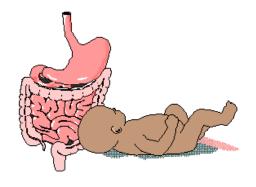


International Medical Education Trust – Palestine

Gastroenteritis in Children



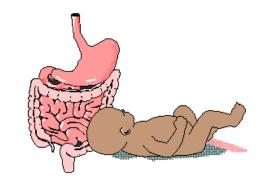
Case 1



An eleven-month-old male was admitted to Al Ain Hospital after a 4-day history of vomiting and perfuse watery diarrhea.



Diarrhea



Definition:

An increase in the fluidity, volume and frequency of stools.

Acute diarrhea:

Short in duration (less than 2 weeks).

> Chronic diarrhea:

6 weeks or more



Etiology of Diarrhea(infant)

Acute Diarrhea

Gastroenteritis

Systemic infection

Antibiotic association

Overfeeding

Chronic Diarrhea

Post infections

Secondary disaccaridase

deficiency

Irritable colon syndrome

Milk protein intolerance



Types of Diarrhea

>Acute watery diarrhea: (80% of cases)

Dehydration

Malnutrition

➤ Dysentery: (10% of cases)

Anorexia/weight loss

Damage to the mucosa

➤ Persistent diarrhea: (10% of cases)

Dehydration

Malnutrition



- Osmotic
- Secretory
- > Exudative
- Motility disorders



Osmotic

Defect present:

Digestive enzyme deficiencies Ingestion of unabsorbable solute

Examples:

Viral infection

Lactase deficiency
Sorbitol/magnesium sulfate
Infections

Comments:

Stop with fasting No stool WBCs



Secretory:

Defect:

Increased secretion
Decreased absorption

Examples:

Cholera
Toxinogenic E.coli

Comments:

Persists during fasting No stool leukocytes



Exudative Diarrhea:

Defects:

Inflammation
Decreased colonic reabsorption
Increased motility

Examples:

Bacterial enteritis

Comments:

Blood, mucus and WBCs in stool



> Increased motility:

Defect:

Decreased transit time

Example:

Irritable bowel syndrome



GASTROENTERITIS

- Acute gastro-intestinal illness usually due to infection
- Characterised by vomiting and diarrhoea
- Can occur at all ages, but infants principal group
- More common in countries with poor hygiene standards, water sanitation problems
- Sporadic or epidemic forms
- Often associated with food poisoning



Causes of acute diarrhoea in infancy and childhood

- Non-enteric causes: otitis media. Meningitis, sepsis generally
- Non-infectious causes: milk/food allergies, drug side effects, malabsorption
- Infections of the gastrointestinal tract



Infantile gastroenteritis: principal causes

- Escherichia coli
 - -enteropathogenic
 - -enterotoxigenic
 - -enteroinvasive
- Viruses
 - -rotavirus
 - -Noroviruses (Norwalk like)



Enteropathogenic *Esch coli* (EPEC)

- Small intestine affected
- Local destruction of intestinal epithelial cells
- Causes infantile diarrhoea
- Fever, nausea, vomiting, non-bloody stools
- Self-limiting
- Supportive care, no specific antibiotic treatment



EPEC Cont'd

- More than 20 (O) serotypes have been identified in outbreaks of infantile diarrhoea
- May affect maternity or neonatal units
- Adherence and colonizing factors appear important in pathogenesis (no toxin)



Enterotoxigenic Esch coli

- Infant diarrhoea, Travelers' diarrhoea
- Cause low grade fever, nausea, watery diarrhoea, cramps
- Small bowel affected
- ☐ Heat labile enterotoxin with cholera like effect
- Heat stable toxin
- Fluid and electrolyte loss



Enteroinvasive Esch coli (EIEC)

- Fever, watery diarrhoea, cramps
- Develops to (bacillary) dysentery, bloody stools
- Large bowel affected, by invasion and local destruction of epithelial cells
- Not enteropathogenic serotypes or enterotoxin producers



Viral gastroenteritis

- □ Frequent cause of infantile gastroenteritis
- ☐ Up to 50% of cases caused by rotaviruses in under 3 year olds
- Short incubation of 2-4 days
- Presents as acute diarrhoea of mild to moderate severity, may be vomiting
- More common in winter months
- Diagnosed by detection of rotavirus antigen in stool
- Supportive care



Other viruses causing infantile gastroenteritis

- Noroviruses ('Norwalk like viruses') and Sapoviruses are2 genera of the family Caliciviridae
- ☐ (Small round structured viruses (SRSV))
- Astroviruses
- Adenoviruses



