

# NUR 2063 / NUR2063 Essentials of Pathophysiology Exam 2 | Rated A Complete Guide | Latest, 2022 / 2023 | Rasmussen College

## 1. Diarrhea

- due to increased fluid secretion, decreased fluid absorption, or an alteration in GI peristalsis

## 2. Acute diarrhea

- due to bacterial or viral infections
- certain medications such as antibiotics, antacids, laxatives
- usually self-limiting depending on cause

## 3. Chronic diarrhea

- lasts longer than 4 weeks
- due to:
  - inflammatory bowel diseases
  - malabsorption syndromes
  - endocrine disorders
  - chemo/radiation

## 4. If small bowel (diarrhea)

- large and loose
- provoked by eating
- accompanied with pain in right lower quadrant

## 5. If large bowel (diarrhea)

- stools are small and frequent
- frequently accompanied by pain in the left lower quadrant

6. Constipation

- stool remains in large intestine longer than usual resulting in more water absorbed

7. Intestinal obstruction

- blocked intestinal contents in small or large intestine
- due to:
- mechanical & functional obstructions

8. Mechanical (blockage) obstruction ex:

- Foreign bodies
- Tumor
- Adhesion
- Hernia
- Intussusception or volvulus
- Strictures
- Crohn's disease
- Diverticulitis
- Hirschsprung's disease
- Fecal impaction

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9. Functional (no physical blockage) obstruction ex:

- Neuro impairment
- Intraabdominal surgery complications
- Chemical, electrolyte, mineral disturbances
- Intraabdominal infections
- Abdominal blood supply impairment
- Renal and lung disease
- Use of certain medications (ex: opiates)

10. Appendicitis

- inflammation of vermiform appendix
- caused by infection
- local edema triggered; fluid builds up & obstructs structure