



INSTITUTE FOR
INTERNATIONAL
MEDICINE

Acute Abdominal Pain Differential Diagnosis

DIFFUSE ABDOMINAL PAIN

Perforated appendicitis
Perforated gastric or duodenal ulcer
Acute pancreatitis
Acute intestinal obstruction

RIGHT UPPER QUADRANT

Cholelithiasis, cholecystitis
Hepatitis
Gastritis, peptic ulcer disease
Pleuritis
Nephrolithiasis

LEFT UPPER QUADRANT

Colitis
Myocardial infarction
Acute splenomegally
Nephrolithiasis

RIGHT LOWER QUADRANT

Appendicitis
Colitis
Nephrolithiasis
Mechanical bowel obstruction
Females: ectopic pregnancy, ovarian torsion, pelvic inflammatory disease

EPIGASTRIC

Esophagitis
Gastritis, peptic ulcer disease
Cholelithiasis, cholecystitis
Appendicitis
Myocardial infarction
Abdominal aortic aneurysm
Mechanical bowel obstruction

LEFT LOWER QUADRANT

Colitis

Nephrolithiasis

Mechanical bowel obstruction

Females: ectopic pregnancy, ovarian torsion, pelvic inflammatory disease

SUPRAPUBIC

Cystitis

Abdominal aortic aneurysm

Females: ectopic pregnancy, ovarian torsion, pelvic inflammatory disease