Infantile gastroenteritis: other infectious causes

- Salmonella spp: usually food poisoning species, can cause outbreaks on units
 - Note: enteric fever species also can cause this presentation
- Shigella spp: cause bacillary dysentery
- □ Campylobacter jejuni
- Giardia lamblia



Enterohaemorrhagic Esch coli

- Haemorrhagic colitis with severe abdominal cramps, watery then bloody diarrhoea
- Cause Haemolytic Uraemic Syndrome (HUS)
- Often caused by E coli 0157
- Children more affected with renal failure
- Antibiotics don't alter course

Cryptosporidiosis

- A self limiting diarrhoeal illness in children
- Accompanied by nausea and vomiting
- Acquired by drinking contaminated water containing cysts of Crypto parvum
- Its very resistant to chlorination
- Source is infected cattle
- □ A more severe illness occurs in immunocompromised (AIDS)
- Diagnosed by finding cysts in stool (acid fast')
- No specific treatment



Giardiasis

- Caused by Giardia lamblia
- Protozoon pathogen
- Cosmopolitan
- Acquired by ingestion of cysts in contaminated food or water (resists chlorination)
- These develop into trophozoites in duodenum
- Symptoms of cramping abdo pain, flatulence, diarrhoea



Giardiasis: Diagnosis and management

- Find cysts or rarely trophozoites in stool
- Need to perform a stool 'concentration'
- Look at several samples
- Occasionally need duodenal aspirate or small bowel biopsy
- Metronidazole is antimicrobial of choice



Bacillary dysentery (SHIGELLOSIS)

- □ Shigella sonnei is the most common species in developed countries
- Causes a mild intestinal illness, with fever, malaise, self-limiting diarrhoea
- Requires low infecting dose acquired by direct contact
- Short incubation period
- ☐ Is locally invasive in large bowel
- Isolate organism on selective culture media



Shigellosis cont'd

- Other 3 species S flexneri, S boydii, S dysenteriae usually acquired abroad
- S dysenteriae causes severe illness which in developing countries can be fatal
- Produces an enterotoxin
- For this form of disease antibiotic therapy necessary: ciprofloxacin (plasmid mediated resistance occurs)



Uncommon causes

- Amoebic dysentery
- □ Causative organism: *Entamoeba histolytica*
- Mainly found in Indian sub Continent, Africa (but Worldwide distribution)
- Acquired from eating food contaminated with cysts
- Causes ulceration of the colon
- Variation in severity of symptoms but can be severe diarrhoea with blood and mucus in stool



Amoebic dysentery

- Can progress to cause perforation of large bowel and peritonitis
- Also, liver involvement with hepatitis or liver abscess
- Diagnosis made by finding amoebic trophozoites in 'warm' stool
- Serology positive in liver infection (immunofluorescence test for antibody)
- ☐ Treatment with metronidazole (emetine in non responders)



Cholera

- A severe diarrhoeal illness with production of 'rice water' stools
- Vomiting and nausea may accompany
- Leads to dehydration, prostration, electrolyte loss, circulatory and renal failure
- Due to toxigenic V cholerae of 3 types, classic, El Tor, and O139



Cholera cont'd

- Typically water borne
- Short incubation period
- Vibrio attaches to small intestinal epithelium and produces an enterotoxin which causes increased cyclic AMP production with outpouring of fluid and electrolytes
- Treat by rehydration and antibiotics (tetracycline or ciprofloxacin)
- Prevent by good sanitation, heat drinking water, oral vaccine



Other infections of intestinal tract

- Enteric fever (typhoid and paratyphoid) caused by Salmonella enterica serotypes Typhi/paratyphi
- Yersinia enterocolitica gastroenteritis
- Aeromonas hydrophila (aqautic organism)
- Plesiomonas shigelloides colitis
- Pseudomembranous colitis (C difficile)



Complications of Diarrhea

- Dehydration
- Metabolic Acidosis
- > Gastrointestinal complications
- Nutritional complications



Complications of Diarrhea

Metabolic Acidosis

- Reduced serum bicarbonate
- Reduced arterial PH
- Compensating respiratory alkalosis



Complications of Diarrhea

Gastrointestinal complications

- Secondary carbohydrate malabsorption
- Protein intolerance
- Persistent diarrhea



Haemolytic uraemic syndrome

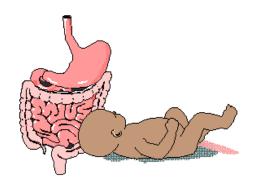
- May follow 'uncomplicated' diarrhoeal illness
- Haemolytic anaemia, acute renal failure, thrombocytopenia
- Caused by verocytoxin (VTEC) same as S dysenteriae type 1 toxin
- Identified in microbiology lab as sorbitol non fermenting strains

HUS

- Most outbreaks due to strain O157:H7
- A large outbreak occurred in Scotland 1996 associated with consumption of meat contaminated by organism
- Many deaths in elderly people
- Source was cattle
- Control by good hygiene practices



Vomiting



Definition:

The forceful expulsion of contents of the stomach and often, the proximal small intestine.



