

Nausea, Vomiting, Diarrhea (= Gastroenteritis)

1. Cause of N/V

- Detective work → thorough Hx
- Gastritis associated w/

① EtOH

② Drug induced (NSAIDs, aspirin, abx, illicit drugs)

③ Sx of hepatitis, MI, peptic ulcer

④ Acute gastroenteritis (most common)

• AGE - inflammation of

2. AGE

① Stomach ⇒ N/V

- Sx: rapid onset lasting < 2 weeks, N/V/D, fever, abd pain, fatigue, anorexia, tenesmus, borborygmus
- ② intestine ⇒ cramping/D
- tenesmus - incomplete BM

- Hx is key: ask hx food, travel, sick contacts, abx hx, • Duration of illness

duration of illness

① acute ⇒ by infectious agent

- PE | normal in general

② chronic ⇒ by non infectious

| maybe dehydrated (dry mucus, tachycardia,

orthostatic hypotension, dizziness)

- Pathogens

① Viral gastroenteritis

- Norovirus: leading ⇒ of D for adult

- Rotavirus: leading ⇒ of AGE for pediatric

• upto 2yr old. But incidence ↓

- Cytomegalovirus (CMV) & Herpes simplex virus

due to rotavirus vaccine

(HSV) among immunocompromised pt

• Rotavirus is less common w/

② Bacterial

adults

③ Parasitic

- Testing

① Stool study - not indicated unless bloody stool or

• Adult - run the course of disease

systemic disease. Order stool study if

and will resolve

i) severe / prolonged D

ii) fever

iii) bloody stool or ⊕ leukocytes or ⊕ occult blood

} Sx of diffused colonic inflammation
likely from bacterial pathogen

- stool study reveals: shigella, salmonella,

campylobacter, aeromonas, yersinia, e.coli

- ova + parasite test: giardia, cryptosporidium

3. Traveler's diarrhea

• recent travel out of US w/ RPID

• Common pathogens - shigella, campylobacter, e.coli

• send stool sample for specific

4. D after abx

Study ⊕ e.coli ⊕ Vibrio

• Do tissue culture assay & ELISA test for C.diff.

Cholerae

5. DDX of AGE

• IBS

• IBD (Crohn's, ulcerative colitis)

• ischemic bowel syndrome

• partial bowel obstruction

• small bowel diverticulosis

• chronic pancreatitis

• DDX | vomiting just after eating | gastritis

digitalis toxicity

- vomiting 1/2 hr after eating | biliary tract disease

pancreatic disease

- projectile vomiting w/o nausea - neurologic (IICP)

N/V in AM | uremia

pregnancy

chronic EtOH

