enhancement	Multiple diagnoses Provides both anatomical and etiological diagnosis
Magnetic resonance imaging	Important if blood in urine MRCP	Urological causes Useful in urological trauma
Gastrointestinal contrast studies	Not as popular as CT for the acute abdomen.	Excellent images of biliary tract pathology
Visceral angiography	Lower GI	Large bowel obstruction vs. pseudo-obstruction (may be therapeutic)
	Upper GI	Cryptic perforation or obstruction
Endoscopy	Diagnostic	Intestinal ischemia, obscure bleeding
	Therapeutic	Embolization in gastrointestinal bleeding
Endoscopy	Upper and lower GI endoscopy	Helpful in selected cases
	Sigmoidoscopy	May be therapeutic for sigmoid volvulus
	ERCP	Therapeutic in biliary obstruction, especially ascending cholangitis

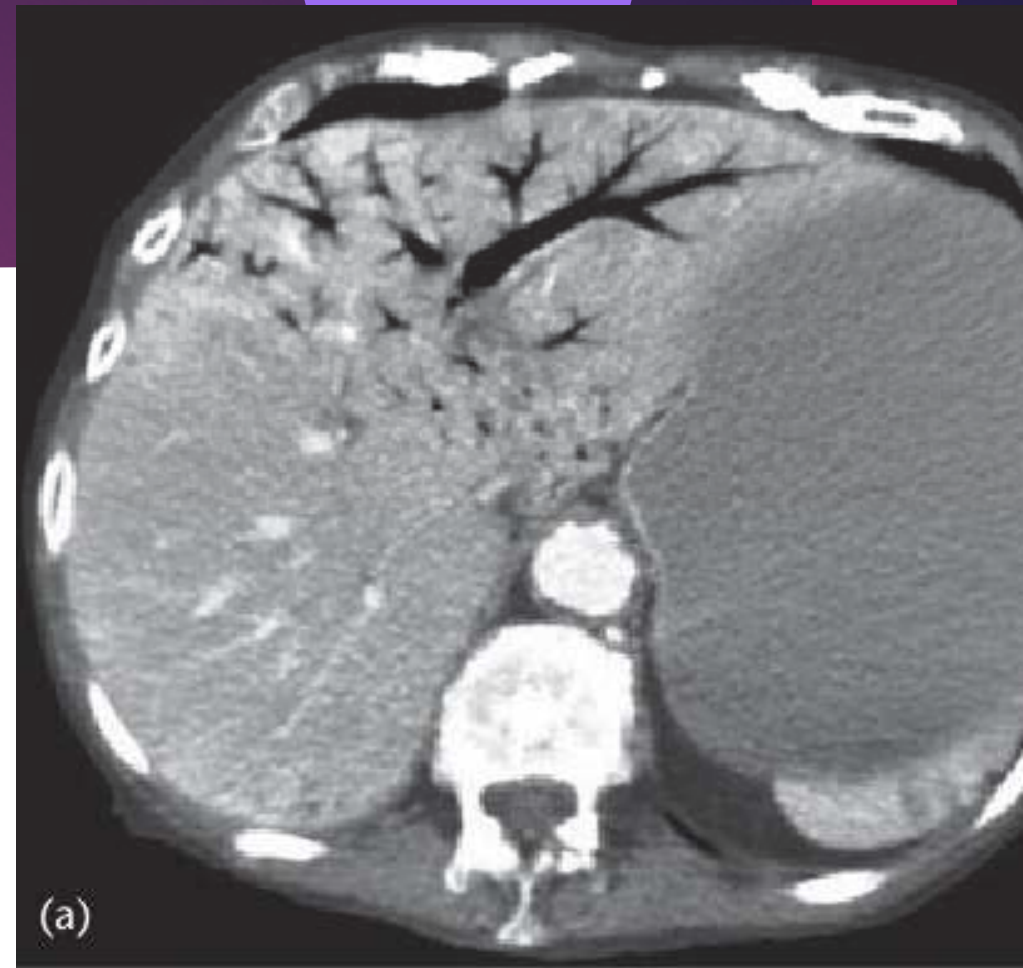


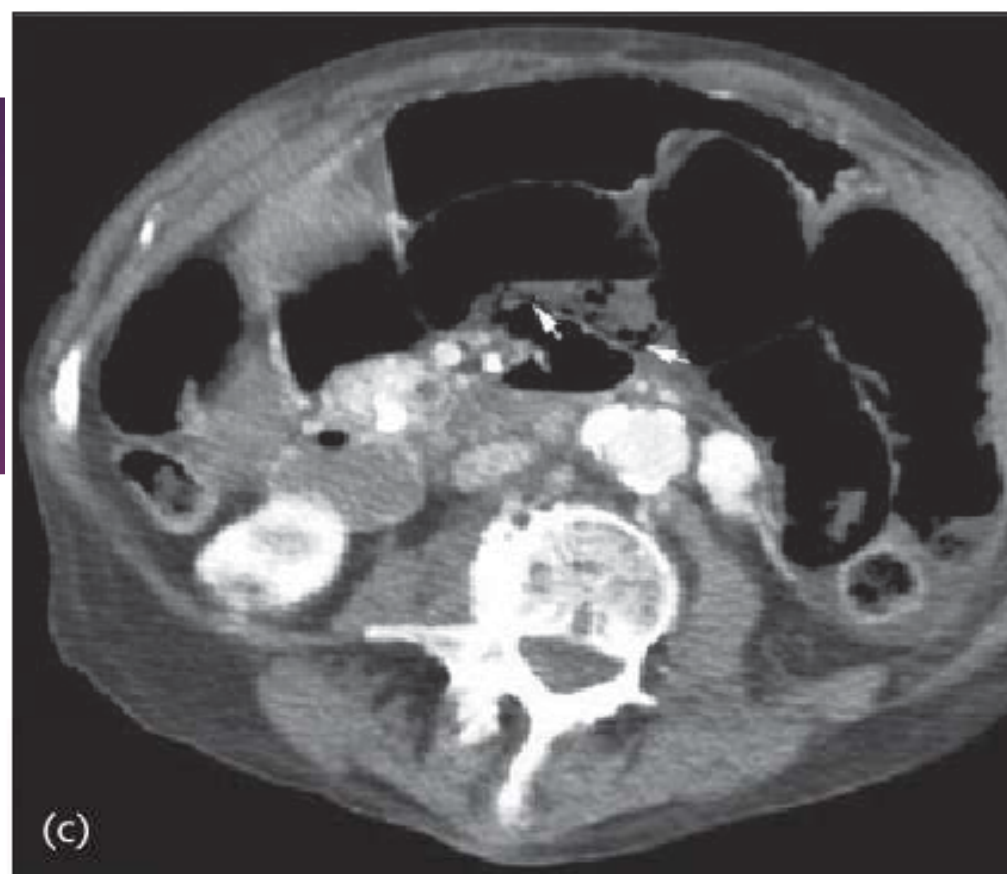
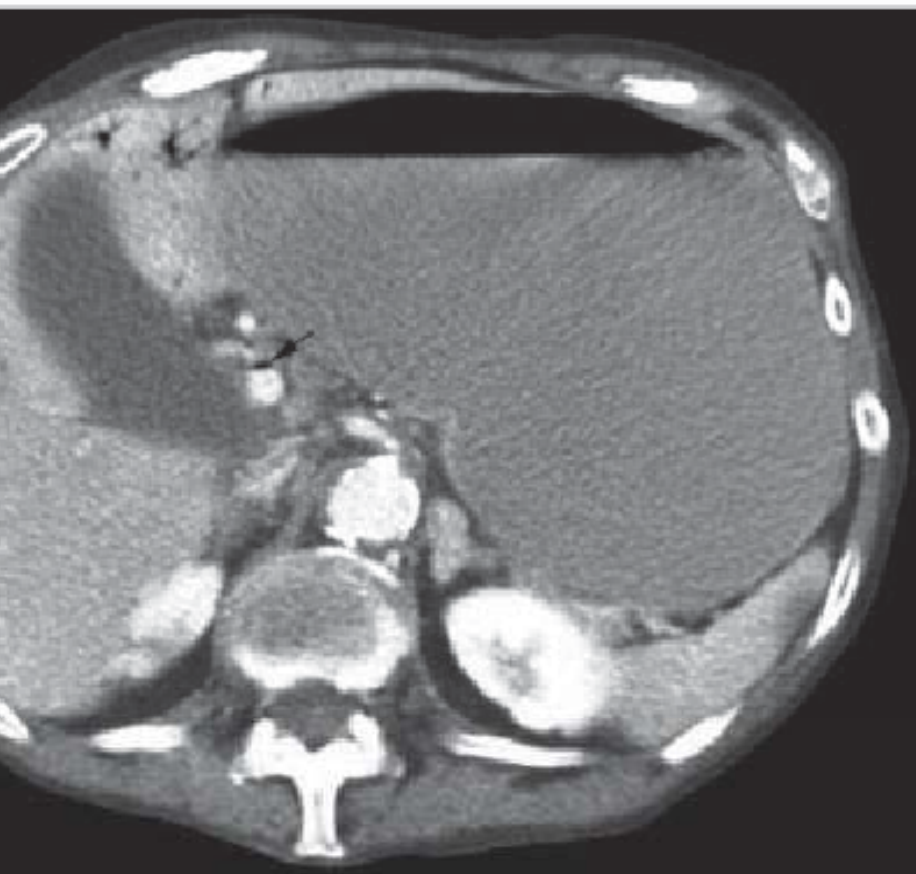


9.4 Intraperitoneal and retroperitoneal gas. Chest >



9.5 Gallstone ileus. Supine abdominal X-ray demonstrating cecocolic intussusception (black arrowhead) and a radiopaque gallstone obstructing the terminal ileum (white arrow).





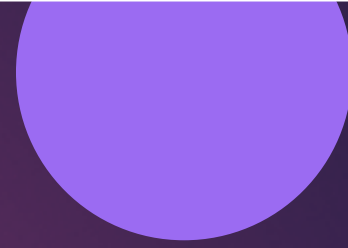
**Figure 19.8** Acute mesenteric ischemia. Abdominal CT scans done at admission showing (a) gas in the intrahepatic branches of the left portal vein, (b) intravenous contrast and gas (arrow) in the main portal vein and (c) intramural bowel gas (arrows).

