

# Digestive System

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Medical terminology lectures

2019

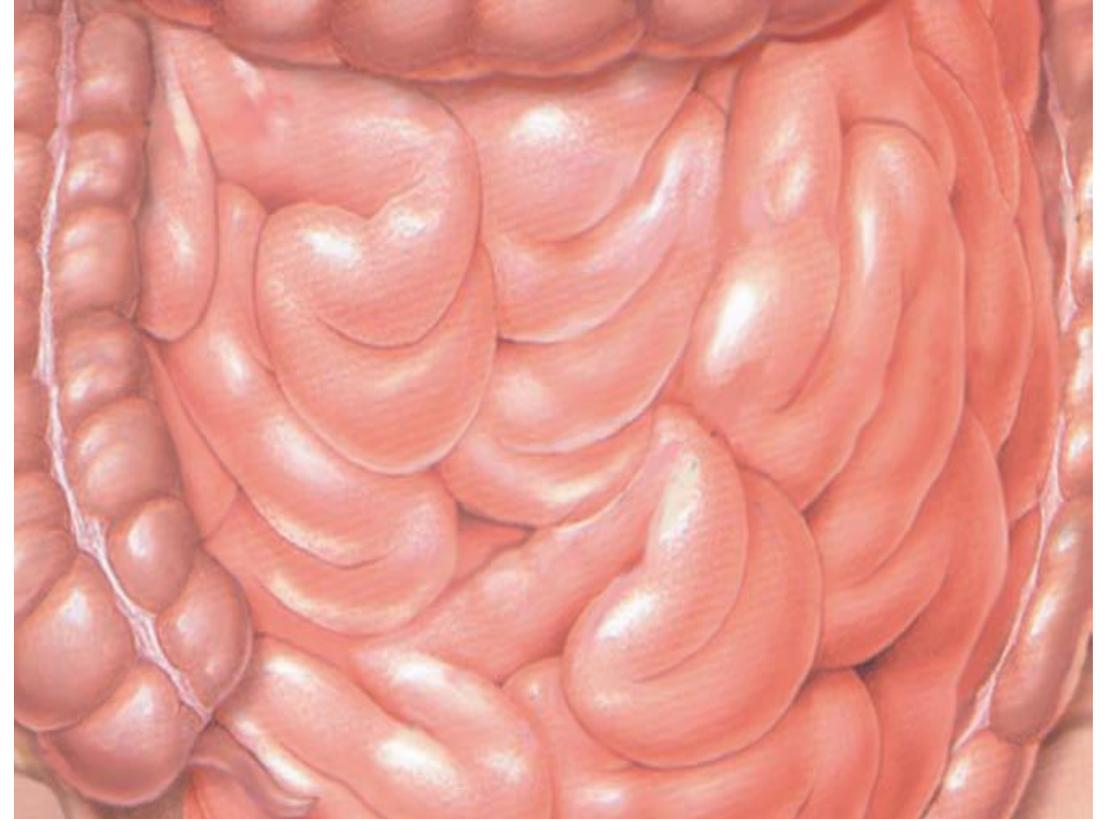


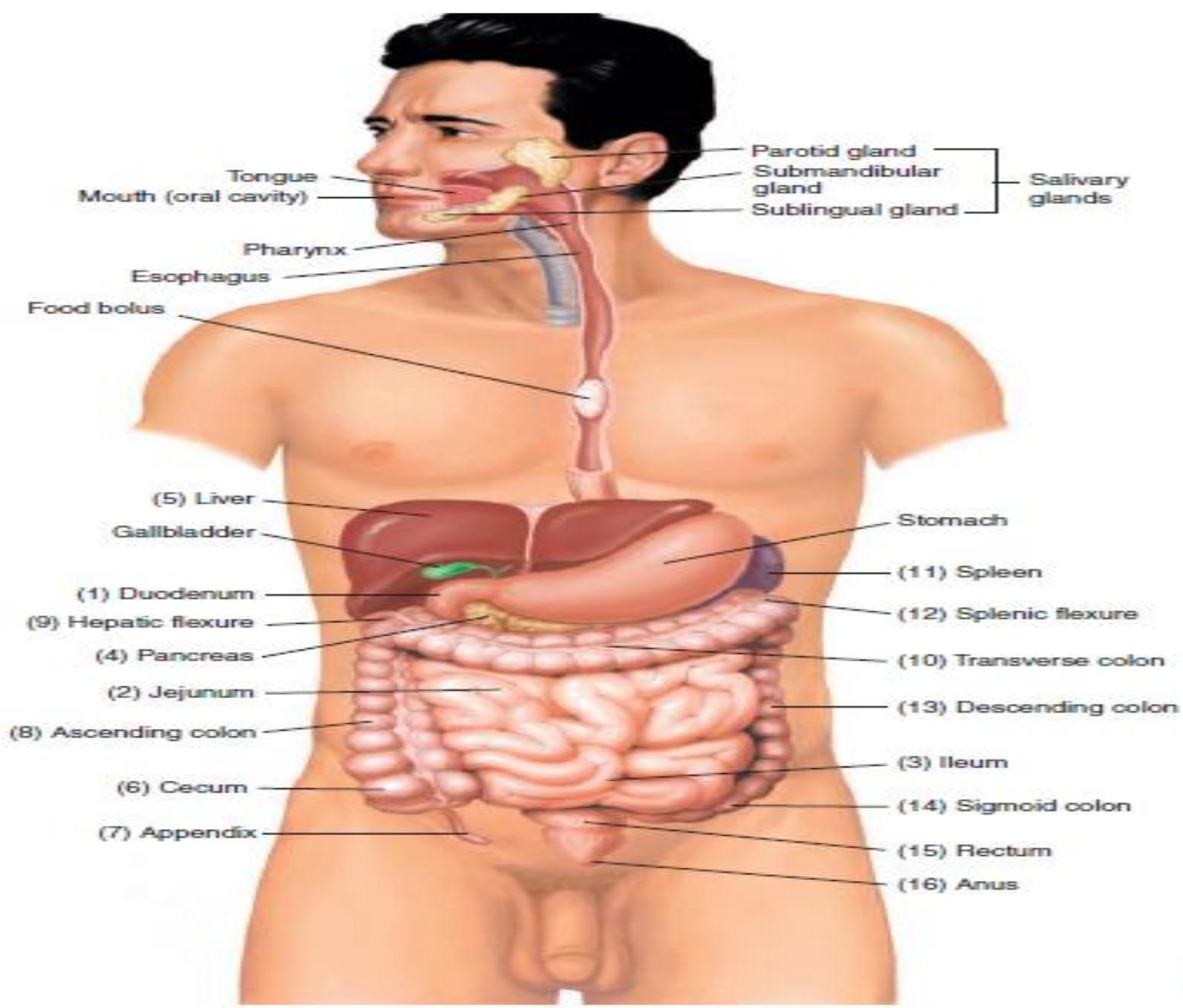
# Anatomy and Physiology

- The digestive system, also called the ***gastrointestinal (GI)*** system, consists of a digestive tube called the ***GI tract*** or ***alimentary canal***, and several accessory organs whose primary function is to break down food, prepare it for absorption, and eliminate waste.
- The GI tract, extending from the mouth to the anus, varies in size and structure in several distinct regions:
  1. mouth
  2. pharynx (throat)
  3. esophagus
  4. stomach
  5. small intestine
  6. large intestine
  7. rectum
  8. anus.

