

## Acute abdominal pain

### 1. Acute appendicitis

• Function - unknown but house gut flora bacteria, immune system, vestigial structure

• Appendicitis - inflamed appendix affect 10% pop.

① Cause: fecalith, undigested seeds, pinworm infection, ° Ruptured appendix ⇒ peritonitis (Sx - rebound tenderness)  
lymphoid follicle growth (lymphoid hyperplasia) ⇒  
obstruction ⇒ build up of mucus ⇒ ↑ pressure & bacterial growth → immune response → pus develop. (Blumberg sign)

② Sx - ↑ WBC, fever, RLQ pain (McBurney's point),

N/V, rebound tenderness, abd guarding

③ Tx - appendectomy

### 2. Acute pancreatitis

• Sudden inflammation/hemorrhaging of pancreas by destruction of own digestive enzyme (Auto digestion)

• Function

① Endocrine - α & β cell secrete hormones into blood stream

② Exocrine - acinar cell secrete digestive enzymes into duodenum

• Cause - alcohol abuse, gallstone

① Alcohol induced - Alcohol ⇒ ↓ fluid in pancreas ⇒ thickening of pancreatic juice ⇒ blockage of ducts ⇒ ↑ pressure ⇒ backed up contents can lead to activation of trypsin ⇒ auto digestion of pancreas

② Gallstone induced - blockage of sphincter of Oddi ⇒ blockage of duct

③ Sx - N/V, hypocalcemia, bruising around belly button (Cullen's sign),

bruising along the flank (Turner's sign)

④ Diagnosis - epigastric pain that radiates to back,

Lab w/ ↑ amylase/lipase, CT showing inflammation & necrosis  
\*specific

⑤ Tx - pain control, replenish electrolytes, avoid food,

Ca, abx

### 3. Acute cholecystitis

• Inflammation of gallbladder ⇒ by gallstone @ cystic duct ° can eventually ⇒  
⇒ ↑ pressure / inflammation / bacterial growth peritonitis

① Sx - midgastric pain → right scapula / shoulders,

• Murphy's sign

② Murphy's sign, fever, jaundice (if gall stone  
block at the common bile duct)

• ↑ pressure → pressure against  
blood vessels → ischemia of

③ Diagnosis - US, ERCP, MRCP

gallbladder → gangrenous

④ Tx - IV fluid, pain management, abx,

cell death → rupture →

cholecystectomy

tx by cholecystectomy

• If untreated ⇒ sepsis