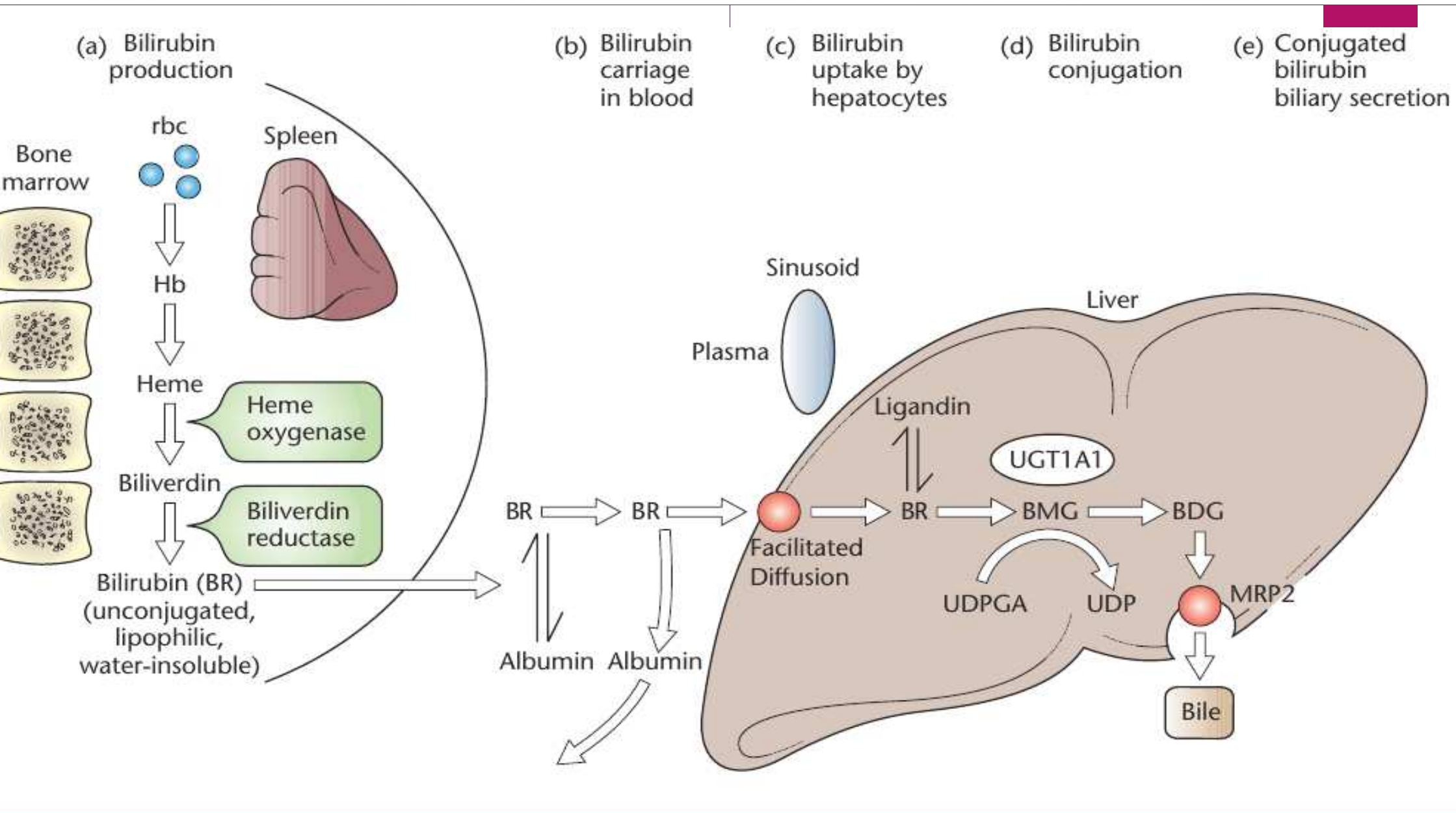






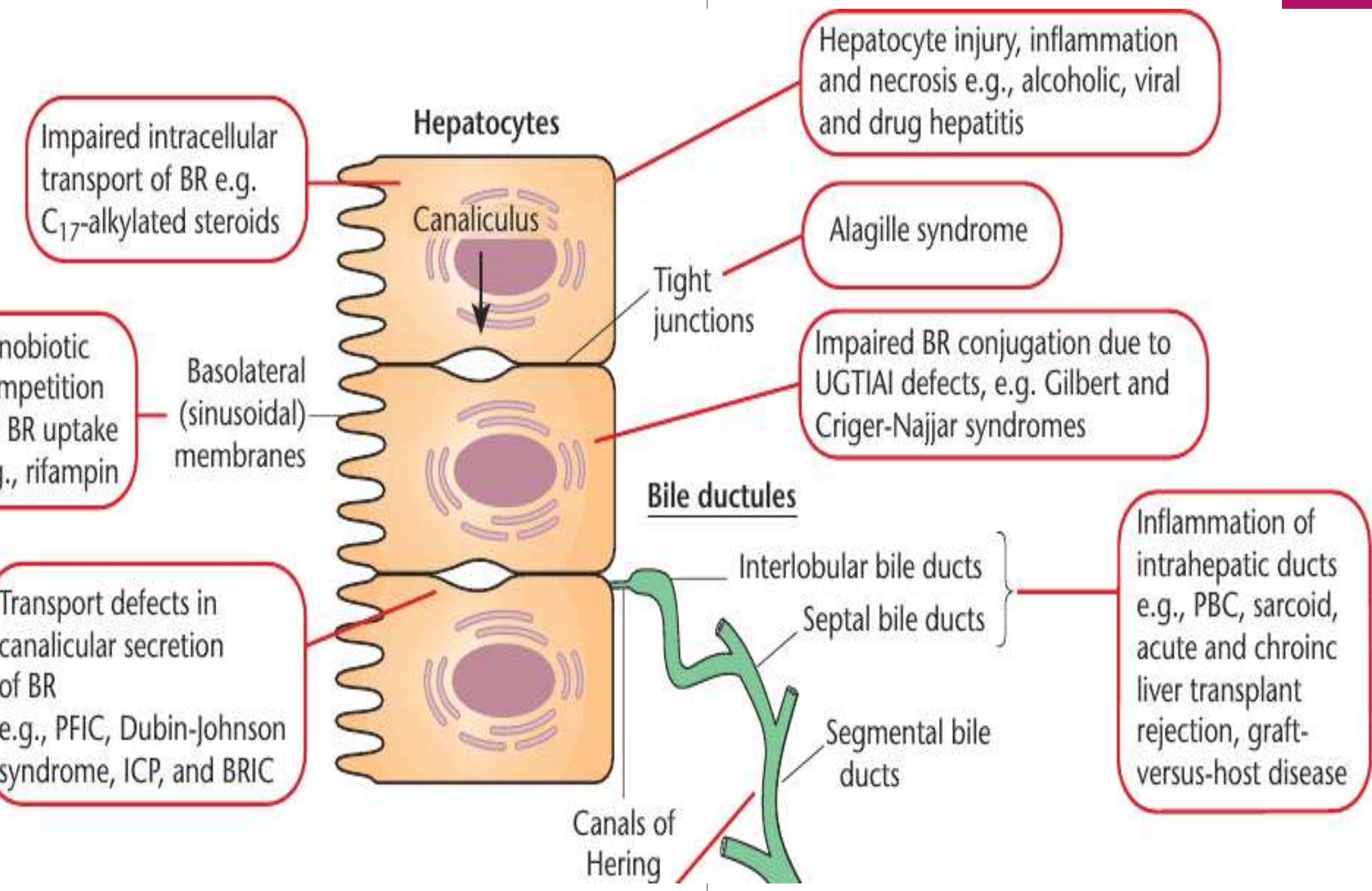
# Jaundice



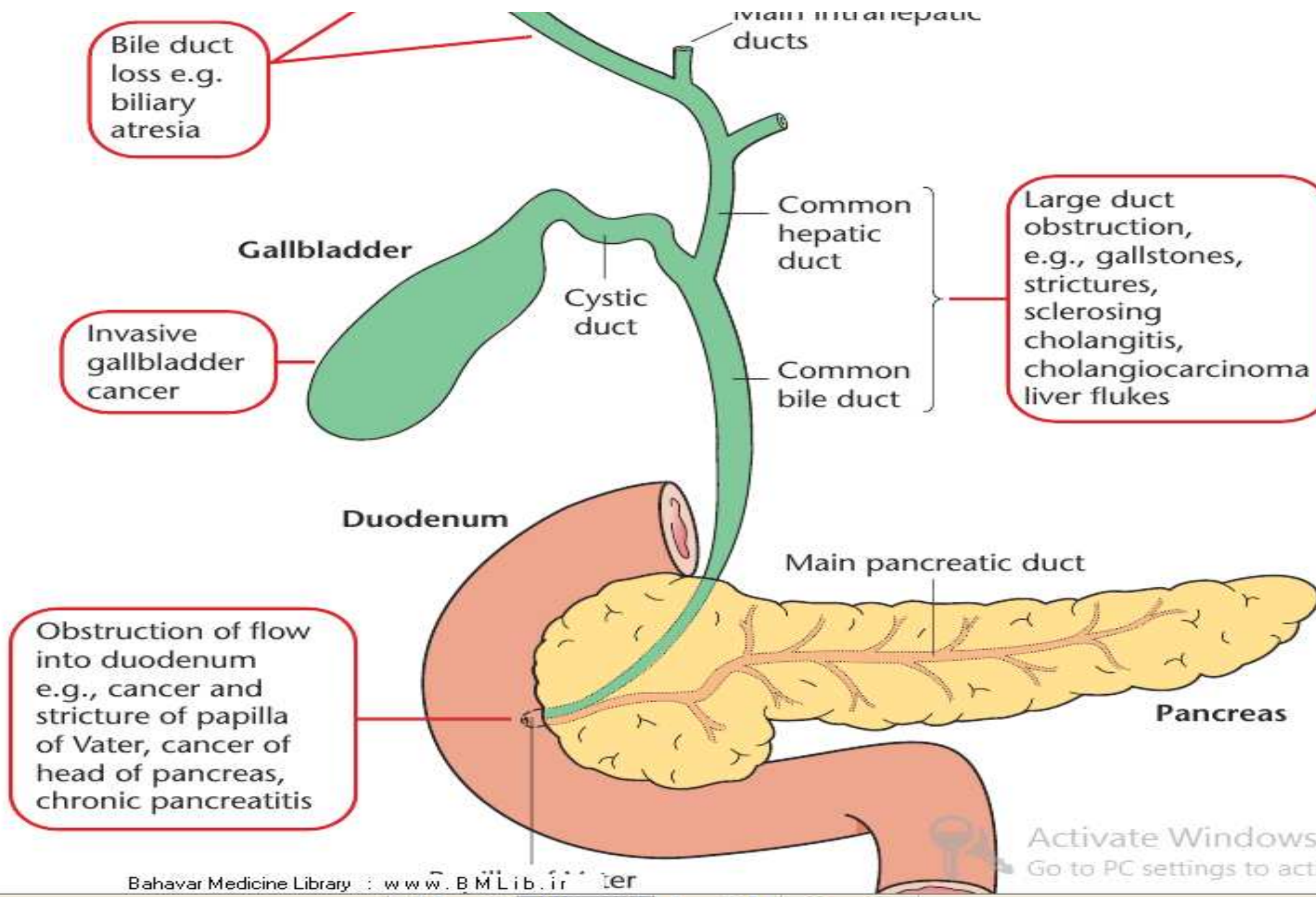


**Figure 15.1** Overview of bilirubin production, transport in blood, hepatocyte uptake, conjugation, and biliary secretion. BDG, bilirubin diglucuronide; BMG, bilirubin monoglucuronide; BR, bilirubin; Hb, hemoglobin.