Physiology of Vomiting

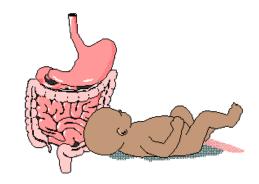
- > Nausea
- Retching
- > Emesis or vomition



Causes of vomiting

Causes	Adults	Infants/Ch <mark>ildren</mark>
Infection (viral "stomach flu")	Common	Common
Food poisoning or infection	Common	Common
Motion sickness	Occasionally	Common
Over-eating/over-feeding	Uncommon	Common
Blocked intestine	Uncommon	Uncommon, but in early infancy must always be considered
Other illnesses, especially those causing high fever	Occasionally	Common
Cough	Uncommon	Community Palestin

Nausea

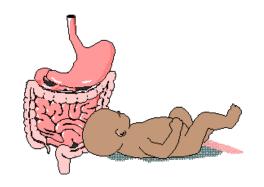


> Definition:

Felling of revulsion for food and an

imminent desire to vomit.

Retching



Definition:

Spasmodic respiratory movements with a closed glottis.

conducted



Emesis or Vomition

Deep inspiration, the glottis is closed and the is raised to open the USE.

> The diaphragm contracts to increase negative intrathoracic pressure.

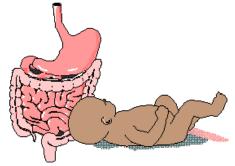
Diaphragm

Stomach Contents

> Abdominal muscles contract.

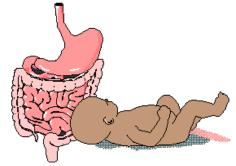


History



- This child was fully breast fed and has been healthy until this current illness.
- He was taken to a private clinic in the town 2 days prior to this admission.
- Medication were prescribed to stop vomiting and diarrhea.
- The clinicians advised the mother to stop breast feeding and to use oral electrolyte solution (ORS) and apple juice to drink.

Cont...



- The child could not tolerate the medication and continue to have more frequent watery stool and occasionally mixed with mucus.
- Mother noticed that her child has fever and had no urination during past 24 hours.

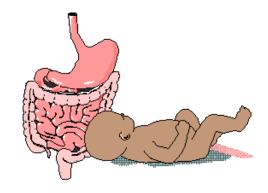


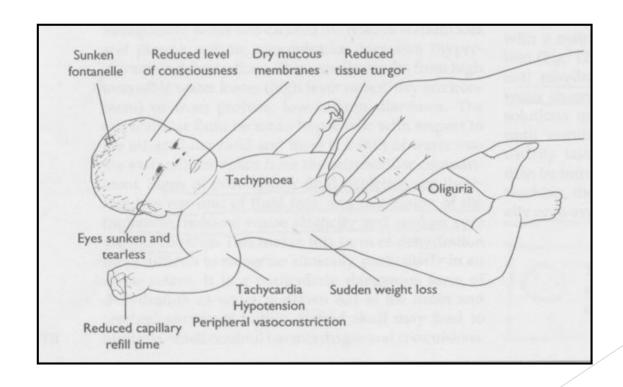
Physical Examination

- Lethargic febrile infant with cool extremities.
- Anterior fontonellae markedly depressed and eyes were sunken.
- Blood pressure 45/30 mm Hg, difficult to obtain.
- > The pulse 160 beats/min, with weak pulsation.
- > Temperature 39°C, skin turgor markedly decreased.
- > The tongue and buccal mucosa were dry.
- Respiratory deep. The weight 9 kg.



Cont...