# Anatomy and Physiology

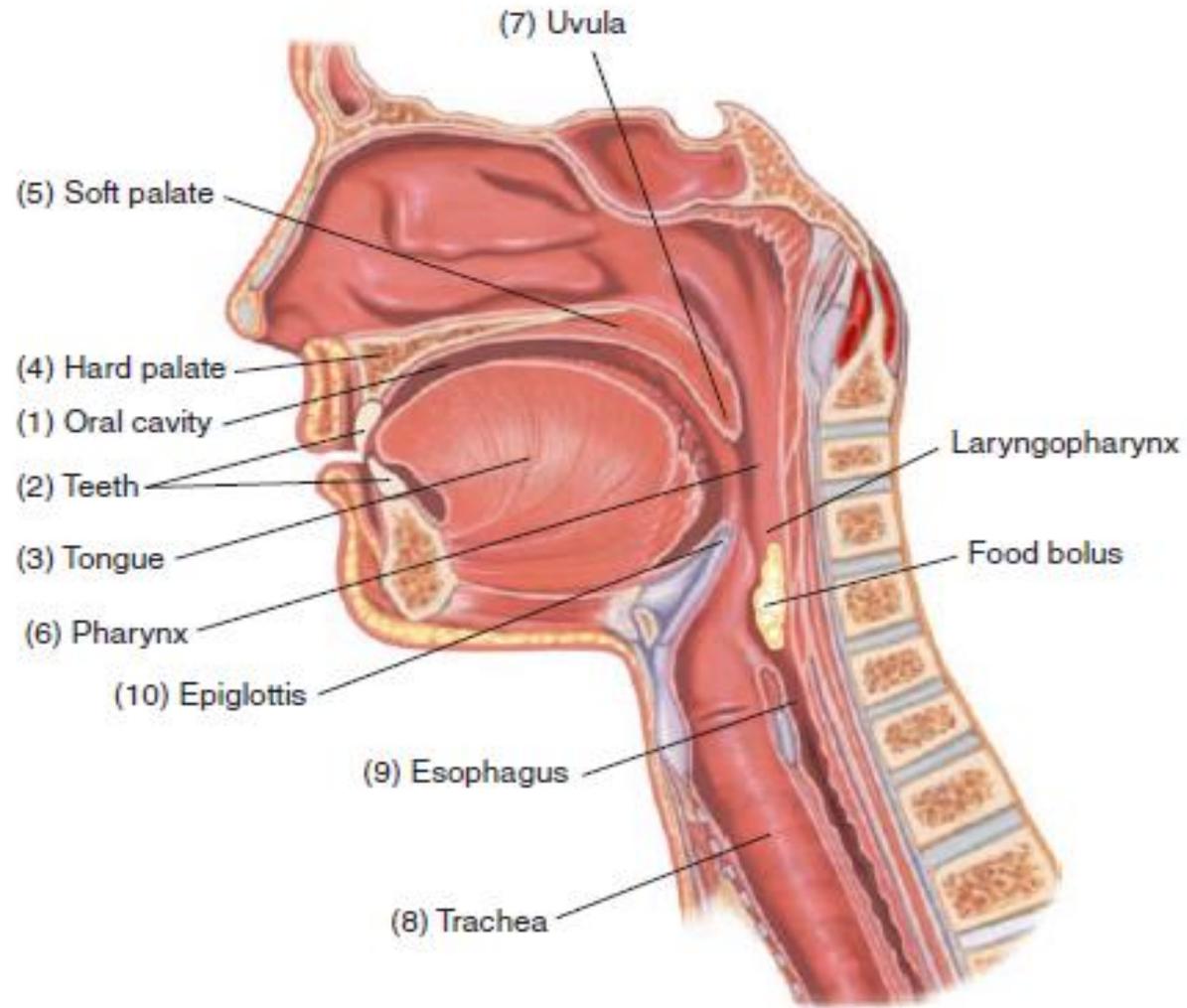
- Food passing along the GI tract is mixed with digestive enzymes and broken down into nutrient molecules, which are absorbed in the bloodstream.
- Undigested waste materials not absorbed by the blood are then eliminated from the body through defecation.
- Included in the digestive system are the accessory organs of digestion: the liver, gallbladder, and pancreas.





**Figure 6-3.** Anterior view of the trunk and digestive organs.

# Mouth



**Figure 6-1.** Sagittal view of the head showing oral, nasal, and pharyngeal components of the digestive system.

# Anatomy and Physiology Key Terms

*This section introduces important terms, along with their definitions and pronunciations. Word analyses for selected terms are also provided.*

Term	Definition
<b>bilirubin</b> bĭl-ĭ-ROO-bĭn	Orange-colored or yellowish pigment in bile <i>Bilirubin is formed principally by the breakdown of hemoglobin in red blood cells after termination of their normal lifespan.</i>
<b>bolus</b> BŌ-lŭs	Mass of masticated food ready to be swallowed
<b>exocrine</b> ĔKS-ŏ-krĭn <i>exo-</i> : outside, outward <i>-crine</i> : secrete	Denotes a gland that secretes its products through excretory ducts to the surface of an organ or tissue or into a vessel
<b>sphincter</b> SFĬNGK-tĕr	Circular band of muscle fibers that constricts a passage or closes a natural opening of the body <i>An example of a sphincter is the lower esophageal (cardiac) sphincter that constricts once food has passed into the stomach.</i>