UGT1A1, 1A1 (bilirubin-specific) uridine diphosphoglucuronosyltransferase enzyme. (This figure was published in *Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology*; Wilfred M. Weinstein, Christopher J. Hawkey, Jaime Bosch, et al. © 2005 Springer.)









## CAUSES AND DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

### Causes of jaundice

#### *Bilirubin overproduction*

- Excessive red cell breakdown (hemolysis, hematomas, etc.)
- Ineffective erythropoiesis
- Nonhemoglobin hemoprotein degradation (myoglobin)

#### *Disordered plasma transport of bilirubin*

- Intravenous albumin infusion
- Conjugated bilirubin–albumin, irreversibly bound

#### *Impaired uptake of bilirubin by hepatocytes*

- Disruption of sinusoid–hepatocyte interface (cirrhosis)
- Reduced or bypassed hepatic blood flow
- Xenobiotic competition for bilirubin uptake (e.g., by rifampin)

#### *Reduced intrahepatic bilirubin conjugation*

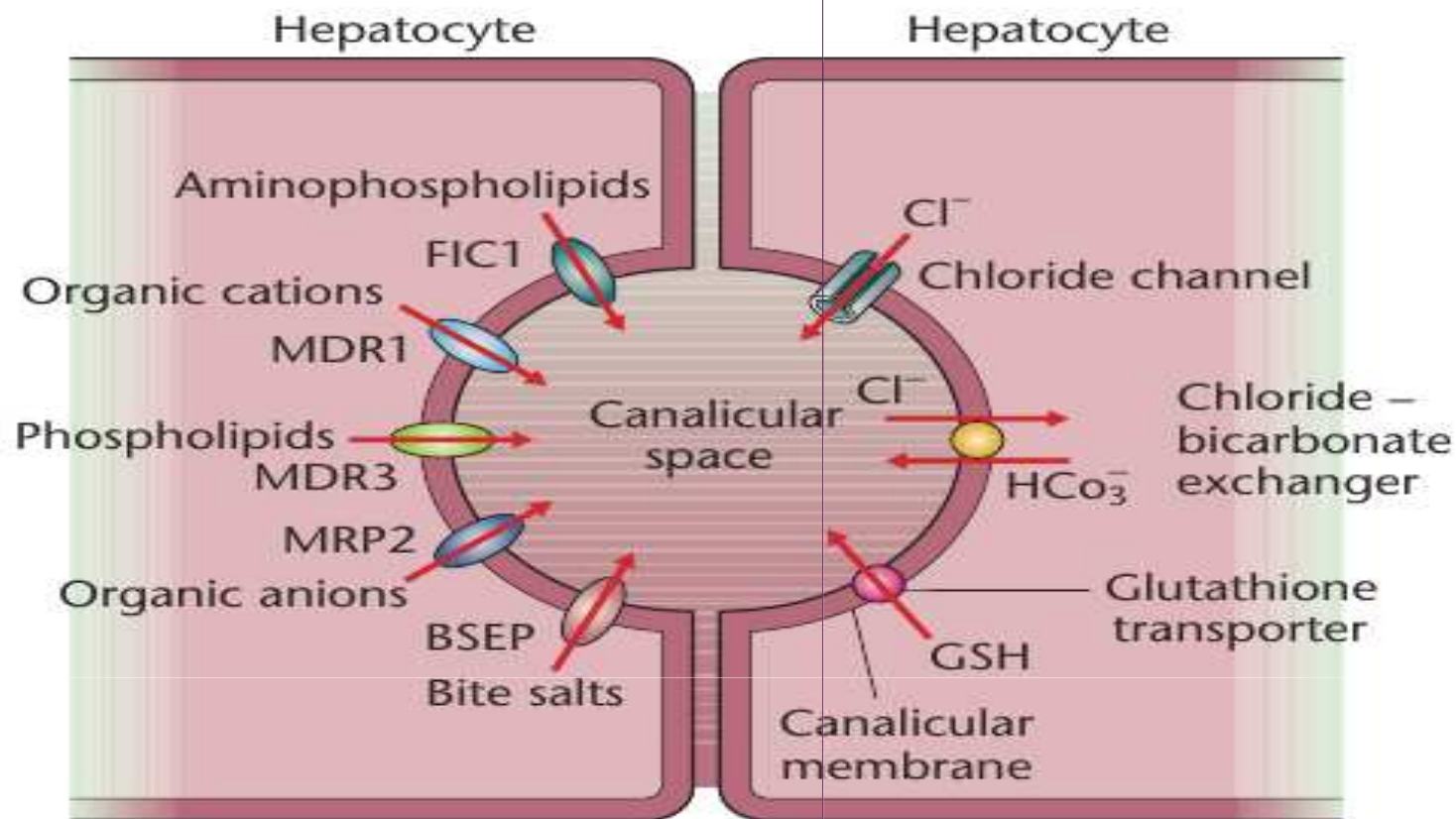
- Immature UGT1A1 enzyme (physiologic jaundice of the newborn)
- Defective UGT1A1 enzyme biosynthesis (Gilbert and Crigler-Najjar syndromes)
- Xenobiotic competition for UGT1A1 activity (indinavir)

#### *Nonobstructive cholestatic syndromes*

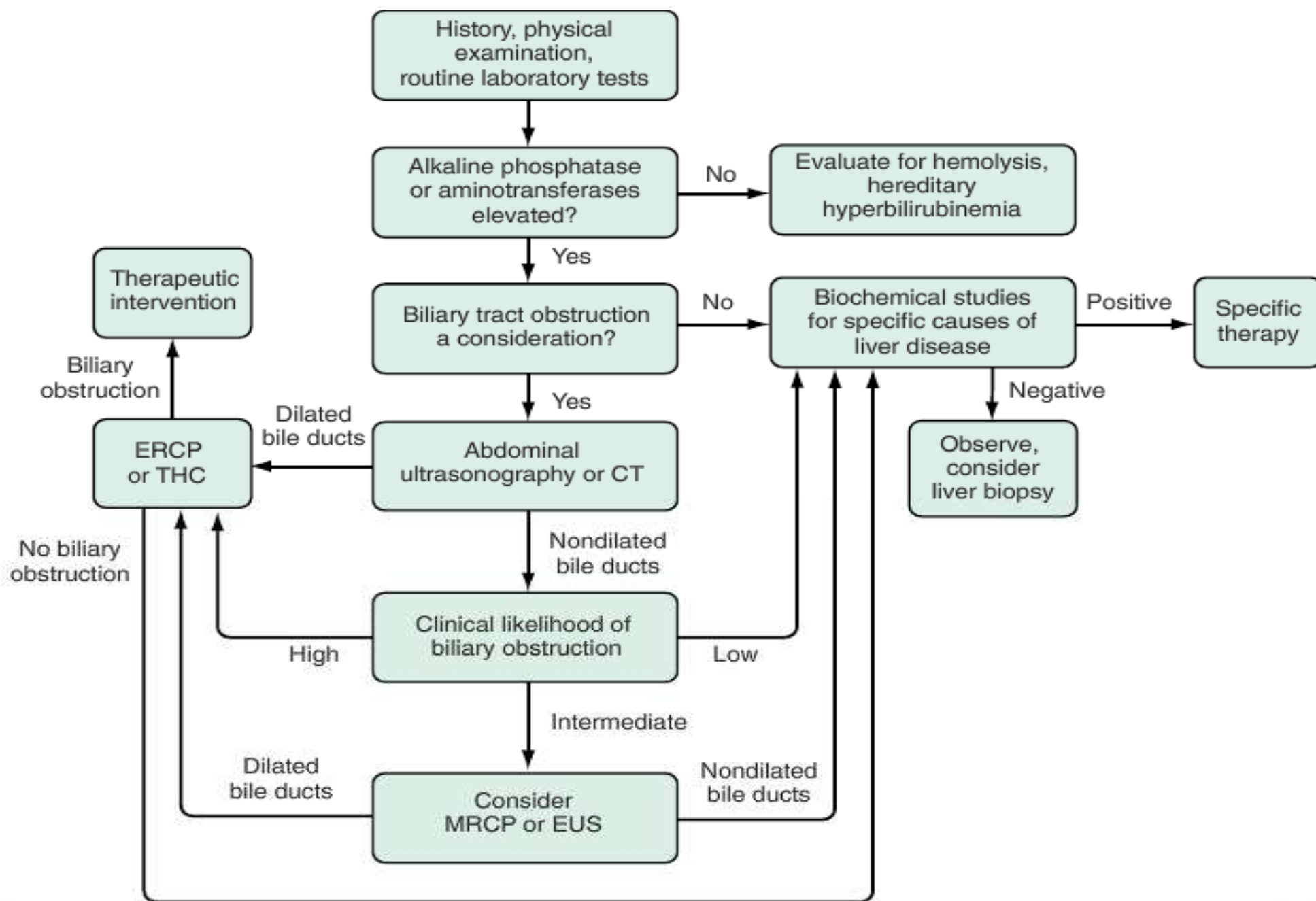
- Hereditary and acquired transport defects

#### *Obstructive cholestasis*

- Inflammation, fibrosis, injury, malignant and non-malignant obstruction of the microscopic and macroscopic biliary tree



