

- d. Signs and symptoms of appendicitis
    - i. Focal right lower quadrant tenderness, possibly with rebound and guarding
    - ii. Right lower quadrant tenderness noted during palpation of the left lower quadrant (positive Rovsing's sign)
    - iii. Peri-umbilical or diffuse abdominal tenderness with palpation of the abdomen/pelvis
    - iv. Fever
    - v. Nausea, vomiting
    - vi. Lack of appetite
  - e. Signs and symptoms of acute cholecystitis
    - i. Right upper quadrant or epigastric tenderness
    - ii. Fever
    - iii. Nausea and vomiting
    - iv. History of gallstones
  - f. Signs and symptoms of pyelonephritis
    - i. Fever
    - ii. Nausea, vomiting
    - iii. Urinary frequency/urgency
    - iv. Dysuria
    - v. Hematuria
    - vi. Back/flank pain
    - vii. Costovertebral angle tenderness to percussion
7. Assess for signs of shock
- a. If shock is present, provide treatment per appropriate [Shock Guideline](#)
8. Assess for other non-life-threatening causes of abdominal pain
- a. Signs and symptoms of kidney stone
    - i. Unilateral flank pain
    - ii. Nausea, vomiting
    - iii. Hematuria

### **Treatment and Interventions**

1. Medication Administration:
  - a. Provide analgesia per the [Pain Management Guideline](#)
  - b. Administer antiemetics per the [Nausea-Vomiting Guideline](#)
  - c. Provide transport to an appropriate receiving facility. Consider specialty destination centers for conditions such as suspected abdominal aortic aneurysm and aortic dissection
  - d. Reassess vital signs and response to therapeutic interventions throughout transport

### **Patient Safety Considerations**

Abdominal pain in older adults, patients with bleeding disorders, patients on anticoagulation medications, children less than 2 years old and patients that are immunocompromised may be a harbinger for severe illness.