

of the veins of the spermatic cord superior to the testicle. The finding is rare in prepubertal children, but the incidence increases dramatically at the onset of puberty. A varicocele can be palpated as a wormlike mass situated above the testicle that decreases in size when the male is recumbent and becomes distended and tense when he is upright. Idiopathic varicocele is the most common treatable cause of male-related impaired infertility, especially if caught and treated early (Nork, Berger, Crain, et al, 2014). Varicocelectomy is indicated in adolescents when there is growth arrest of the affected testicle or when there is pain associated with the varicocele.

Epididymitis

Epididymitis is an inflammatory reaction of the epididymis of the testicle primarily as a result of infection (such as *Chlamydia trachomatis*) but can also occur from a chemical irritant or a nonspecific cause, such as local trauma. Clinical presentation is slow and insidious with unilateral scrotal pain, redness, and swelling. Associated symptoms include urethral discharge, dysuria, fever, and pyuria. Treatment consists of analgesics, scrotal support, bed rest, and appropriate antibiotic therapy.

Testicular Torsion

Torsion of the testicle is a condition in which the tunica vaginalis, which normally encases the testicle, fails to do so and the testis hangs free from its vascular structures. This condition can result in partial or complete venous occlusion with rotation around the vascular axis. In severe torsion, the organ can become swollen and painful; the scrotum becomes red, warm, and edematous and appears to be immobile or fixed as a result of spasm of the cremasteric fibers.

Testicular torsion occurs annually in 1 in every 4000 males younger than 25 years old, with a peak onset of 13 years old (Wampler and Llanes, 2010). Rapid growth and increasing vascularity of the testicles are thought to be precursors to torsion, accounting for the occurrence at puberty. Typically, the adolescent complains of pain that is severe and acute; nausea and vomiting may accompany the pain. Absence of the cremasteric reflex is a