**Figure 15.4** Canalicular membrane transporters – a selection. A canaliculus between two neighboring hepatocytes is represented. The canalicular membranes contain several ATP-dependent export pumps: the multidrug resistance-1 P-glycoprotein (MDR1) that transports organic cations into bile; the phospholipid transporter multidrug resistance-3 P-glycoprotein (MDR3). The multidrug resistance-associated protein 2 (MRP2, previously termed the canalicular multispecific organic anion transporter, cMOAT); and the canalicular bile salt export pump (BSEP). The canalicular membrane also contains ATP-dependent transport systems for chloride



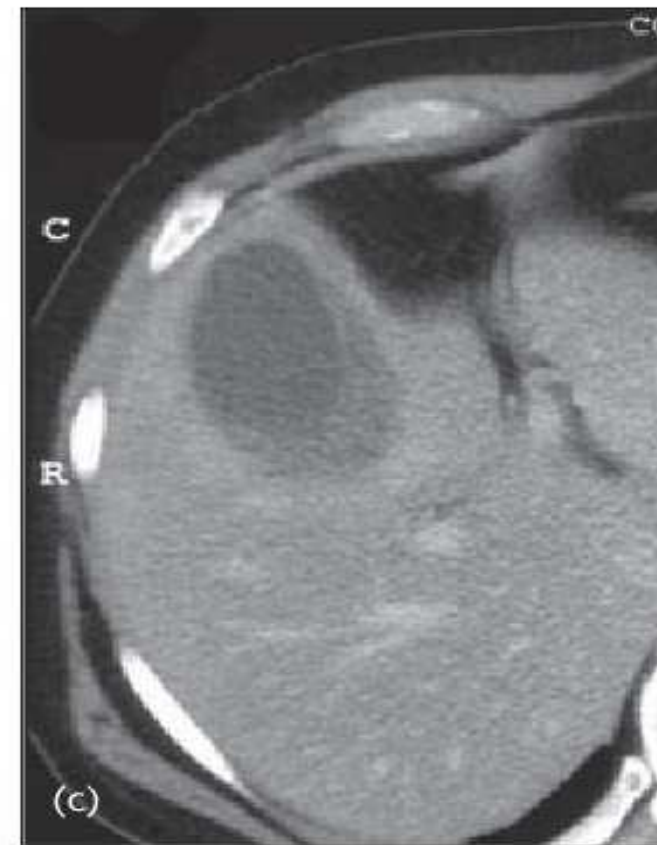
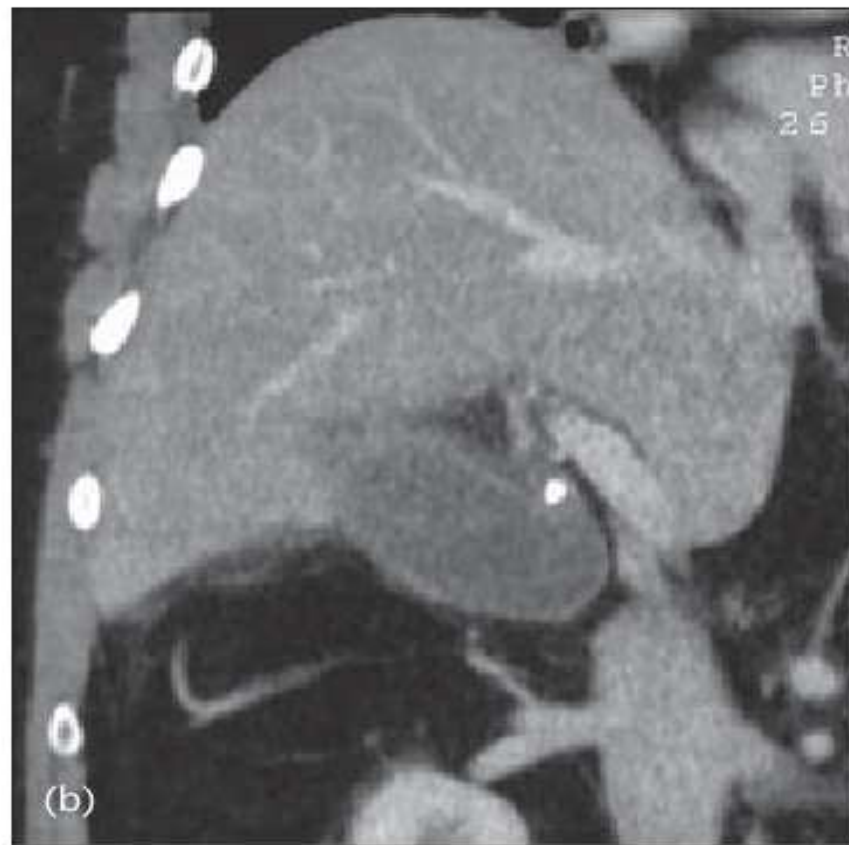
**20-2.** Algorithm for the evaluation and management of jaundice and hyperbilirubinemia. CT, computed tomography; ERCP, endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography; EUS, endoscopic ultrasound; MRCP, magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography; THC, transhepatic cholangiography.





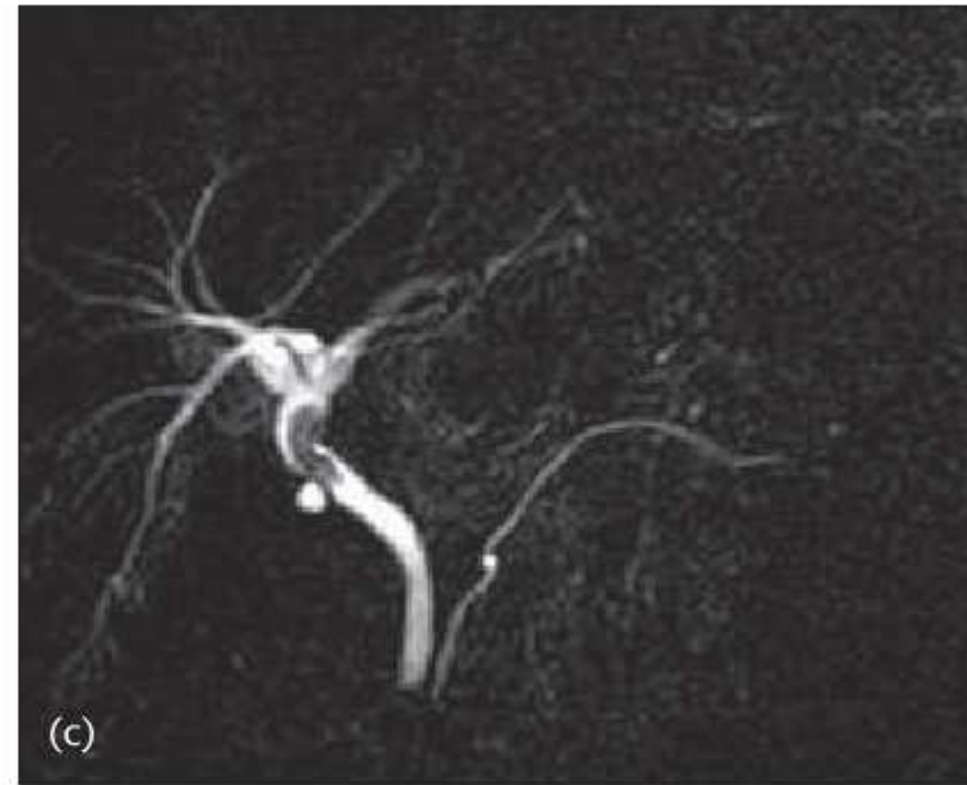






**74.5** Diagnosis of cholecystitis. (a) Abdominal ultrasound showing a pericholecystic fluid collection suggestive of perforated cholecystitis with gallbladder sludge. The diagnosis was confirmed at laparoscopic cholecystectomy. (b) Detection of a small stone obstructing the

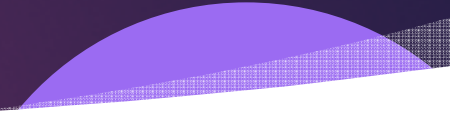
infundibulum of the gallbladder. (c) Computed tomography (CT) showing the appearance of pericholecystitis as hypointense fluid collection in the abdomen of the patient. (CT courtesy of Prof. Dr. H.H. Schild, Department of Radiology, University of Bonn, Germany).



74.4 Detection of common bile duct stones. (a) Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) showing multiple intrahepatic filling defects. The 80-year-old patient had been cholecystectomized 20 years ago. Note the dilated left-sided bile duct system with multiple filling defects. In such a patient the possibility for a genetic predisposition (e.g.,  $\alpha_1$ -antitrypsin polymorphism) should be kept in mind. (b) Endoscopic ultrasound shows high sensitivity and specificity even for the detection of stones <5 mm.

(c) Magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography (MRCP) has a similar sensitivity and specificity for the detection of common bile duct stones, although small stones in the distal part of the common bile duct are better visualized by endoscopic ultrasound (MRCP courtesy of PD Dr. W. Willinger and Prof. Dr. H.H. Schild, Department of Radiology, University of Bonn, Germany).

# Acute liver failure





**Table 15.1** Characteristics of hyperacute, acute, and subacute liver failure

	<b>Hyperacute</b>	<b>Acute</b>	<b>Subacute</b>
Time to encephalopathy (wk)	0–1	1–4	4–12
Change in INR	Marked	Moderate	Mild to moderate
Severity of jaundice	Moderate	Moderate	Severe
Intracranial hypertension	Severe	Moderate	May occur
Survival without liver transplantation	Good	Moderate	Fair
Typical causes	Paracetamol, HAV, HEV	HBV	Non-paracetamol DILI

# etiology

Causes of acute liver failure in the UK include:

Drug-induced hepatitis (68%):

- Paracetamol overdose.
- See Chapters 14 and 18 for other causes of DILI.

Viral hepatitis (9%) (see Chapter 14).

Toxins (2%):

- *Amanita phalloides*.
- Herbal remedies, khat (see Chapter 19).

Malignancy (1%):

- Lymphoma.
- Malignant infiltration. Often associated with high ALP.

Vascular (1%):

- Budd–Chiari syndrome.
- Veno-occlusive disease.
- Ischaemic hepatitis.

## Miscellaneous (2%):

- Wilson's disease. Not strictly acute as many patients are cirrhotic but similar in other clinical respects.
- Autoimmune hepatitis.
- Malignant hyperthermia (including secondary to the drug 'ecstasy')
- Pregnancy-related liver disease (see Chapter 19).
- Reye's syndrome.

