

## Common Abdominal Emergencies in Children

1. What is the most common cause of intestinal obstruction in infants?
  - a. Intussusception
  - b. Malrotation with midgut volvulus
  - c. Incarcerated inguinal hernia
  - d. Necrotizing enterocolitis
  
2. Which of the following statements about appendicitis in infants and children is true?
  - a. Pain precedes vomiting in greater than 50% of patients
  - b. Perforation is rare in children younger than two years of age.
  - c. Infants are more likely to have diffuse tenderness of the abdomen.
  - d. Grunting respirations, cough or rhinitis make the diagnosis very unlikely.
  
3. In an older child with less than 24 hours of illness, which symptoms make appendicitis least likely?
  - a. Dysuria
  - b. Constipation
  - c. Diarrhea
  - d. Fever > 38°
  
4. In diagnosis of appendicitis, which statement about *CBC* is true?
  - a. Although nondiagnostic, it is a sensitive test for appendicitis.
  - b. Although nondiagnostic, it is a specific test for appendicitis.
  - c. Although it has poor sensitivity and specificity, it is considered to be part of "standard" testing for appendicitis.
  - d. A normal *CBC* rules out the possibility of appendicitis.
  
5. Which of the following statements is true about abdominal pain?
  - a. The child with pain from a serious etiology is easily differentiated from one with a benign condition.
  - b. Children with abdominal pain should never receive anxiolytic medications.
  - c. History and physical examination are less important than diagnostic testing in the diagnosis of abdominal pain.
  - d. Infants in pain may present with poor sleeping and feeding.

6. Which electrolyte findings are typical in early pyloric stenosis without dehydration?
  - a. Hypokalemic, hypochloremic metabolic alkalosis
  - b. Hyponatemic metabolic acidosis
  - c. Hyperkalemic hyperchloremic respiratory acidosis
  - d. Normal electrolytes
  
7. What is the best diagnostic test for pyloric stenosis?
  - a. Serum electrolytes
  - b. Ultrasound of the pylorus
  - c. Abdominal radiograph
  - d. Nasogastric aspiration of greater than 10cc, 2 hours after feeding.
  
8. In a neonate with bilious emesis, the emergency physician should:
  - a. Obtain a stat ultrasound to rule out pyloric stenosis.
  - b. Reassure the parents, and ask them to return for outpatient US.
  - c. Obtain a stat upper GI, surgical consult, type and cross blood.
  - d. Give a trial of pedialyte and observe for 2-3 hours.
  
9. Which of the following features will distinguish Meckel's diverticulum from an intussusception?
  - a. Age < 2 years
  - b. Bloody stool
  - c. Evidence of intestinal obstruction
  - d. Painful episodes
  - e. None of the above
  
10. Normal abdominal radiographs are least frequently found in which diagnosis?
  - a. Intussusception
  - b. Appendicitis
  - c. Incarcerated inguinal hernia
  - d. Meckel's diverticulum