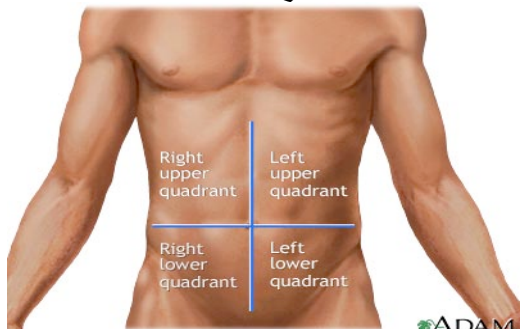


Anatomy of Abdominal Pain

A review for nurses

Overview

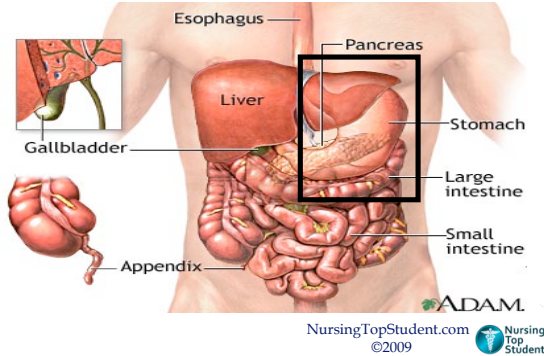
Abdominal Quadrants



Assessment

- Ask patient to identify location of pain

Left Upper Quadrant



Organs in LUQ

- Stomach
- Part of large intestines
- Spleen
- Pancreas

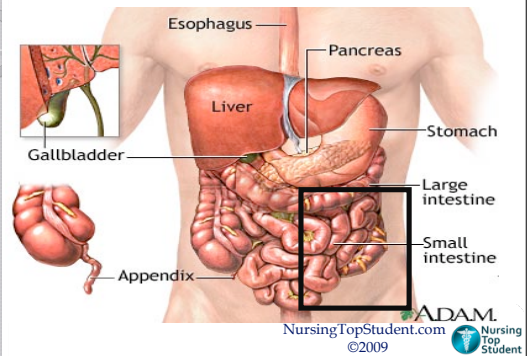
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- Pain in LUQ may be related to:

- GI disorders
- Gastroenteritis
- Traumatic Injury
 - Ruptured spleen
 - Bleeding

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Left Lower Quadrant



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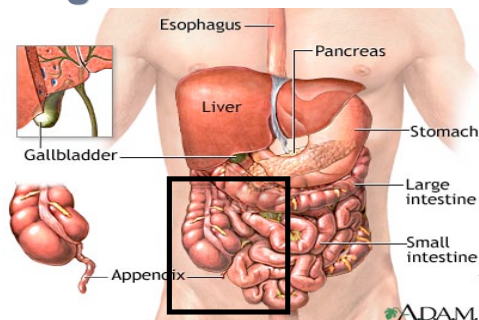
Organs in LLQ

- Left kidney
- Part of large intestines
 - Descending colon
- Part of small intestines
- Left ovary and fallopian tube in females

Pain in left lower quadrant may be related to:

- GI disorders
- Gas
- Bloating
- Ectopic pregnancy in females

Right Lower Quadrant



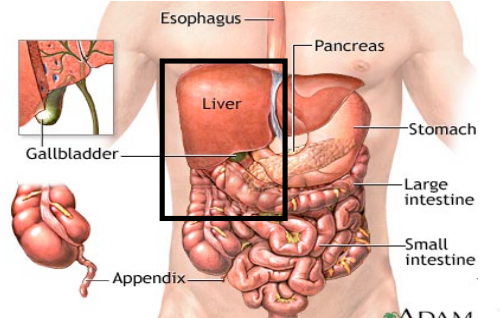
Organs in RLQ

- Part of large and small intestines
- Appendix
- Right ovary and fallopian tube in females

- Pain in Right lower quadrant may be related to:

- Appendicitis
- Ruptured appendix
- Diseases related to the kidneys
- Ectopic Pregnancy in females

Right Upper Quadrant



Organs in RUQ

- Liver
- Gall bladder
- Portion of the pancreas
- Portion of the stomach

- Pain in Right upper quadrant may be related to:

- Traumatic injury to organs
- Diseases affecting the liver
 - Hepatitis

Census Figures

2005- abdominal pain is one of the most common presenting symptom in the ED

More common in women than in men

Other considerations

- Bladder- located in lower abdomen
- Reproductive organs

References:

○MedlinePlus Medical Encyclopedia: Abdominal Pain

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/003120.htm>

○eMedicineHealth: Abdominal Pain in Children

http://www.emedicinehealth.com/abdominal_pain_in_children/page2_em.htm

○eMedicineHealth: Abdominal Pain in Adults

http://www.emedicinehealth.com/abdominal_pain_in_adults/article_em.htm

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