

Perforation may lead to massive bleeding

Infants to 2-Year-Old Children

Most likely to have a secondary ulcer located equally in the stomach or duodenum

Primary ulcers less common and usually located in stomach

Likely to be noticed in relation to illness, surgery, or trauma

Hematemesis, melena, or perforation

2- to 6-Year-Old Children

Primary or secondary ulcers

Located equally in stomach and duodenum

Perforation more likely in secondary ulcers

Periumbilical pain, poor eating, vomiting, irritability, nighttime wakening, hematemesis, melena

Children Older than 6 Years Old

Usually primary and most often duodenal ulcers

More typical of adult type

Chance of recurrence greater

Often associated with *Helicobacter pylori*

Epigastric pain or vague abdominal pain

Nighttime wakening, hematemesis, melena, and anemia possible

Radiographic studies such as an upper GI series may be performed to evaluate obstruction or malrotation, although rarely helpful in identifying ulcers in children. Fiber optic endoscopy is