

the second best time for administration is 30 minutes before the evening meal. Parents need to be reassured that they may not see results right away because it takes several days of administration to achieve a steady state of acid suppression. A number of new formulations available in PPIs allow for more efficient administration. Some preparations are available in dissolvable pills. There are powder and granule preparations as well. Many pharmacies will compound the medication in a liquid form for administration.

Postoperative nursing care after the Nissen fundoplication is similar to that for other types of abdominal surgery (see [Chapter 20](#)).

## Recurrent and Functional Abdominal Pain

**Recurrent abdominal pain (RAP)** is a complaint of childhood that is often attributed to psychogenic causes, although it can be a symptom of either psychosomatic or organic disease. RAP is characterized by three or more separate episodes of abdominal pain at least 3 months before diagnosis that interferes with daily activities ([Bufler, Gross, and Uhlig, 2011](#)). The disorder affects school-age children 4 to 18 years old but is more common in children approximately 11 years old, and it occurs more often in girls than in boys ([Chiou, How, and Ong, 2013](#)). The Rome III diagnostic criteria recognize four distinct entities of RAP in childhood: (1) functional dyspepsia, (2) irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), (3) abdominal migraine, and (4) childhood functional abdominal pain ([Bufler, Gross, and Uhlig, 2011](#)). Most children with RAP suffer from functional abdominal pain (FAP).

## Etiology and Pathophysiology

Only a minority of children and adolescents with RAP have an organic basis for their pain. Organic causes include IBD, PUD, lactose intolerance, pelvic inflammatory disease, urinary tract infection, and pancreatitis. Psychogenic causes of abdominal pain (such as school phobia, depression, acute reactive anxiety, and conversion reaction) account for a small number of cases.

In cases in which no organic disorder is identifiable, the abdominal pain of RAP has been attributed to dysfunction.