**Study Questions**

**Chapter 17: Abdomen**

1. The following organs are intraperitoneal (choose two):
   1. gallbladder
   2. liver
   3. pancreas
   4. kidneys

Answer: a, b

Rationale: The pancreas and kidneys are retroperitoneal.

1. This is the area where pain from early appendicitis is likely to be found:
   1. diffusely across the abdomen
   2. left lower quadrant
   3. epigastrum
   4. left upper quadrant

Answer: c

Rationale: Discomfort from appendicitis is commonly felt in the right lower quadrant, but early in its course it may be perceived in the epigastric area.

1. Hematemesis may be attributed to (choose two):
   1. ulcerative colitis
   2. gastrointestinal ulcers
   3. irritable bowel syndrome
   4. esophageal varices

Answer: b, d

Rationale: Vomiting blood is associated with pathology high in the gastrointestinal tract. Active bleeding is a medical emergency, and the patient should be promptly treated.

1. Patients who have persistent diarrhea may develop all but which one of the following:
   1. fluid and electrolyte imbalance
   2. weight gain
   3. dehydration
   4. debilitating weakness

Answer: b

Rationale: Diarrhea is associated with weight loss, not gain.

1. Risk factors for hepatitis B include (choose two):
   1. IV drug use with shared needles.
   2. exposure to blood and blood products.
   3. poor personal hygiene.
   4. contaminated food and water.

Answer: a, b

Rationale: Hepatitis B is spread through blood and body fluids. Hepatitis A may be contracted through poor hygiene and contaminated food and water.

1. You are auscultating your patient’s abdomen and hear a bruit over the abdominal aorta. Appropriate actions would include (choose two):
   1. palpating the abdomen.
   2. referring the patient immediately to a cardiovascular physician.
   3. not palpating the abdomen.
   4. repositioning the patient and listening again.

Answer: b, c

Rationale: Palpation may cause rupture, and the patient should be referred immediately.

1. When percussing the abdomen, dullness is normally heard over (choose two):
   1. the stomach.
   2. the intestines.
   3. the liver.
   4. a distended bladder.

Answer: c, d

Rationale: Dullness with percussion indicates solid organs or the fluid-filled bladder. Tympany should be heard over the stomach and intestines.

1. Patients taking these medications can experience difficulty voiding:
   1. aspirin.
   2. antibiotics.
   3. acetaminophen.
   4. anticholinergics.

Answer: d

Rationale: Anticholinergics, as parasympatholytic agents, can cause difficulty in voiding.

1. This sign is positive in inflammatory processes of the gallbladder, such as cholecystitis:
   1. Hook’s sign
   2. Murphy’s sign
   3. Homan’s sign
   4. Rovsing’s sign

Answer: b

Rationale: The Hook method is a method of palpating the liver. Homan’s sign is a sign of thrombosis in the leg. Rovsing’s sign is a technique to elicit referred pain caused by appendicitis.

1. This type of urinary incontinence may be seen after childbirth:
   1. stress
   2. urge
   3. overflow
   4. functional

Answer: a

Rationale: Stress incontinence may occur following conditions which place stress on the regional musculature.

1. Persistent jaundice in elderly patients may be due to (choose two):
   1. constipation.
   2. malignant obstruction of the biliary system.
   3. multiple-drug therapy.
   4. intestinal ischemia.

Answer: b, c

Rationale: Any obstruction of the biliary system can cause jaundice, and malignancies increase with age. Some drug combinations can cause hepatitis-like reactions.