## Unknown (17%).

# resentation

## istory

specifically about:

Recent viral illnesses.

Paracetamol.

Alcohol and drug history.

Travel history and vaccinations.

Abdominal pain, vomiting.

## amination

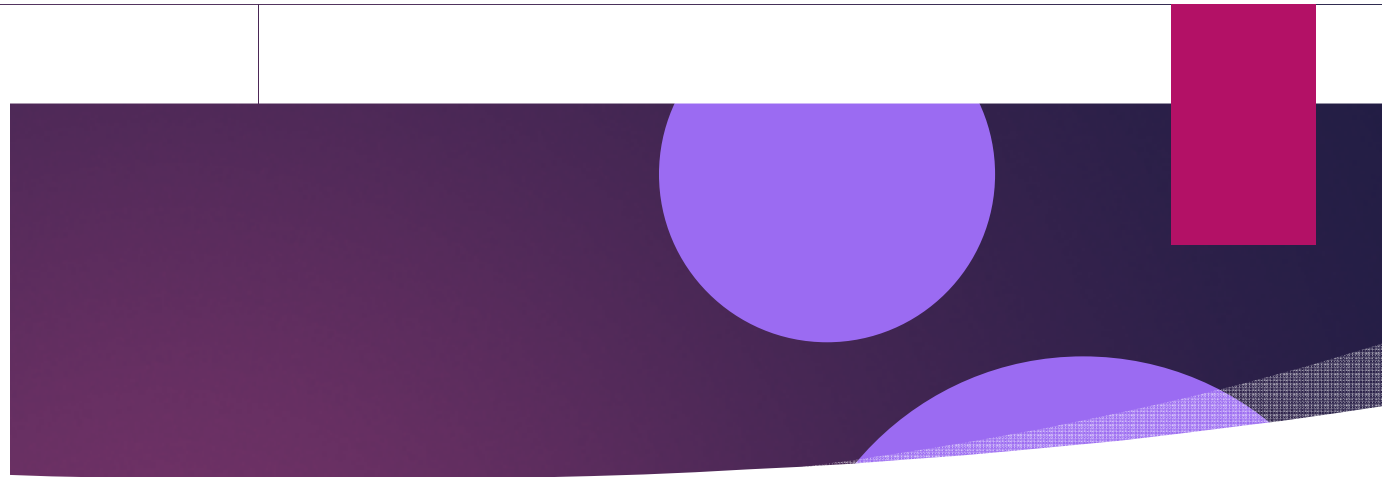
patient presents with a complication of liver failure:

Signs of chronic liver disease suggest 'acute-on-chronic' liver failure

(see  p. 244).

Hepatomegaly rare but occurs with Wilson's disease, autoimmune hepatitis, and lymphoma.

Paracetamol overdose causes severe abdominal pain and retching.





Patients are usually dehydrated on admission. Rehydrate, using crystalloid (e.g. Hartmann's, which provides less renal  $\text{Cl}^-$  load than saline, thus reducing risk of hyperchloraemic metabolic acidosis), colloid (e.g. Gelofusine<sup>®</sup>), or 4.5% human albumin solution (HAS). Avoid 5% glucose, as risk of causing hyponatraemia and cerebral edema.

Place urinary, central venous, and arterial catheters, unless patient responds rapidly to fluid challenge. Reassess fluid balance, keeping CVP 6–10cm above mid-axillary point with colloid, HAS, or blood. Use of vascular monitoring technologies (e.g. PiCCO/LiDCO) or oesophageal Doppler in ITU setting allows more accurate assessment of haemodynamic status and cardiac output, and optimization of filling pressures. Avoid over-hydration, which increases ICP. Pay special attention to aseptic insertion of any intravascular device and ensure

Start prophylactic antibiotics and antifungals (e.g. cefotaxime 2g IV od and fluconazole 200mg IV od) if at least grade 2 encephalopathy, systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SIRS; see Box 15.1), or refractory hypotension. Reduce doses if GFR <30mL/min. Avoid nephrotoxic antibiotics (e.g. aminoglycosides).

If encephalopathy is grade 1, 2, or 3, and there is no ileus, provide lactulose 10–15mL PO qds (avoid NGT in conscious patients to avoid gagging, which can raise ICP).

Stop all hepatotoxic medications (e.g. NSAIDs) and those that worsen complications (e.g. ACE inhibitors, opioids).

Correct electrolyte abnormalities (if required, monitor serum levels q4–12 hourly):

- If serum  $\text{Na}^+$  <120mmol/L, replace with crystalloid or colloid rather than fluid restrict (otherwise, hepatorenal syndrome may develop).
- Correct hypokalaemia (add 40mmol KCl to each litre of fluid).
- Correct hypophosphataemia. If  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  <0.4mmol/L, give 25–50mmol/L IV phosphate.

## Box 15.1 Systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SIRS)

at least two of:

Temperature  $>38.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  or  $<35^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

HR  $>90/\text{min}$ .

RR  $>20/\text{min}$  or  $\text{PaCO}_2 <32\text{mmHg}$ .

WCC  $>12 \times 10^9/\text{L}$  or  $<4 \times 10^9/\text{L}$ , or  $>10\%$  immature (band) forms.



If ICP  $>20$ mmHg or worsening encephalopathy, provide 20% mannitol (100mL as slow IV injection qds PRN for a 70kg patient). This may cause fluid overload and is less effective if renal failure (in which case remove 3–5 times the volume of mannitol infused by haemofiltration). Hypertonic 3% saline 500mL IV, or 10–20mL boluses of 30% saline, to maintain serum  $\text{Na}^+$  at 145–150mmol/L are alternatives. Pentobarbital induced coma may be required. There is no role for hyperventilation (compromises cerebral blood flow). Indometacin 25mg IV over 1min can acutely depress ICP. N-acetylcysteine (NAC) is second-line treatment. Moderate hypothermia (to 32–34°C) can reduce ICP by modulating cerebral blood flow.



NAC provided for 72h with a loading dose regime has been shown in one report to be effective in mild encephalopathy from non-paracetamol acute liver injury, with 40% vs 27% transplant-free survival.


Specific management strategies have been used in certain settings (also Chapter 14):

- Anti-viral therapy in acute HBV infection.
- Aciclovir IV in acute herpes virus infection.

Activated charcoal and forced diuresis following *Amanita phalloides* mushroom poisoning. There is some evidence for high-dose benzylpenicillin  $\pm$  silibinin 20–50mg/kg/d IV (prevents uptake of toxin by undamaged hepatocytes).

TIPS, surgical decompression, or thrombolysis in acute Budd–Chiari syndrome.

Steroids can be used in autoimmune hepatitis, although often the presentation is too late for them to be effective.


Wilson's disease (see  p. 243).

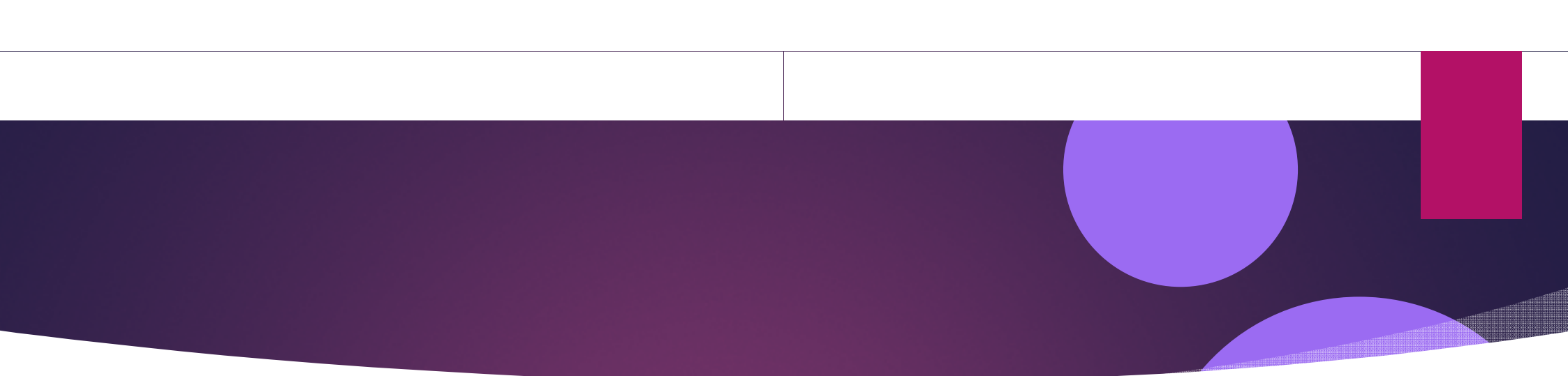
Expedite delivery for ALF due to acute fatty liver of pregnancy or HELLP syndrome.

ALF due to malignant infiltration has a dismal prognosis, although occasional patients with lymphomatous/leukaemic infiltration survive and then undergo successful chemotherapy. The majority



# Markers of disease severity

The main prognostic factors for survival are degree of encephalopathy (see  p. 245), patient age (prognosis worse if <10y or >40y), cause of ALF (better prognosis with paracetamol, HAV, and HBV), and INR.



Progressive renal dysfunction can also result from type 1 hepatorenal syndrome (see Box 15.2). If present, terlipressin 2g IV qds and 4.5% HAS IV enhance renal perfusion. Preliminary reports suggest benefit providing 7.5–12.5mg tds midodrine and 100–200µg octreotide SC tds, or noradrenaline and albumin IV; both titrated to raise MAP >15mmHg. Seek early renal support with haemofiltration.





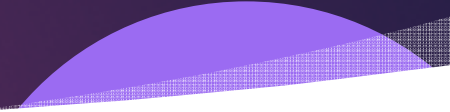
## Box 15.2 Hepatorenal syndrome

Diagnose if:

- Acute or chronic liver disease with hepatic failure.
- Creatinine  $>200\mu\text{mol/L}$ , or creatinine clearance  $<40\text{mL/min}$ .
- No sustained improvement with 1.5L volume expansion.
- Proteinuria  $<0.5\text{g/d}$ .
- Normal renal tract US.
- Other causes of renal impairment excluded.