## Pronunciation Help

Long Sound  
Short Sound

ā—rate  
ă—alone

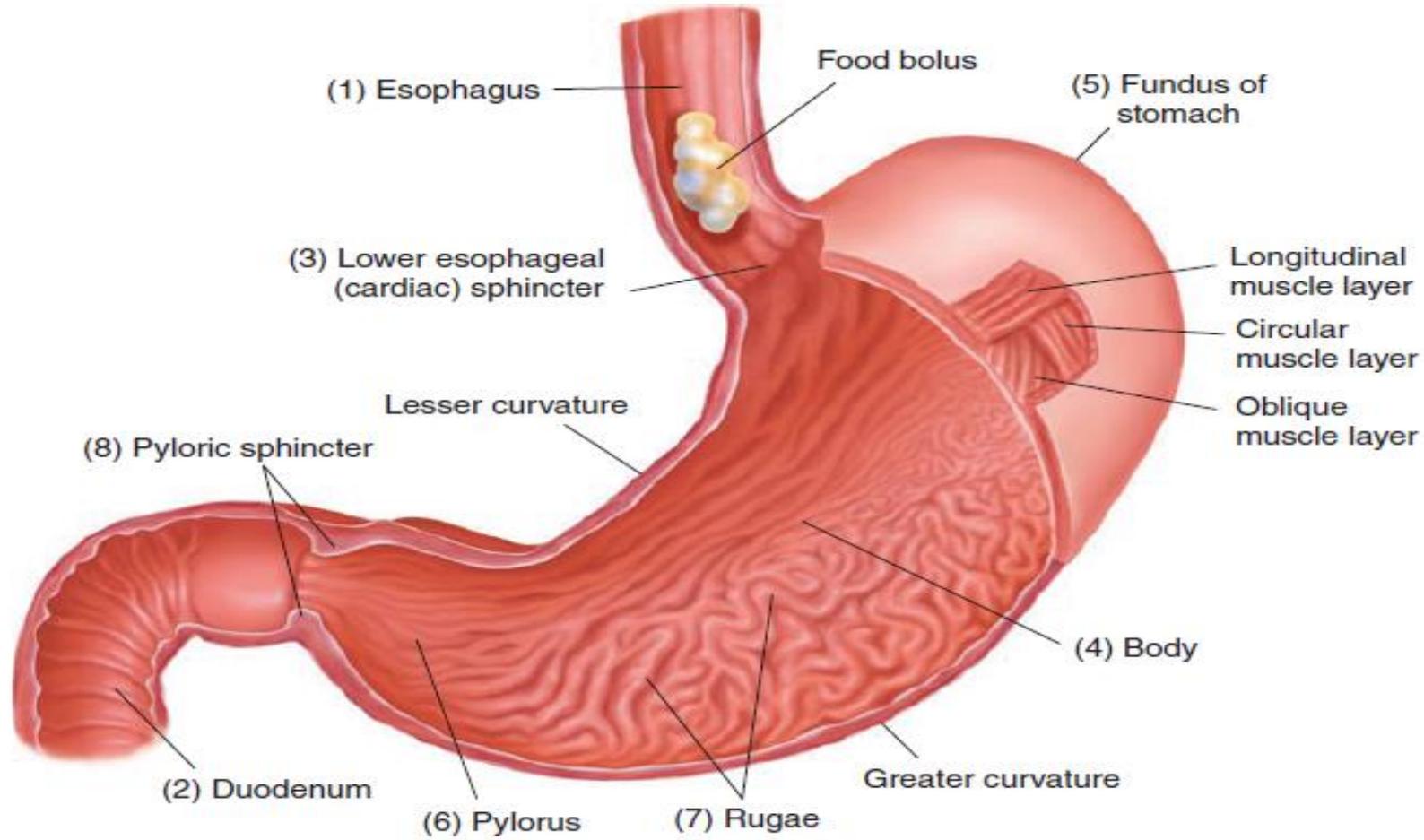
ē—rebirth  
ĕ—ever

ī—isle  
ĭ—it

ō—over  
ŏ—not

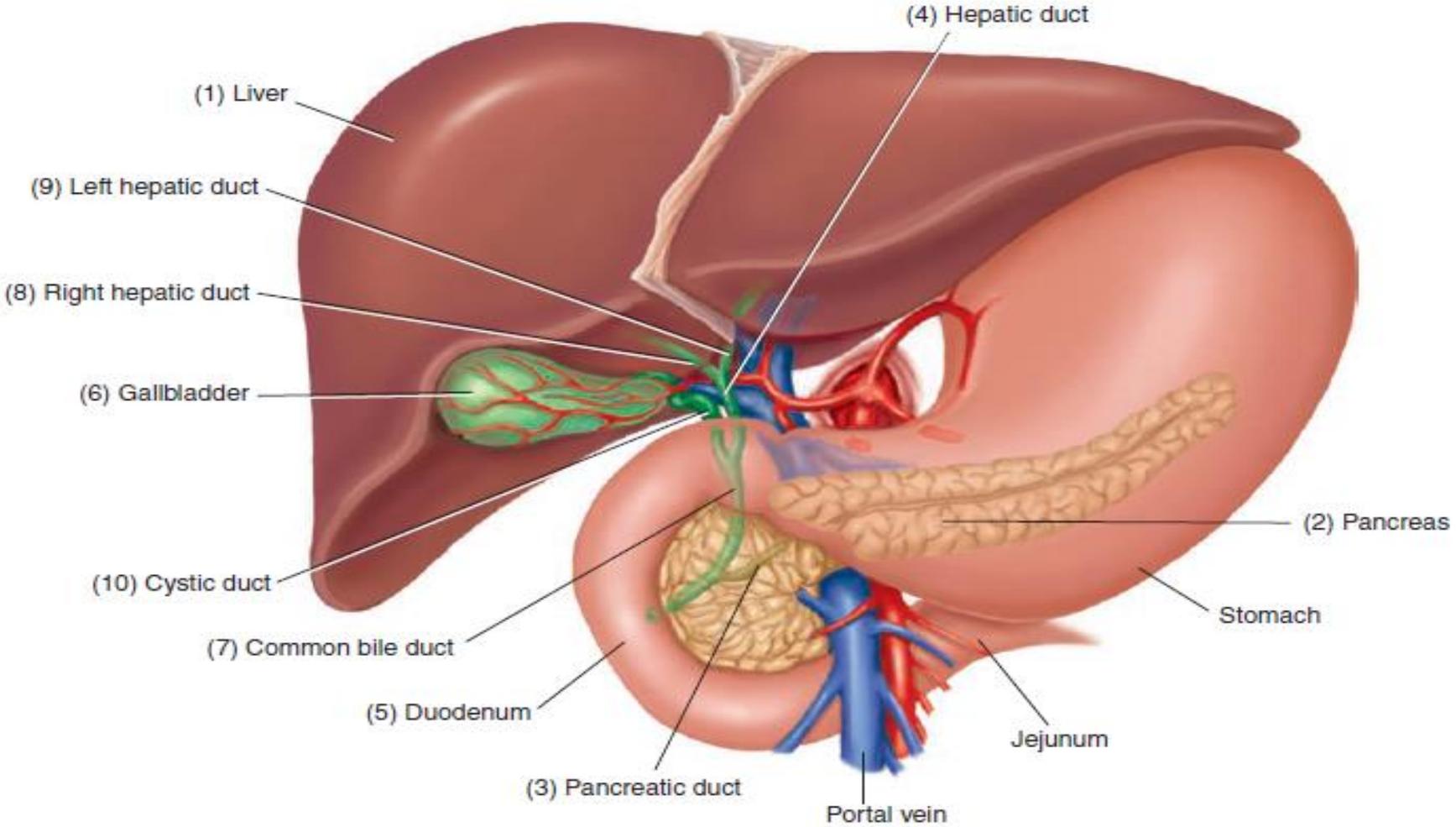
ū—unite  
ÿ—cut

# Stomach



**Figure 6-2.** Anterior view of the stomach showing muscle layers and rugae of the mucosa.

# Accessory Organs of Digestion



**Figure 6-4.** Liver, gallbladder, pancreas, and duodenum with associated ducts and blood vessels.

# Medical Word Elements

Zoom in (Ctrl+Plus)

