

Gastrointestinal Pathology

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1. Introduction

- Gastrointestinal pathology covers diseases of the digestive tract and accessory organs.
- It affects digestion, absorption, and waste elimination.

2. Upper GI Disorders

- **Peptic ulcer disease:** mucosal erosion of the stomach or duodenum, often from *H. pylori*.
- **GERD:** reflux of acid causing esophageal irritation.
- Gastritis is inflammation of the stomach lining.

3. Intestinal Disorders

- **Inflammatory bowel disease:** chronic conditions including Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.
- Appendicitis is acute inflammation of the appendix.
- Malabsorption syndromes impair nutrient uptake, as in celiac disease.

4. Liver and Pancreas

- **Hepatitis:** liver inflammation from viruses, alcohol, or toxins.
- Cirrhosis is irreversible scarring of liver tissue.
- Pancreatitis is inflammation of the pancreas, often from gallstones or alcohol.

5. Neoplasms and Diagnosis

- Colorectal cancer is a common malignancy linked to diet and genetics.
- Endoscopy and biopsy confirm many GI diagnoses.
- Symptoms include pain, bleeding, and altered bowel habits.