- Correct hypophosphataemia. If  $\text{PO}_4^{3-} < 0.4 \text{ mmol/L}$ , give 25–50 mmol/L IV phosphate Polyfusor<sup>®</sup> over 12–24h via a dedicated large bore peripheral cannula, then recheck levels. Provide 40–80 mmol in divided doses over 24h if  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  between 0.4–0.7 mmol/L. Hypophosphataemia is more common with paracetamol poisoning.
  - Hyperphosphataemia in paracetamol overdose also carries prognostic significance, with worse outcomes if  $\text{PO}_4^{3-} > 1.0 \text{ mmol/L}$ .
  - Respiratory alkalosis is common early in illness. Lactic acidosis is often present early, when it may rapidly correct with volume replacement. Where it persists or develops later, it carries a poor prognosis.
- Keep blood glucose  $> 3.5 \text{ mmol/L}$  with continuous 10–20% glucose infusion.
- Give vitamin K 10mg IV as a single dose (usually has no effect on INR).
- Maintain platelets  $> 20 \times 10^9/\text{l}$  with transfusions.

# Drug-induced liver injury



Drug-induced liver injury (DILI) accounts for ~1% of general medical admissions, <5% of all cases of jaundice, but up to 30% of acute liver failure. It is associated with >1,000 medications and herbal products. The following principles apply:

All drugs may cause acute liver injury.

Most forms of DILI lead to an acute hepatitis with raised transaminases.

Some drugs cause predominantly cholestatic liver injury.

Some drugs can cause fatty change, or fibrosis and cirrhosis.

One drug may cause multiple patterns of injury.

Most drug reactions are idiosyncratic.

The diagnosis is one of exclusion.

Drug withdrawal does not always lead to improvement.

Drug challenge is rarely justified.



**Table 16.1** Drug-injury liver disease

Pattern	Common drugs
Fulminant hepatitis	Paracetamol, halothane
Acute or chronic hepatitis	Co-amoxiclav (younger patients), anabolic steroids, anti-tuberculosis drugs, anti-retrovirals, aspirin, bupropion, disulfiram, ketoconazole, lisinopril, losartan, methyl dopa, nitrofurantoin, sodium valproate, SSRIs, statins
Subclinical liver disease	Antibiotics, antidepressants, isoniazid, lipid-lowering drugs, sulfonamides, salicylates, sulfonylureas, quinidine
Granulomatous hepatitis	Allopurinol, carbamazepine, diltiazem, hydralazine, phenytoin, quinine, sulphur-containing drugs
Hepatic fibrosis	Vitamin A, methotrexate
Steatosis (macrovesicular)	Amiodarone, tamoxifen, valproate
Steatosis (microvesicular)	Nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors, sodium valproate, tetracycline
Hepatic neoplasia	Anabolic steroids, oestrogens
Budd–Chiari syndrome	Oestrogens
Hepatic sinusoidal obstruction	Azathioprine, busulfan, mercaptopurine, tetracycline, vitamin A
Cholestasis	Anabolic steroids, azathioprine, carbamazepine, chlorpromazine, clopidogrel, co-trimoxazole, diclofenac, efavirenz, erythromycin, ezetimibe, ketoconazole, nevirapine, oestrogens, penicillins (e.g. co-amoxiclav in elderly patients), phenytoin, rifampicin, rosiglitazone, co-trimoxazole, tricyclics
Mixed patterns	Phenytoin, quinolones

**Table 18.2** Drugs that are more toxic in chronic liver disease

Drug	Risk factor
Anti-retrovirals	Hepatitis B, hepatitis C
Anti-tuberculosis drugs	Hepatitis B, hepatitis C
Ibuprofen	Hepatitis C
Methimazole	Hepatitis B
Methotrexate	Alcoholic liver disease, steatohepatitis
OCP	Liver tumours
Rifampicin	PBC
Vitamin A	Alcoholic liver disease

**Other drugs:**

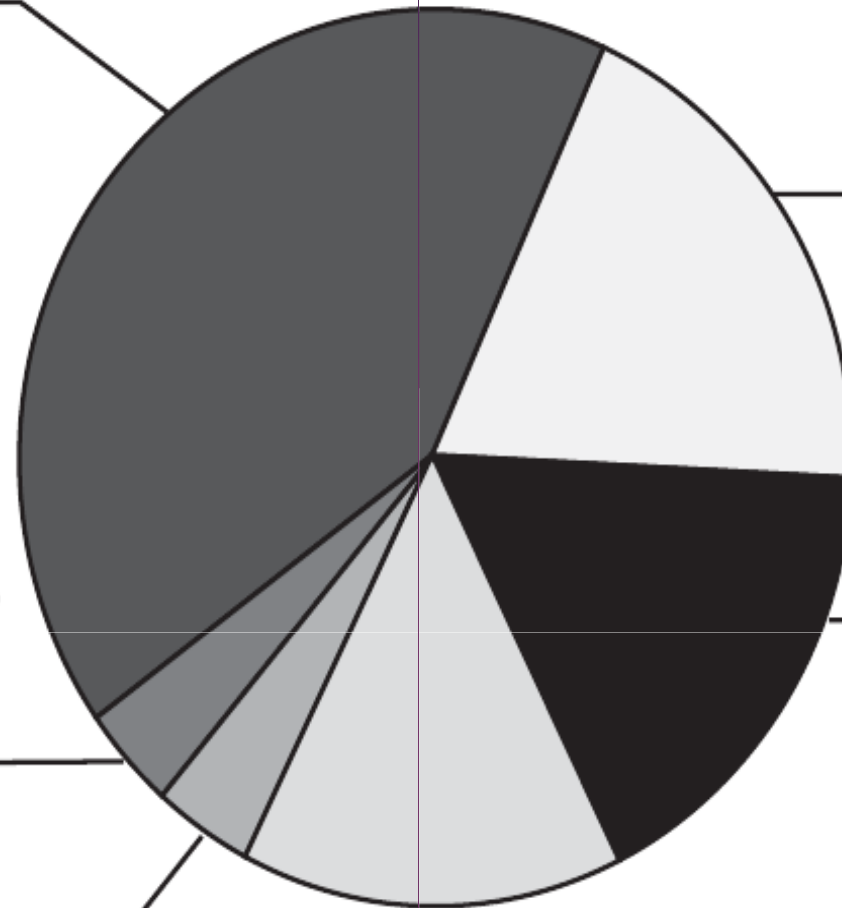
- Propylthiouracil (19)
- Disulfiram (9)
- Halothane (8)
- Herbal (6)
- Amitriptyline (2)
- Nefazodone (2)
- Methotrexate (5)
- Troglitazone (4)
- Methyldopa (5)
- Mercaptopurine or azathioprine (3)
- Fialuridine (3)

**Non-steroidal anti-inflammatories:**

- Diclofenac (3)
- Bromfenac (2)
- Ibuprofen (2)
- Single cases:
  - Etodolac
  - Naproxen
  - Indometacin

**Statins:**

- Atorvastatin (3)
- Cerivastatin (2)
- Simvastatin (2)
- Single cases:
  - Pravastatin
  - Ezetimibe



**Anti-tuberculosis:**

- Isoniazid (48)
- Isoniazid plus another anti-tuberculosis drug (2)


**Anti-epileptics:**

- Phenytoin (20)
- Valproate (20)
- Carbamazepine (3)
- Single case:
  - Felbamate

**Antibiotics:**

- Nitrofurantoin (12)
- Ketoconazole (8)
- Amoxicillin and clavulanate (5)
- Trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole (2)
- Minocycline (2)
- Single cases:





Treatment is largely supportive, as there are no specific treatments for LI other than:

NAC for paracetamol toxicity (see  p. 296).

L-carnitine for valproate toxicity. Loading dose of 100mg/kg IV (to maximum of 6g) over 30min, followed by 15mg/kg every 4h over 10–30min until clinical improvement occurs.

## ***Paracetamol overdose***

- Arterial pH <7.3 following adequate volume resuscitation, or
- Combination of:
  - Encephalopathy > grade 3.
  - Creatinine >300µmol/L.
  - INR >6.5 (PTT >100s).

## ***Non-paracetamol overdose***

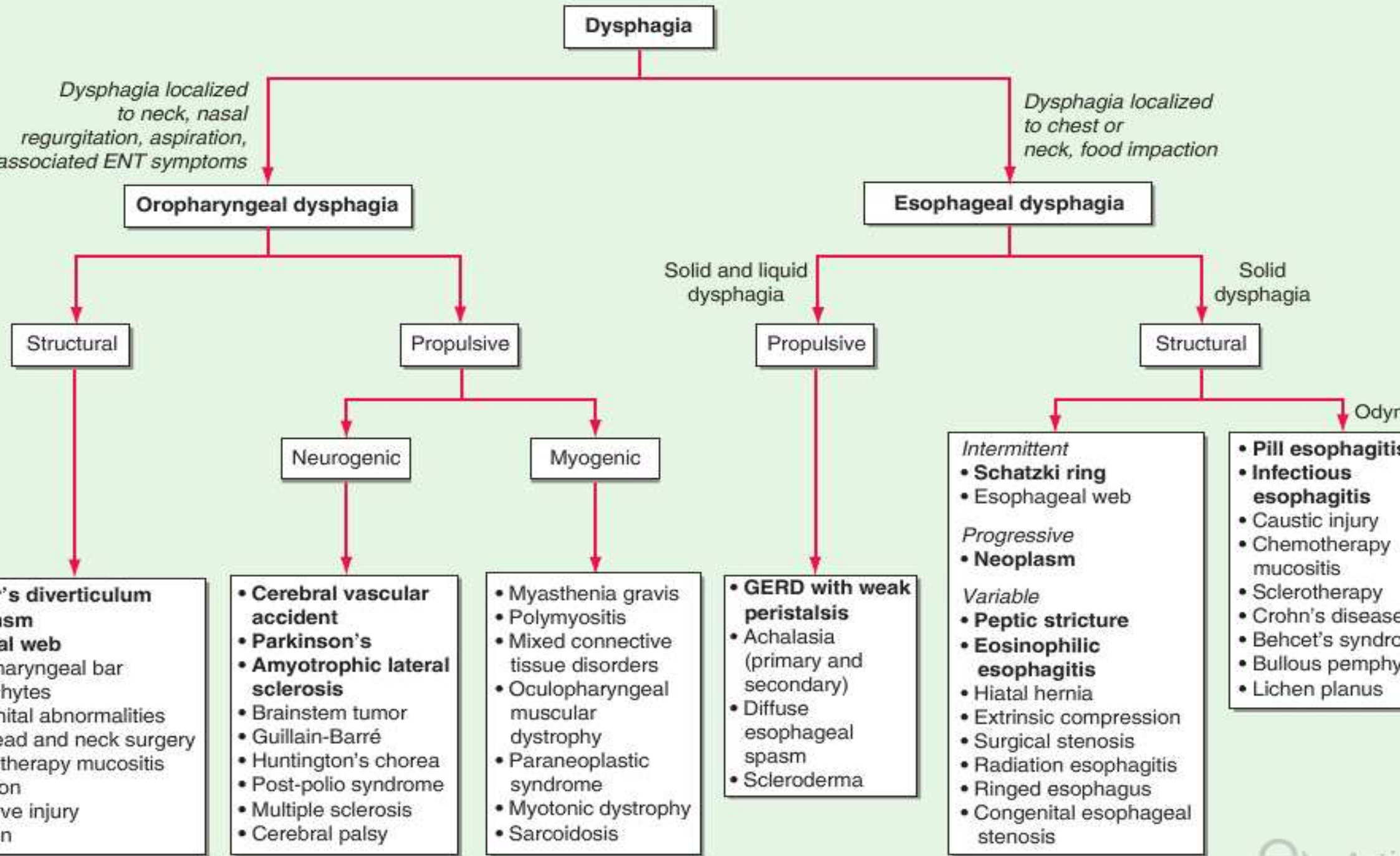
- Any grade encephalopathy and INR >6.5 (PTT >100s), or.
- Three of:
  - INR >3.5 (PTT >50s).
  - Bilirubin >300µmol/L.
  - Age <10y or >40y.
  - Unfavourable cause (DILI, non-A non-B hepatitis).
  - Jaundice >7d pre-encephalopathy.