*This section introduces combining forms, suffixes, and prefixes related to the digestive system. Word analyses are also provided.*

Element	Meaning	Word Analysis
<i>Combining Forms</i>		
<b>Mouth</b>		
or/o	mouth	<b>or/al</b> (OR-ăl): pertaining to the mouth <i>-al</i> : pertaining to
stomat/o		<b>stomat/itis</b> (stō-mă-TĪ-tīs): inflammation of the mouth <i>-itis</i> : inflammation
gloss/o	tongue	<b>gloss/ectomy</b> (glōs-ĔK-tō-mē): removal of all or part of the tongue <i>-ectomy</i> : excision, removal
lingu/o		<b>lingu/al</b> (LĪNG-gwăl): pertaining to the tongue <i>-al</i> : pertaining to
bucc/o	cheek	<b>bucc/al</b> (BŪK-ăl): pertaining to the cheek <i>-al</i> : pertaining to

cheil/o	lip	<b>cheil/o/plasty</b> (KĪ-lō-plās-tē): surgical repair of a defective lip <i>-plasty</i> : surgical repair
labi/o		<b>labi/al</b> (LĀ-bē-ăl): pertaining to the lips, particularly the lips of the mouth <i>-al</i> : pertaining to
dent/o	teeth	<b>dent/ist</b> (DĒN-tĭst): specialist who diagnoses and treats diseases and disorders of teeth <i>-ist</i> : specialist
odont/o		<b>orth/odont/ist</b> (or-thō-DŌN-tĭst): dentist who specializes in correcting and preventing irregularities of abnormally positioned or aligned teeth <i>orth</i> : straight <i>-ist</i> : specialist
gingiv/o	gum(s)	<b>gingiv/ectomy</b> (jĭn-jĭ-VĔK-tō-mē): excision of diseased gingival tissue <i>-ectomy</i> : excision, removal  <i>Gingivectomy is performed as a surgical treatment for periodontal disease.</i>
sial/o	saliva, salivary gland	<b>sial/o/lith</b> (sĭ-ĀL-ō-lĭth): calculus formed in a salivary gland or duct <i>-lith</i> : stone, calculus

**Esophagus,  
Pharynx, and  
Stomach**

esophag/o

esophagus

**esophag/o/scope** (ē-SŎF-ă-gō-skōp): instrument used to examine the esophagus  
*-scope*: instrument for examining

pharyng/o

pharynx  
(throat)

**pharyng/o/tonsill/itis** (fă-rīng-gō-tōn-sĭ-LĪ-tĭs): inflammation of the pharynx and tonsils  
*tonsill*: tonsils  
*-itis*: inflammation

## Medical Word Elements—cont'd

Element	Meaning	Word Analysis
gastr/o	stomach	<b>gastr/algia</b> (gās-TRĀL-jē-ă): pain in the stomach; also called <i>stomachache</i> <i>-algia</i> : pain
pylor/o	pylorus	<b>pylor/o/spasm</b> (pī-LOR-ō-spăzm): involuntary contraction of the pyloric sphincter of the stomach, as in pyloric stenosis <i>-spasm</i> : involuntary contraction, twitching
<b>Small Intestine</b>		
duoden/o	duodenum (first part of small intestine)	<b>duoden/o/scopy</b> (dū-ōd-ě-NŌS-kō-pē): visual examination of the duodenum <i>-scopy</i> : visual examination
enter/o	intestine (usually small intestine)	<b>enter/o/pathy</b> (ěn-tēr-ŌP-ă-thē): disease of the intestine <i>-pathy</i> : disease

jejun/o	jejunum (second part of small intestine)	<b>jejun/o/rrhaphy</b> (jě-joo-NOR-ă-fē): suture of the jejunum <i>-rrhaphy</i> : suture
ile/o	ileum (third part of small intestine)	<b>ile/o/stomy</b> (ĭl-ē-ŎS-tō-mē): creation of an opening between the ileum and the abdominal wall <i>-stomy*</i> : forming an opening (mouth) <i>An ileostomy creates an opening on the surface of the abdomen to allow feces to be discharged into a bag worn on the abdomen.</i>
<b>Large Intestine</b>		
append/o	appendix	<b>append/ectomy</b> (ăp-ĕn-DĚK-tō-mē): excision of the appendix <i>-ectomy</i> : excision, removal <i>Appendectomy is performed to remove a diseased appendix in danger of rupturing.</i>
appendic/o		<b>appendic/itis</b> (ă-pĕn-dĭ-SĪ-tĭs): inflammation of the appendix <i>-itis</i> : inflammation
col/o	colon	<b>col/o/stomy</b> (kō-LŎS-tō-mē): creation of an opening between the colon and the abdominal wall

## Medical Word Elements—cont'd

Element	Meaning	Word Analysis
Terminal End of Large Intestine		
rect/o	rectum	<b>rect/o/cele</b> (RĔK-tŏ-sēl): herniation or protrusion of the rectum; also called <i>proctocele</i> <i>-cele</i> : hernia, swelling
proct/o	anus, rectum	<b>proct/o/logist</b> (prŏk-TŎL-ŏ-jĭst): physician who specializes in treating disorders of the colon, rectum, and anus <i>-logist</i> : specialist in the study of
an/o	anus	<b>peri/an/al</b> (pĕr-ĕ-Ā-năl): pertaining to the area around the anus <i>peri-</i> : around <i>-al</i> : pertaining to

