

diverticulum is 0.001% (Zani, Easton, Rees, et al, 2008). Because of the potential for surgical complications, resection of asymptomatic Meckel diverticulum remains controversial.

### Nursing Care Management

Nursing objectives are the same as for any child undergoing surgery (see Chapter 20). When intestinal bleeding is present, specific preoperative considerations include frequent monitoring of vital signs including blood pressure, keeping the child on bed rest, and recording the approximate amount of blood lost in stools.

Postoperatively, the child requires IV fluids and an NG tube for decompression and evacuation of gastric secretions. Because the onset of illness is usually rapid, psychological support is important, as in other acute conditions, such as appendicitis. It is important to remember that massive rectal bleeding is usually traumatic to both the child and the parents and may significantly affect their emotional reaction to hospitalization and surgery.

### Inflammatory Bowel Disease

**Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)** should not be confused with IBS. IBD is a term used to refer to two major forms of chronic intestinal inflammation: Crohn disease and ulcerative colitis. Crohn disease and ulcerative colitis have similar epidemiologic, immunologic, and clinical features, but they are distinct disorders (Table 22-8).

**TABLE 22-8**  
**Clinical Manifestations of Inflammatory Bowel Diseases**

Characteristics	Ulcerative Colitis	Crohn Disease
Rectal bleeding	Common	Uncommon
Diarrhea	Often severe	Moderate to severe
Pain	Less frequent	Common
Anorexia	Mild or moderate	May be severe
Weight loss	Moderate	May be severe
Growth restriction	Usually mild	May be severe
Anal and perianal lesions	Rare	Common
Fistulas and strictures	Rare	Common
Rashes	Mild	Mild
Joint pain	Mild to moderate	Mild to moderate