# Acute thoracic pain and dysphagia



# APPROACH TO THE PATIENT WITH DYSPHAGIA



**Dysphagia**

*Dysphagia localized to neck, nasal regurgitation, aspiration, associated ENT symptoms*

*Dysphagia localized to chest or neck, food impaction*

**Oropharyngeal dysphagia**

**Esophageal dysphagia**

**Structural**

**Propulsive**

Solid and liquid dysphagia

**Propulsive**

Solid dysphagia

**Structural**

Odynephagia

**Neurogenic**

**Myogenic**

- Intermittent*
- Schatzki ring
  - Esophageal web
- Progressive*
- Neoplasm
- Variable*
- Peptic stricture
  - Eosinophilic esophagitis
  - Hiatal hernia
  - Extrinsic compression
  - Surgical stenosis
  - Radiation esophagitis
  - Ringed esophagus
  - Congenital esophageal stenosis

- Pill esophagitis
- Infectious esophagitis
- Caustic injury
- Chemotherapy mucositis
- Sclerotherapy
- Crohn's disease
- Behcet's syndrome
- Bullous pemphigoid
- Lichen planus

- Zenker's diverticulum
- Esophageal web
- Pharyngeal bar
- Cystic hygromas
- Craniofacial abnormalities
- Head and neck surgery
- Radiation therapy mucositis
- Trauma
- Foreign body injury
- Anesthesia

- Cerebral vascular accident
- Parkinson's disease
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
- Brainstem tumor
- Guillain-Barré syndrome
- Huntington's chorea
- Post-polio syndrome
- Multiple sclerosis
- Cerebral palsy

- Myasthenia gravis
- Polymyositis
- Mixed connective tissue disorders
- Oculopharyngeal muscular dystrophy
- Paraneoplastic syndrome
- Myotonic dystrophy
- Sarcoidosis

- GERD with weak peristalsis
- Achalasia (primary and secondary)
- Diffuse esophageal spasm
- Scleroderma

# 1 Causes of dysphagia and odynophagia

## Upper esophageal dysphagia

**Structural**  
 Zenker's diverticulum  
 Laryngeal web  
 Laryngeal tumor  
**Intraluminal**  
 Esophageal osteophytes  
 Esophageal stricture  
 Esophageal adenopathy

## Esophageal dysphagia

**Structural**  
Intraluminal  
 Stricture  
 Schatzki's ring  
 Cancer  
 Hiatal hernia  
 Eosinophilic esophagitis  
Extraluminal  
 Mediastinal tumors (lymphoma, lung cancer)  
 Vascular structures  
 (dysphagia lusoria, dysphagia aortica)  
 Duplication cyst  
 Postsurgical changes (fundoplication)

## Odynophagia

Gastroesophageal reflux disease (unusual)  
 Medication induced esophagitis  
 Infectious esophagitis  
 (Candida, herpes, CMV)  
 Radiation injury  
 Caustic ingestion

## Systemic

Scleroderma  
 Dermatomyositis  
 Myositis  
 Systemic sclerosis  
 Sarcoidosis  
 Hyperthyroidism  
 Sjögren's syndrome

## Motility abnormalities

*Primary*  
 Achalasia  
 Distal esophageal spasm  
 Hypercontractile motility  
 Hypertensive LES  
 Nutcracker esophagus  
 Hypocontractile motility  
 Hypotensive LES  
 Ineffective esophageal motility

## Secondary

Secondary achalasia

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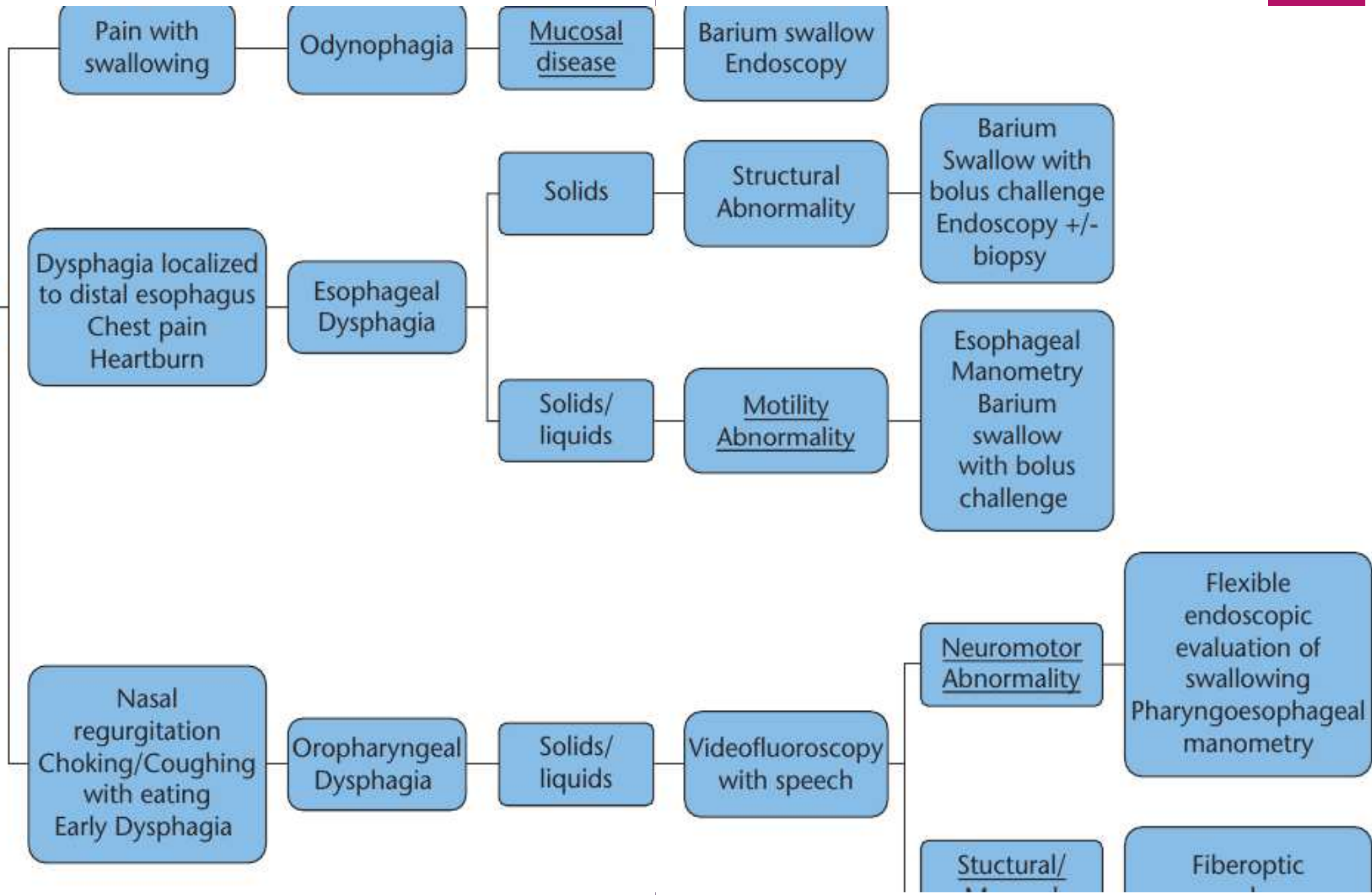
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**Table 2.2** Symptom complexes

Oropharyngeal dysphagia	Esophageal dysphagia
Dysphagia within 1 sec of swallowing	Dysphagia delayed until mid chest
Choking, cough with initiation of eating	Heartburn
Nasal regurgitation	Regurgitation
Dysarthria and diplopia	Chest pain
Facial muscle weakness (ptosis, facial droop)	Cough
Dysphonia/nasal speech	
Halitosis/gurgling noise	