## Accessory Organs of Digestion

hepat/o	liver	<b>hepat/o/megaly</b> (hĕp-ă-tō-MĒG-ă-lē): enlargement of the liver <i>-megaly</i> : enlargement
pancreat/o	pancreas	<b>pancreat/o/lysis</b> (păn-krē-ă-TŎL-ĭ-sĭs): destruction of the pancreas by pancreatic enzymes <i>-lysis</i> : separation; destruction; loosening
cholangi/o	bile vessel	<b>cholangi/ole</b> (kō-LĂN-jē-ōl): small terminal portion of the bile duct <i>-ole</i> : small, minute
chol/e**	bile, gall	<b>chol/e/lith</b> (KŌ-lē-lĭth): gallstone <i>-lith</i> : calculus, stone  <i>Gallstones are solid masses composed of bile and cholesterol that form in the gallbladder and common bile duct.</i>
cholecyst/o	gallbladder	<b>cholecyst/ectomy</b> (kō-lē-sĭs-TĚK-tō-mē): removal of the gallbladder <i>-ectomy</i> : excision, removal  <i>Cholecystectomy is performed by laparoscopic or open surgery.</i>

choledoch/o	bile duct	<b>choledoch/o/plasty</b> (kō-LĒD-ō-kō-plās-tē): surgical repair of the common bile duct <i>-plasty</i> : surgical repair
Suffixes		
-emesis	vomit	<b>hyper/emesis</b> (hī-pĕr-ĔM-ĕ-sĭs): excessive vomiting <i>hyper-</i> : excessive, above normal
-iasis	abnormal condition (produced by something specified)	<b>chol/e/lith/iasis</b> (kō-lē-lĭ-THĪ-ă-sĭs): presence or formation of gallstones in the gallbladder or common bile duct <i>chol/e</i> : bile, gall <i>lith</i> : stone, calculus  <i>When gallstones form in the common bile duct, the condition is called choledocholithiasis</i>

\*The *e* in *chol/e* is an exception to the rule of using the connecting vowel *o*.

Medical Word Elements—cont'd		
Element	Meaning	Word Analysis
-megaly	enlargement	<p>hepat/o/<b>megaly</b> (hĕp-ă-tō-MĔG-ă-lē): enlargement of the liver  <i>hepat/o:</i> liver</p> <p><i>Hepatomegaly may be caused by hepatitis or infection, fatty infiltration (as in alcoholism), biliary obstruction, or malignancy.</i></p>
-orexia	appetite	<p>an/<b>orexia</b> (ăn-ō-RĔK-sē-ă): loss of appetite  <i>an-:</i> without, not</p> <p><i>Anorexia can result from various conditions, such as adverse effects of drugs or various physical or psychological causes.</i></p>
-pepsia	digestion	<p>dys/<b>pepsia</b> (dĭs-PĔP-sē-ă): epigastric discomfort felt after eating; also called <i>indigestion</i>  <i>dys-:</i> bad; painful; difficult</p>
-phagia	swallowing, eating	<p>aer/o/<b>phagia</b> (ĕr-ō-FĀ-jē-ă): swallowing air  <i>aer/o:</i> air</p>
-prandial	meal	<p>post/<b>prandial</b> (pōst-PRĀN-dē-ăl): following a meal  <i>post-:</i> after, behind</p>

-rrhea	discharge, flow	<b>steat/o/rrhea</b> (stē-ă-tō-RĒ-ă): excessive amount of fat discharged in fecal matter <i>-rrhea</i> : discharge, flow
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*Prefixes*

dia-	through, across	<b>dia/rrhea</b> (dī-ă-RĒ-ă): abnormally frequent discharge or flow of fluid fecal matter from the bowel <i>-rrhea</i> : discharge, flow
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peri-	around	<b>peri/sigmoid/itis</b> (pēr-ĭ-sĭg-moy-DĪ-tĭs): inflammation of peritoneal tissue around the sigmoid colon <i>peri-</i> : around <i>-itis</i> : inflammation
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sub-	under, below	<b>sub/lingu/al</b> (sŭb-LĪNG-gwăł): pertaining to the area under the tongue <i>lingu</i> : tongue <i>-al</i> : pertaining to
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## anorexia

ăn-ō-REĬK-sē-ă

*an-*: without, not*-orexia*: appetite

Lack or loss of appetite, resulting in the inability to eat

*Anorexia should not be confused with anorexia nervosa, which is a complex psychogenic eating disorder characterized by an all-consuming desire to remain thin. Anorexia nervosa and a similar eating disorder called bulimia nervosa are discussed in Chapter 14.*

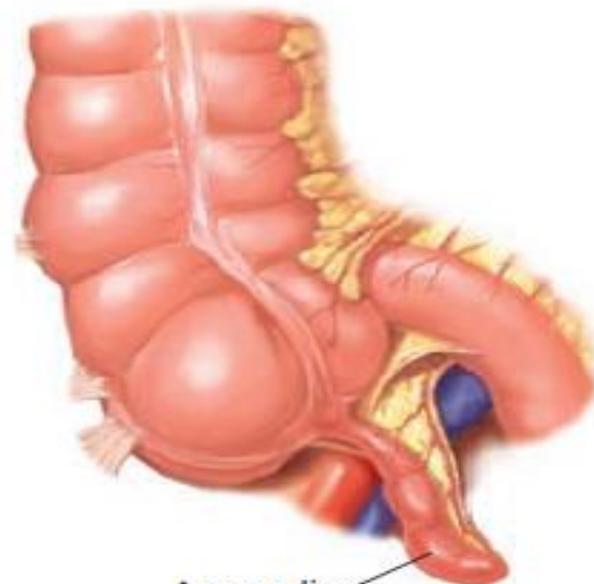
## appendicitis

ă-pĕn-dĭ-SĪ-tĭs

*appendic*: appendix*-itis*: inflammation

Inflammation of the appendix, usually due to obstruction or infection

*If left undiagnosed, appendicitis rapidly leads to perforation and peritonitis. Treatment is appendectomy within 24 to 48 hours of the first symptoms because delay usually results in rupture and peritonitis as fecal matter is released into the peritoneal cavity. (See Figure 6–7.)*



