

A clue to onset of infection

May precede other signs by several hours

Usually short lived but may persist during the illness

Is frequent cause of dehydration

Diarrhea

Usually mild, transient diarrhea but may become severe

Often accompanies viral respiratory infections

Frequent cause of dehydration

Abdominal Pain

Common complaint

Sometimes indistinguishable from pain of appendicitis

May represent referred pain (e.g., chest pain associated with pneumonia)

May be caused by mesenteric lymphadenitis

May be linked to muscle spasms from vomiting, especially in nervous, tense child

Nasal Blockage

Small nasal passages of infants easily blocked by mucosal swelling and exudation

Can interfere with respiration and feeding in infants

May contribute to the development of otitis media (OM) and sinusitis

Nasal Discharge