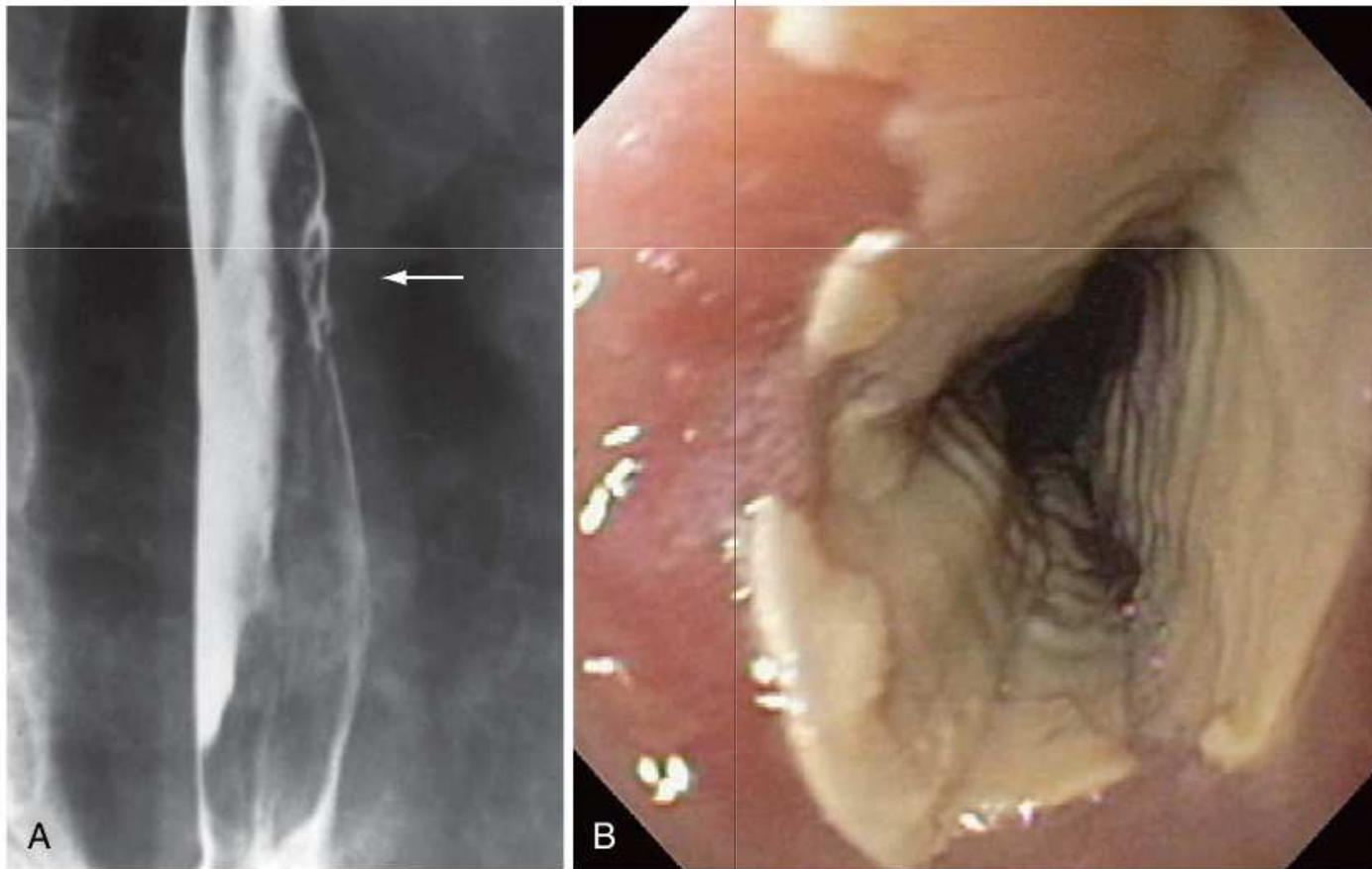


Dysphagia



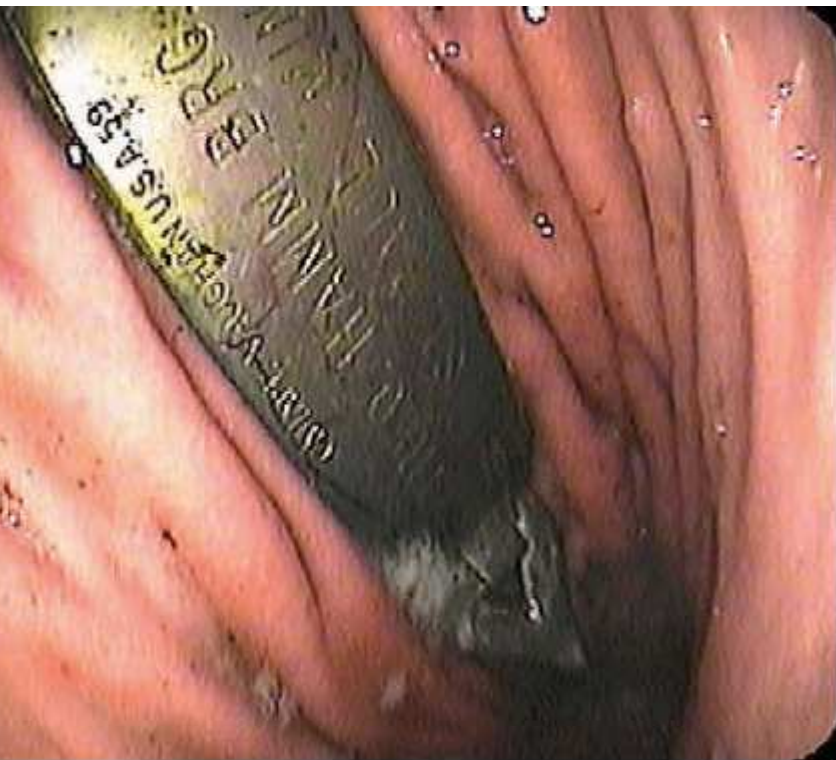
**Table 2.3** Medications implicated in esophageal injury and dysphagia

Drugs implicated in esophageal injury	Drugs and dysphagia
<p><b><u>Antibacterials</u></b>                      Doxycycline                      Tetracycline                      Amoxicillin                      Penicillin                      Clindamycin                      Rifampin</p>	<p><b><u>Effects on striated muscle function</u></b>                      Sedatives                      Narcotics                      Antipsychotics                      Neuroleptic therapy (extrapyramidal motor disturbances)</p>
<p><b><u>Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs</u></b>                      Aspirin                      Ibuprofen                      Naproxen                      Diclofenac                      Indomethacin</p>	<p><b><u>Effects on smooth muscle function</u></b>  <i>Inhibitory</i>                      Alcohol                      Tricyclic antidepressants                      Theophylline                      Calcium channel blockers                      Alcohol  <i>Excitatory</i>                      Cholinergic agonists                      Prokinetics</p>
<p><b><u>Bisphosphonates</u></b>                      Alendronate                      Pamidronate                      Etidronate                      Risedronate</p>	<p><b><u>Decrease lower esophageal pressure</u></b>                      Progesterone                      Calcium channel blockers                      Nitrates                      Alcohol</p>
<p><b><u>Others</u></b>                      Ascorbic acid                      Ferrous sulfate                      Prednisone                      Potassium chloride</p>	<p><b><u>Xerostomia</u></b>                      Anticholinergics                      Antiemetics</p>

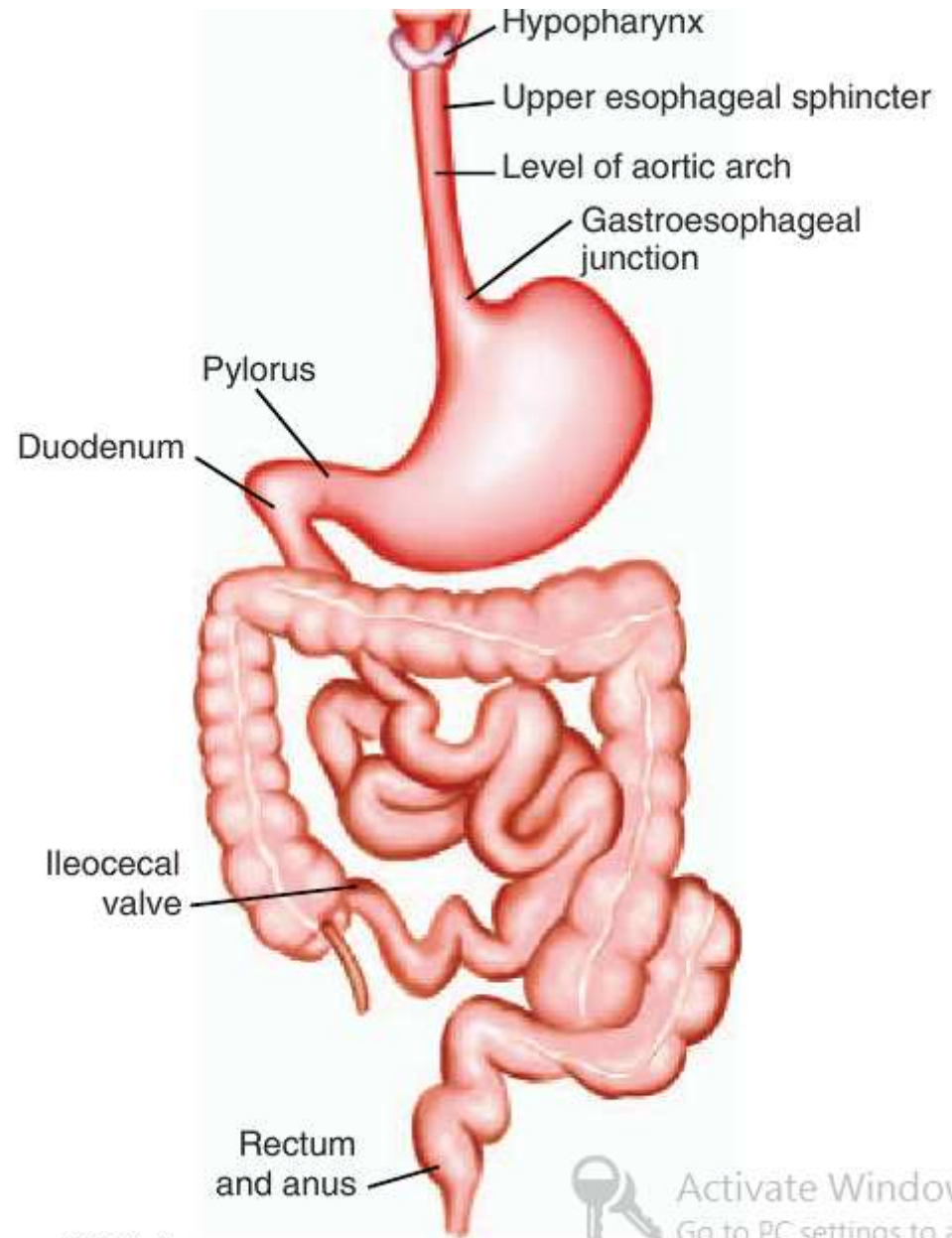


**Figure 45-1.** A, Esophageal ulceration secondary to tetracycline, with arrow pointing to area of ulcerations demonstrated by barium esophagography. B, Endoscopic image of tetracycline-induced esophageal burn. (A, Courtesy Dr. Marc Levine, Philadelphia, Penn.)





1. Endoscopic image of a bottle opener (in the stomach) by an intoxicated patient.







**Figure 25-4.** Radiograph of the chest demonstrating pneumomediastinum and bilateral pneumothoraces in a patient who developed esophageal perforation secondary to food impaction left untreated for longer than 24 hours.



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