A. Diseased appendix

ascites

ă-SĪ-tēz

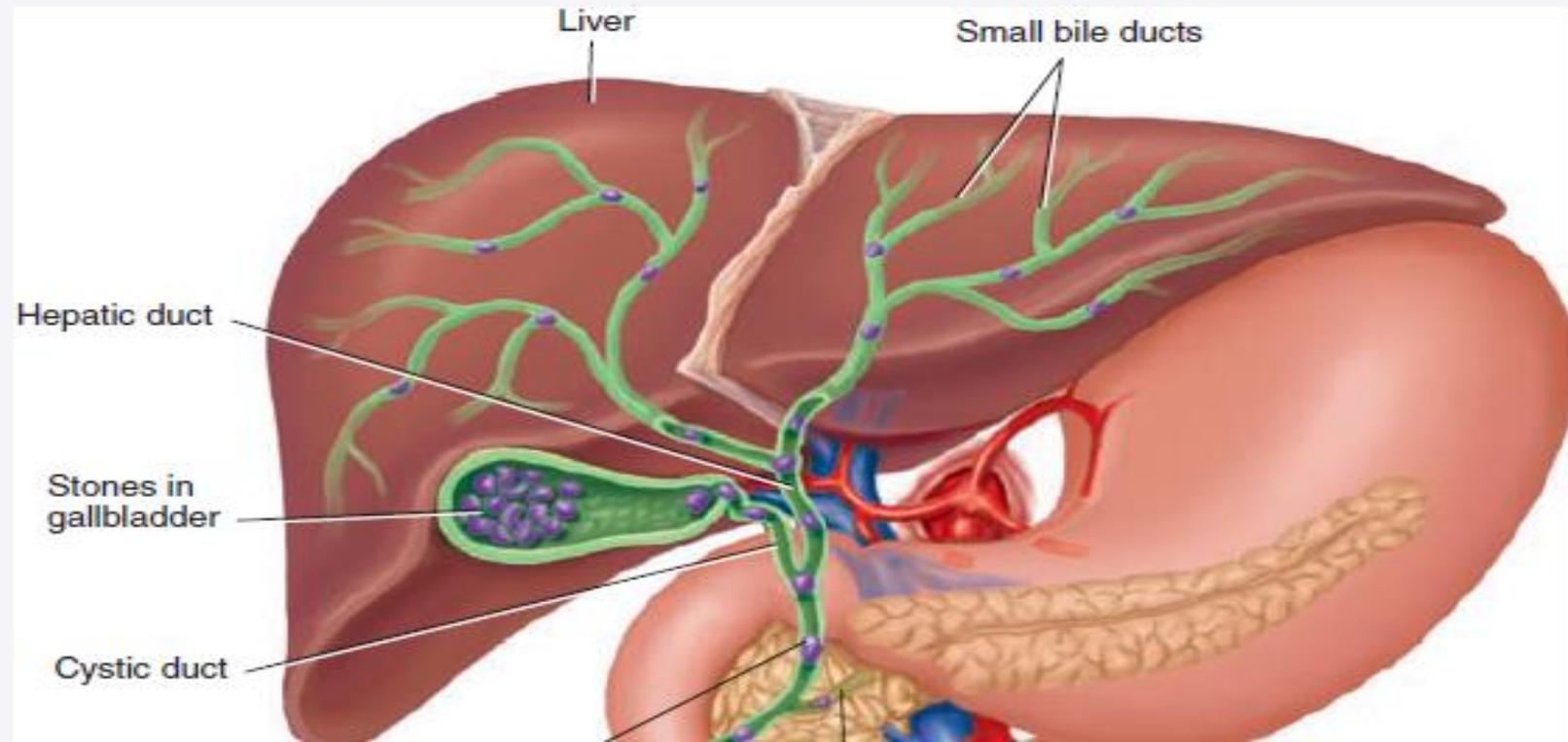
Abnormal accumulation of fluid in the abdomen

*Ascites is most commonly associated with cirrhosis of the liver, especially when caused by alcoholism. Failure of the liver to produce albumin (a protein that regulates the amount of fluid in the circulatory system), combined with portal hypertension forces fluid to pass from the circulatory system and accumulate in the peritoneum.*

*(continued)*

## Diagnostic, Symptomatic, and Related Terms—cont'd

Term	Definition
<b>borborygmus</b> bōr-bō-RĪG-mūs	Rumbling or gurgling noises that are audible at a distance and caused by passage of gas through the liquid contents of the intestine
<b>cachexia</b> kā-KĒKS-ē-ă	Physical wasting that includes loss of weight and muscle mass; commonly associated with AIDS and cancer.
<b>cholelithiasis</b> kō-lē-lī-THĪ-ă-sīs <i>chol/e</i> : bile, gall <i>lith</i> : stone, calculus <i>-iasis</i> : abnormal condition (produced by something specified)	Presence or formation of gallstones in the gallbladder or common bile duct <i>Cholelithiasis may or may not produce symptoms. (See Figure 6–8.)</i>



cirrhosis  
sĭr-RŌ-sĭs

Scarring and dysfunction of the liver cause by chronic liver disease  
*Cirrhosis is most commonly caused by chronic alcoholism. It may also be caused by toxins, infectious agents, metabolic diseases, and circulatory disorders. In this disorder, functional hepatic cells are replaced by nonfunctioning fibrous tissue that impairs the flow of blood and lymph within the liver, resulting in hepatic insufficiency.*

colic  
KŌL-ĭk

Spasm in any hollow or tubular soft organ especially in the colon, accompanied by pain

Crohn disease  
KRŌN

Chronic inflammation, usually of the ileum, but possibly affecting any portion of the intestinal tract; also called *regional enteritis*  
*Crohn disease is a chronic disease distinguished from closely related bowel disorders by its inflammatory pattern. It may cause fever, cramping, diarrhea, and weight loss.*

deglutition  
dē-gloo-TĪSH-ŭn

Act of swallowing

## Diagnostic, Symptomatic, and Related Terms—cont'd

Term	Definition
<b>dysentery</b> DĪS-ĕn-tĕr-ĕ	Inflammation of the intestine, especially the colon, that may be caused by ingesting water or food containing chemical irritants, bacteria, protozoa, or parasites, which results in bloody diarrhea  <i>Dysentery is common in underdeveloped countries and in times of disaster when sanitary living conditions, clean food, and safe water are not available.</i>
<b>dyspepsia</b> dĭs-PĔP-sĕ-ă <i>dys-</i> : bad; painful; difficult <i>-pepsia</i> : digestion	Epigastric discomfort felt after eating; also called <i>indigestion</i>
<b>dysphagia</b> dĭs-FĀ-jĕ-ă <i>dys-</i> : bad; painful; difficult <i>-phagia</i> : swallowing, eating	Inability or difficulty in swallowing; also called <i>aphagia</i>
<b>eructation</b> ĕ-rŭk-TĀ-shŭn	Producing gas from the stomach, usually with a characteristic sound; also called <i>belching</i>
<b>fecalith</b> FĔ-kă-lĭth	Fecal concretion
<b>flatus</b> FLĀ-tŭs	Gas in the GI tract; expelling of air from a body orifice, especially the anus

gastroesophageal reflux disease  
(GERD)

gās-trō-ě-s-ōf-ǎ-JĒ-ǎl RĒ-flūks

*gastr/o*: stomach

*esophag*: esophagus

*-eal*: pertaining to

Backflow of gastric contents into the esophagus due to a malfunction of the sphincter muscle at the inferior portion of the esophagus