Degree of Dehydration

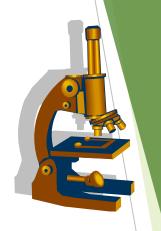
<u>Factors</u>	Mild < 5%	Moderate 5-10%	Severe >10%
General Condition	Well, alert	Restless, thirsty, irritable	Drowsy, cold extremities, lethargic
Eyes	Normal	Sunken	Very sunken, dry
Anterior fontanelle	Normal	depressed	Very depressed
Tears	Present	Absent	Absent
Mouth + tongue	Moist	Sticky	Dry
Skin turgor	Slightly decrease	Decreased	Very decreased
Pulse (N=110- 120 beat/min)	Slightly increase	Rapid, weak	Rapid, sometime impalpable
BP (N=90/60 mm Hg)	Normal	Deceased	Deceased, may be unrecordable
Respiratory rate	Slightly increased	Increased	Deep, rapid
Urine output	Normal	Reduced	Markedly reduced

Laboratory Investigation

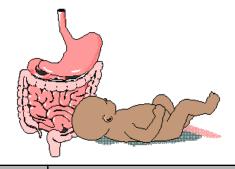
> Blood

- Stool specimen
- Rectal swab

- > Culture blood no evidence of salmonella
- stool: no shigellae, yersinia or campylobacter



Cont...



	Result	Normal value	
Peripheral blood count	Hb: 13.2g/dl, Hct 40%	Hb: 9.5-12.5, Hct 36%	
White Cell Count	8200/mm ³	4-11*10 ³ /mm ³	
Neutrophil	40%	60%	
Lymphocytes	55%	31%	
Monocyte	63%	5%	
Eosinophil	2%	3%	
Platelet count	300 * 10 ³ / mm ³	150-350 * 10 ³ / mm ³	
Peripheral smear	normal	IN	

Cont...

	Result	Normal value
Serum Na	128 mmol/l	135-148 mmol/l
K	2.8 mmol/l	3.5-5 mmol/l
CI	95 mmol/l	99-111 mmol/l
Bicarbonate	10 mg/dl	20-25 mg/dl
BUN	40 mg/dl	25-40 mg/dl
Creatinine	0.5 mg/dl	0.2-0.4 mg/dl



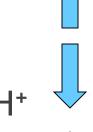
Acid-Base balance

- > Acid intake/ production = Acid excretion.
- > H⁺ ions have a key role.
- > Haderson-Hasselbach Equation:
 - PH= Pk + log10 [base]/[acid]
 - PH = 7.4 + -0.02
- Acid carbonic lung.Fixed kidney.



Acid-Base Disorder

- Disease: Diabetes, COPD, Renal disease
- Metabolic Acidosis:
- Metabolic Alkalosis:
- Respiratory Acidosis:
- Respiratory Alkalosis: HCO3⁻ ,





HC 3-



Types of dehydration

	Isotonic (isonatremic)	Hypertonic (hypernatremic)	Hypotonic (hyponatremic)
Loses	$H_2O = Na$	$H_2O > Na$	H ₂ O < Na
Plasma osmolality	Normal	Increase	Decrease
Serum Na	Serum Na Normal		Decrease
ECV Decrease		Decrease	Decrease +++
ICV	maintained	Decrease +++	Increase
Thirst	Thirst ++		+/-
Skin turgor ++		Not lost	+++
Mental state Irritable/lethargic		Very irritable	Lethargy/coma
shock	In severe cases	Uncommon	Common

Management

Non-specific



- Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS):
 - Effective in all types & all degrees of dehydration.
 - Can prevent dehydration if given early in the disease.
 - Cheap, easy to administer; can be given by mother at home.
 - No chance of overhydration or electrolyte overdose.
- Methods of administration: spoon, cup, dropper, syringe, naso-gastric tube or iv.

ORS Composition

Sodium Chloride

- Tri-Sodium Citrate (bicarbonate)
- > Potassium Chloride

> Glucose



Types of ORS



Solution	Glu g/dl	Na mEq/L	K meq/L	Cl meq/L
WHO	2.0	90	20	80
Rehydralyte	2.5	75	20	65
Pedialyte	2.5	45	20	35
Infalyte	2.0	50	20	40



Refeeding

- ORT: continue during diarrhea
- Continue breast feeding
- Formula fed:
 - Lactose free
 - Start with 1:1 dilution
 - ► Full strength after 6 24 hours of ORT



Refeeding

- Weaned Children
 - Avoid (24 48 hours):
 - ► Lactose containing foods
 - Avoid caffeine, raw fruits
 - Start refeeding with:
 - Rice, wheat noodles, bananas



Antidiarrheal Agents

- Anticholenergic agents
 - Ineffective
 - Contraindicated in children
- Absorbents agents
 - Kaopectate
 - Do not change duration or fluid loss



Antidiarrheal Agents

- Antisecretory Agents
 - Bismuth Subsalicylate (pepto-bismal)
 - Increases intestinal Sodium and water absorption
 - ▶ Blocks the effects of enterotoxins

re-



Antidiarrheal Agents

- Anti-motility Agents
 - Loperimide
 - Lomotil
 - Avoid in infants and children
 - Worsens bacterial infections



Prevention



- Wash your hands frequently, especially after using the toilet, changing diapers.
- Wash your hands before and after preparing food.
- Wash diarrhea-soiled clothing in detergent and chlorine bleach.
- Never drink unpasteurized milk or untreated water.
- Drink only bottled water.
- Proper hygiene.



