





<p>Questions specific to female patients:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any possibility of being pregnant?</li> <li>• Is this your menstrual cycle? Is it late?</li> <li>• Any vaginal bleeding?</li> <li>• Any previous history of similar problems?</li> </ul>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>Inspect the abdomen for:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discolorataion</li> <li>• Distention</li> <li>• Bloating</li> <li>• Protrusions</li> <li>• Any other abnormalities</li> </ul>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>Palpate the abdomen:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Palpate area of pain last</li> <li>• Use fingertips to palpate</li> <li>• Loosen clothing to palpate lower quadrants</li> <li>• Only palpate each area once</li> </ul>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>Palpation Findings</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guarding             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Protective, defensive to prevent pain</li> <li>▪ Arms drawn across abdomen</li> <li>▪ Abdominal muscle clenching</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Masses             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pulsating may indicate aneurysm</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p><b>Review Questions</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• List five signs and symptoms of abdominal distress.</li> <li>• Describe the differences between visceral and parietal</li> </ul>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