*GERD may occur whenever pressure in the stomach is greater than that in the esophagus and may be associated with heartburn, esophagitis, hiatal hernia, or chest pain.*

halitosis

hǎl-ĭ-TŌ-sĭs

Offensive, or “bad,” breath

hematemesis

hēm-ăt-ĔM-ě-sĭs

*hemat*: blood

*-emesis*: vomiting

Vomiting of blood from bleeding in the stomach or esophagus

*Hematemesis can be caused by an esophageal ulcer, esophageal varices (dilation of veins), or a gastric ulcer. Treatment requires correction of the underlying cause.*

irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)

Symptom complex marked by abdominal pain and altered bowel function (typically constipation, diarrhea, or alternating constipation and diarrhea) for which no organic cause can be determined; also called *spastic colon*

*Contributing or aggravating factors of IBS include anxiety and stress.*

malabsorption syndrome

mǎl-ǎb-SORP-shŭn SĪN-drŏm

Symptom complex of the small intestine characterized by the impaired passage of nutrients, minerals, or fluids through intestinal villi into the blood or lymph

*Malabsorption syndrome may be associated with or due to a number of diseases, including those affecting the intestinal mucosa. It may also be due to surgery, such as gastric resection and ileal bypass, or antibiotic therapy.*

(continued)

## Diagnostic, Symptomatic, and Related Terms—cont'd

Term	Definition
melena MĚL-ě-nă	Passage of dark-colored, tarry stools, due to the presence of blood altered by intestinal juices
obesity ō-BĚ-sĭ-tē	Excessive accumulation of fat that exceeds the body's skeletal and physical standards, usually an increase of 20 percent or more above ideal body weight. <i>Obesity may be due to excessive intake of food (exogenous) or metabolic or endocrine abnormalities (endogenous).</i>
morbid obesity ō-BĚ-sĭ-tē	Body mass index (BMI) of 40 or greater, which is generally 100 or more pounds over ideal body weight. <i>Morbid obesity is a disease with serious psychological, social, and medical ramifications and one that threatens necessary body functions such as respiration.</i>
obstipation ōb-stĭ-PĀ-shŭn	Severe constipation; may be caused by an intestinal obstruction
oral leukoplakia OR-ăl loo-kō-PLĀ-kē-ă <i>leuk/o</i> : white <i>-plakia</i> : plaque	Formation of white spots or patches on the mucous membrane of the tongue, lips, or cheek caused primarily by irritation <i>Oral leukoplakia is a precancerous condition usually associated with pipe or cigarette smoking or ill-fitting dentures.</i>
peristalsis pěr-ĭ-STĀL-sĭs	Progressive, wavelike movement that occurs involuntarily in hollow tubes of the body, especially the GI tract

## pyloric stenosis

pī-LOR-ĭk stĕ-NŌ-sĭs

*pylor*: pylorus

*-ic*: pertaining to

*sten*: narrowing, stricture

*-osis*: abnormal condition; increase  
(used primarily with blood cells)

Stricture or narrowing of the pyloric sphincter (circular muscle of the pylorus) at the outlet of the stomach, causing an obstruction that blocks the flow of food into the small intestine

*The muscle fibers of the outlet are cut, without severing the mucosa, to widen the opening. After surgery in adults, a stomach tube remains in place and observation is maintained for signs of hemorrhage or blockage of the tube.*

## regurgitation

rĕ-gŭr-jĭ-TĀ-shŭn

Backward flowing, as in the return of solids or fluids to the mouth from the stomach

## steatorrhea

stĕ-ă-tō-RĒ-ă

*steat/o*: fat

*-rrhea*: discharge, flow

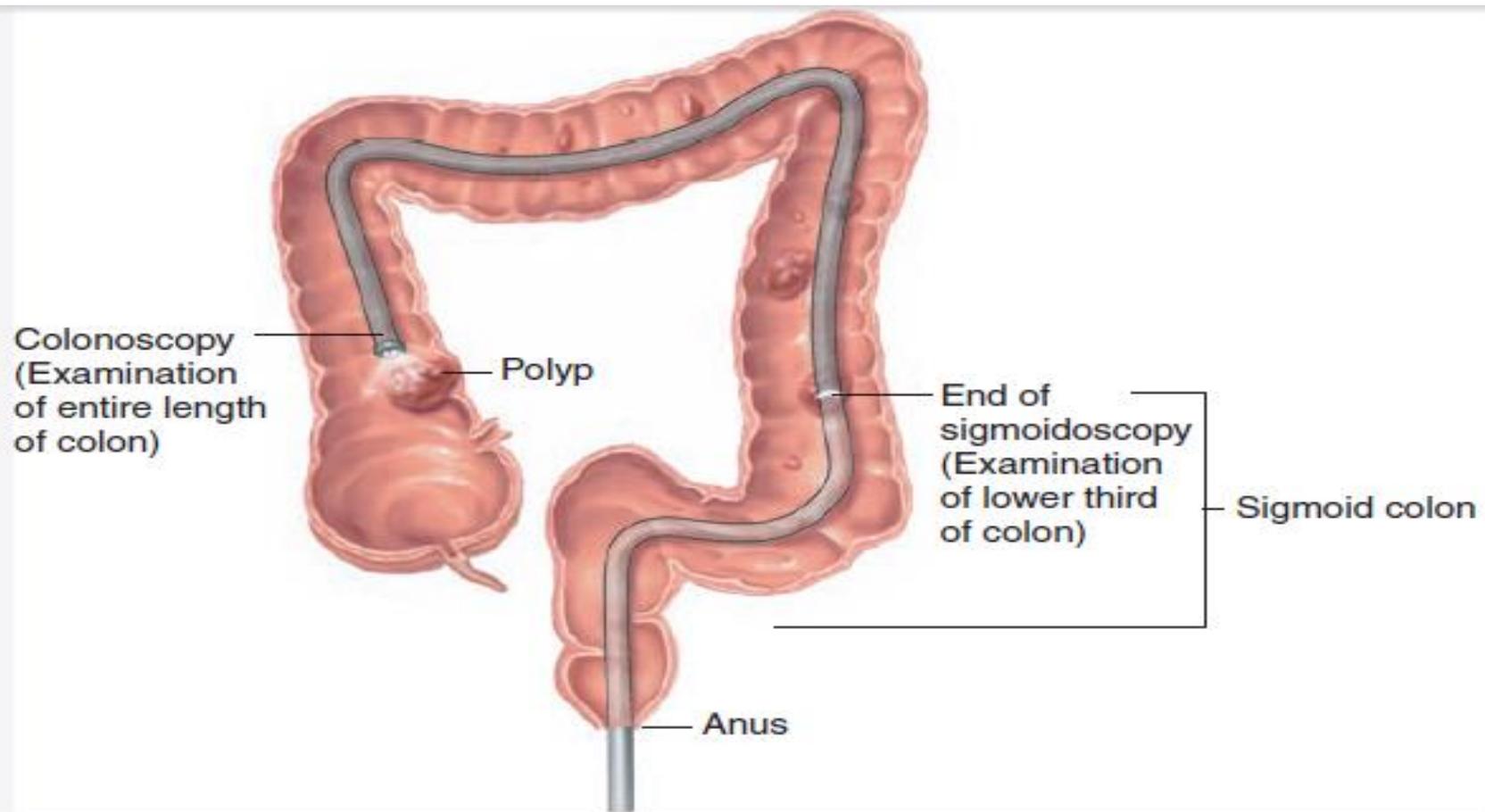
Passage of fat in large amounts in the feces due to failure to digest and absorb it