Points to Remember

- > Gastroenteritis is acute self-limited illness.
- Diarrhea and vomiting in infancy and childhood is usually due to viral gastroenteritis.
- Fluid replacement with ORS is the mainstay of management.
- Breast feeding should be continued, but formula feeding should cease until recovery.
- Antibiotics and antiemetics agents are contraindicated.



Thanks....

But it's not the end !!!



Case 2



Patient History:

Mr. Mansoor, a 21-year-old, presented to his GP with a 3 months of malaise, anorexia, weight loss, mild diffuse abdominal pain and diarrhoea.

Over the last fortnight he vomited every other day and had developed an itchy, blistering rash on the extensor surfaces of his knees and elbows.

He had not vomited any blood or had any abvious bleeding from the gut.

Recently, mealtimes were accompanied by bloating and he noted his stools were also paler than normal.

He was not taking any medication and had not travelled abroad. He was unable to recall any family history of disease.

Case 2



On examination, Mr. Mansoor was underweight for his height and had <u>finger clubbing</u>, several <u>aphthous mouth ulcers</u> and <u>angular cheilitis</u>.

He had a <u>vesicular rash on the extensor surfaces of</u>
<u>his elbows and knees</u>. There was no jaundice or oedema, but he was clinically anaemic.

He had a mildly distended and non tender abdonem and normal bowel sounds.

No masses were felt on palpation or on rectal examination, and ther was no evidence of per rectum bleeding. GP decided to refer Mr. Mansoor to a gastroenterologist for further evaluation.



Result of investigation



Blood test

Cont...



```
blood film microcytes ovel macrocytes Howell-Jolly bodies
```

- Platelet count (X10⁹/l) 280 (150-400) Î
- \rightarrow WBC (X10⁹/l) 15.2 (4-11)
- ightharpoonup Neutrophils (X109/l) 8.4 (2-7.5)
- Eosinophils $(X10^9/l)$ 0.46 (0.4-0.44)
- Lymphocytes (X10⁹/l) 9.9 (1.6-3.5)

Serum Immunoglobins

- ▶ IgG (g/l)
- ▶ IgM (g/l)
- ▶ IgA (g/l)
- IgE (IU/ml)

- 18.2 (5.4-16.1)
- 0.4(0.5-1.9)
- 3.9(0.8-2.8)
- 51 (3-150)

Serum Electrolytes

- Sodium (mmol/l)
- Potassium (mmol/l)
- Calcium(ionised) (mmol/l)
- Phosphate (mmol/l)
- Cholride (mmol/l)

Serum parathyroid hormon

- 134 (134-145)
 - 3.4 (3.5-5)
 - 1.65 (2.12-2.65)
 - 1.26 (0.8-1.45)
 - 95 (95-105)

 $0.98 \, (\mu g/l)$



Liver function tests

- Serum albumin (g/l) 29 (35-50)
- > ALP (IU/l) 64(30-300)
- > AT (IU/ml) 37 (5-35)
- Serum billirubin (μmol/l) 12 (3-17)



Other investigation



- Prothorombin time (secs)
- (cs) 19 (10-14) 55 (35-45)

> APTT (secs)

1 27(<6g/24hr)

Faecal fat (g/24 hr)

Trace

Faecal blood

Negative

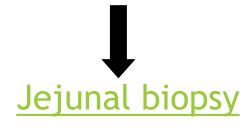
Stool culture

- small bowel
- Abdominal X-ray destension



Further Investigation





Positive (ELISA) tests for IgA antibodies to: gliadin, endomysium and reticulin



Management

- > Gluten-free diet
- > Calcium, folate and iron supplements
- After 3 months, Mr. Mansoor gained several kg in weight and the symptoms were improved.
- > At a follow up appointment:
 - Gliadin, endomyosium and reticulin abs levels were lower.
 - Repeat biopsy showed improvement in the jejunal architecture.
 - > Serum albumin, calcium, haemoglobin and coltting were within the normal level.

Points to Remember

- People with celiac disease can not tolerate gluten.
- Celiac disease damages the small intestine leading to malabsorption.
- Treatment is important because people with celiac disease could develop complication like cancer, anemia and osteoporosis.
- A person with celiac disease may or may not have symptoms.
- Because celiac disease is hereditary, family members of a person with celiac disease may need to be tested by blood and biopsy.
- For celiac disease, gluten-free diet is a lifetime requirement.



