

Gastrointestinal Disorders: Functional and Structural Differences

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DESCRIPTION

A "gastrointestinal disorder" is a term used to describe any condition or disease of the digestive system. The Gastro Intestinal (GI) tract, which extends from the mouth to the anus, is impacted by gastronomic disorders. Numerous issues or illnesses can have an effect on the GI system, altering digestion and the general health. There may be a need for extra medical testing because numerous diseases have similar symptoms. There are two categories of gastrointestinal disorders: Structural and functional.

Illnesses that affect the stomach are referred to as gastric diseases. When an illness affects other sections of the gastrointestinal tract in addition to the stomach, it is referred to be gastroenteritis rather than gastritis. Chronic gastritis is linked to a number of illnesses, including atrophic gastritis, pyloric stenosis, and stomach cancer. Peptic ulcers, often known as stomach ulcers, are another prevalent ailment. The gastric mucosa, which shields the stomach tissue from stomach acids, is eroded by ulceration. A *Helicobacter pylori* infection is the most typical bacterial cause of peptic ulcers. Another factor that can cause stomach cancer is infection with the Epstein-Barr Virus (EBV).

In addition to peptic ulcers, abnormally burst arteries or veins, such as Dieulafoy's lesion and gastric antral vascular ectasia, can cause vomiting blood. Pernicious anaemia, which is caused by a targeted immune response against parietal cells and impairs vitamin B12 absorption, is one of the congenital diseases of the stomach. Other typical signs of stomach sickness include indigestion or dyspepsia, vomiting, and in chronic diseases, digestive issues that result in malnutrition in some way. An endoscopy may be done in addition to standard diagnostics to inspect or biopsy the stomach.

Functional gastrointestinal disorder

Functional gastrointestinal disorders are conditions where the digestive system appears normal but does not operate as it should. They are the most prevalent digestive problems (including the colon and rectum). Functional disorders can affect

anyone at any age, including adults, adolescents, and children. However, rather of being the outcome of an illness or infection, functional gastrointestinal disorders cause sensitivity and a variety of GI symptoms. The following three traits are common to functional gastrointestinal disorders: movement, sensation, and abnormal brain gut communication. Motility is the term for the muscular activity of the GI tract, which is essentially a hollow, muscular tube. Sensation is produced by the GI tract's nerves in response to stimuli (digesting a meal). Functional GI illnesses may have nerves that are so sensitive that even normal contractions can be painful or uncomfortable. A failure in communication between the brain and the gastrointestinal tract is known as brain-gut dysfunction. Functional gastrointestinal disorders may damage the regulatory pathway between the brain and stomach.

Causes

A considerable impact can be had by changing one's way of life if one of their functional gastrointestinal disorders is brought on by environmental variables like stress and smoking. A person has no control over aspects like family history, gastrointestinal sensitivity; extremely fast or sluggish GI movements, immune system activity, central nervous system processing, anxiety, and depression.

Symptoms

There might be a wide range of physical symptoms depending on the condition. Some of the symptoms include stomach pain, bloating, burping, constipation, diarrhea, flatulence, indigestion, nausea, difficulty swallowing, and vomiting.

Treatment

The type of treatment depends on the patient. Functional gastrointestinal disorders come in a range of dimensions and forms. It's possible that two people with the same condition will react to treatment in different ways. Modifying one's lifestyle, managing one's mental health, and taking medication are all possible treatments.

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Received: 02-Jan-2023, Manuscript No. JHGD-23-21591; **Editor assigned:** 06-Jan-2023, Pre QC No. JHGD-23-21591 (PQ); **Reviewed:** 20-Jan-2023, QC No. JHGD-23-21591; **Revised:** 27-Jan-2023, Manuscript No. JHGD-23-21591 (R); **Published:** 03-Feb-2023, DOI: 10.35248/2475-3181.23.9.227

Citation: Samuel J (2023) Gastrointestinal Disorders: Functional and Structural Differences. J Hepatol Gastroint Dis. 09: 227

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Structural gastrointestinal disorder

Situations in which the colon seems aberrant and does not function properly are known as "structural gastrointestinal disorders." Sometimes the structural anomaly must be surgically removed. GI structural illnesses include stenosis, haemorrhoids, diverticular disease, colon polyps, colon cancer, and inflammatory bowel disease. Untreated structural GI problems frequently lead to both serious consequences and symptom aggravation. A surgeon can diagnose a condition using a physical exam, blood and urine tests, and a colonoscopy, among other tests. If a structural gastrointestinal problem is found, it can be treated with less invasive robotic assisted surgery. A doctor can find

the source of the patient's stomach pain and discomfort and provide appropriate care. Depending on the results of the diagnostic procedure, it can be an urgent issue or call for sufficient medical care.

Additional functional and structural conditions

Hirschsprung, lactose intolerance, gallstones, and faecal incontinence, illness, abdominal adhesions, barrett's oesophagus, and appendicitis, bloating, intestinal pseudo-obstruction, dyspepsia, hepatitis, whipple's illness, short bowel syndrome, zollinger-ellison syndrome, malabsorption disorders, and pancreatitis, certain others.