*Steatorrhea may occur in pancreatic disease when pancreatic enzymes are not sufficient. It also occurs in malabsorption syndrome.*

# Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures

*This section introduces procedures used to diagnose and treat digestive system disorders. Descriptions are provided as well as pronunciations and word analyses for selected terms.*

Procedure	Description
<b>Diagnostic Procedures</b>	
<b>Endoscopic</b>	
endoscopy ĕn-DŌS-kō-pē <i>endo-</i> : in, within <i>-scopy</i> : visual examination	Visual examination of a cavity or canal using a flexible fiberoptic instrument called an <i>endoscope</i> <i>The organ, cavity, or canal being examined dictates the name of the endoscopic procedure. (See Figure 4-6.) A camera and video recorder are commonly used during the procedure to provide a permanent record.</i>
upper GI	Endoscopy of the esophagus (esophagoscopy), stomach (gastroscopy), and duodenum (duodenoscopy) <i>Endoscopy of the upper GI tract is performed to identify tumors, esophagitis, gastroesophageal varices, peptic ulcers, and the source of upper GI bleeding. It is also used to confirm the presence and extent of varices in the lower esophagus and stomach in patients with liver disease.</i>
lower GI	Endoscopy of the colon (colonoscopy), sigmoid colon (sigmoidoscopy), and rectum and anal canal (proctoscopy) (See Figure 6-9.) <i>Endoscopy of the lower GI tract is used to identify pathological conditions in the colon. It may also be used to remove polyps. When polyps are discovered in the colon, they are retrieved and tested for cancer.</i>



**Figure 6-9.** Colonoscopy and sigmoidoscopy.

## Laboratory

hepatitis panel

hĕp-ă-TĪ-tĭs

*hepat:* liver

*-itis:* inflammation

Panel of blood tests that identify the specific virus—hepatitis A (HAV), hepatitis B (HBV), or hepatitis C (HCV)-causing hepatitis by testing serum using antibodies to each of these antigens

(continued)

Table 6-1

## Drugs Used to Treat Digestive Disorders

*This table lists common drug classifications used to treat digestive disorders, their therapeutic actions, and selected generic and trade names.*

ملاحظة: أسماء الأدوية للاطلاع فقط

Classification	Therapeutic Action	Generic and Trade Names
antacids	<p>Counteract or neutralize acidity, usually in the stomach</p> <p><i>Antacids are used to treat and prevent heartburn and acid reflux.</i></p>	<p>calcium carbonate KĀL-sē-üm KĀR-bön-āt Mylanta, Roloids, Tums</p>
antidiarrheals	<p>Control loose stools and relieve diarrhea by absorbing excess water in the bowel or slowing peristalsis in the intestinal tract</p>	<p>loperamide lō-PĒR-ă-mīd Imodium</p> <p>kaolin/pectin KĀ-ō-līn PĒK-tīn Donnagel-MB, Kapectolin</p>

(continued)

Table 6-1

## Drugs Used to Treat Digestive Disorders—cont'd

Classification	Therapeutic Action	Generic and Trade Names
<b>antiemetics</b>	<p>Control nausea and vomiting by blocking nerve impulses to the vomiting center of the brain</p> <p><i>Some emetics act by hastening movement of food through the digestive tract.</i></p>	<p><b>prochlorperazine</b> prō-klor-PĔR-ă-zĕn Compazine, Compro</p> <p><b>trimethobenzamide</b> trī-mĕth-ō-BĔN-ză-mīd T-Gen, Tigan</p>
<b>antispasmodics</b>	<p>Decrease gastrointestinal (GI) spasms by slowing peristalsis and motility throughout the GI tract</p> <p><i>Antispasmodics are prescribed for irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), spastic colon, and diverticulitis.</i></p>	<p><b>glycopyrrolate</b> glī-kō-PĪR-rō-lāt Robinul</p> <p><b>propantheline</b> prō-PĀN-thĕ-lĕn Pro-Banthine</p>
<b>laxatives</b>	<p>Treat constipation by increasing peristaltic activity in the large intestine or increasing water and electrolyte secretion into the bowel to induce defecation</p>	<p><b>senna, sennosides</b> SĔN-ă, SĔN-ō-sīdz Senokot, Senolax</p> <p><b>psyllium</b> SĪL-ē-ŭm Metamucil, Natural Fiber Supplement</p>

ملاحظة: أسماء الادوية للاطلاع فقط

# Abbreviations

*This section introduces digestive-related abbreviations and their meanings.*

Abbreviation	Meaning	Abbreviation	Meaning
<i>Common</i>			
ABC	aspiration biopsy cytology	EGD	esophagogastroduodenoscopy
alk phos	alkaline phosphatase	ERCP	endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography
ALT	alanine aminotransferase	GB	gallbladder
AST	angiotensin sensitivity	GBS	gallbladder series (x-ray studies)
Ba	barium	GER	gastroesophageal reflux
BaE, BE	barium enema	GERD	gastroesophageal reflux disease
BM	bowel movement	GI	gastrointestinal
BMI	body mass index	HAV	hepatitis A virus
CF	cystic fibrosis	HBV	hepatitis B virus
CT	computed tomography	HCV	hepatitis C virus

## Abbreviations—cont'd

Abbreviation	Meaning	Abbreviation	Meaning
HDV	hepatitis D virus	PTHC	percutaneous transhepatic cholangiography
HEV	hepatitis E virus	stat, STAT	immediately
IBS	irritable bowel syndrome	PMH	past medical history
LFT	liver function test	PUD	peptic ulcer disease
NG	nasogastric	RGB	Roux-en-Y gastric bypass
PE	physical examination; pulmonary embolism	R/O	rule out
<i>Medication time schedule</i>			
a.c.	before meals	qAM	every morning
b.i.d.	twice a day	q.d.	every day
hs	half strength	q.h.	every hour
h.s.	at bedtime	q.2h.	every 2 hours
NPO, n.p.o.	nothing by mouth	q.i.d.	four times a day
pc, p.c.	after meals	q.o.d.	every other day

Thank you !