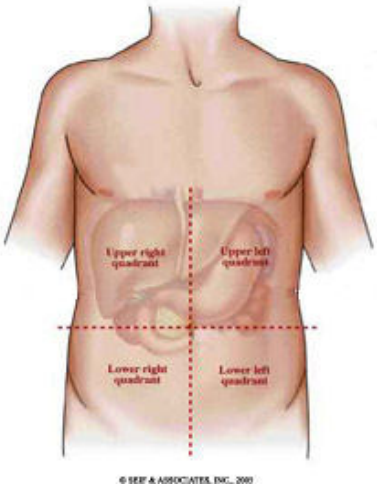
Abdominal Pain

Many things can cause belly (*abdominal*) pain. Most times, the belly pain is not dangerous. The amount of belly pain does not tell how serious the problem may be. Many cases of belly pain can be watched and treated at home. At this time, your doctor believes it is safe for you or your child to go home.

HOME CARE



- **Do not** take medicines called laxatives unless told to do so by your doctor. This medicine makes a person go poop (*bowel movement*).
- Only use medicines as told by your doctor.
- Limit activity.
- Pay attention to the pain.
  - Has it changed?
  - Has it moved?
  - Is it gone?
- Eat or drink as told by your doctor. Your doctor will tell you if you or your child should be on a special diet.
- Ask questions if there is something you do not understand.

GET HELP RIGHT AWAY IF:

- The pain does not go away.
- The pain changes and is only in the right or left part of the belly.
- You or your child has a temperature by mouth above 102° F (38.9° C), not controlled by medicine.
- Your baby is older than 3 months with a rectal temperature of 102º F (38.9º C) or higher.
- **Your baby is 3 months old or younger with a rectal temperature of 100.4º F (38º C) or higher.**
- You or your child keeps throwing up (*vomiting*) or cannot keep food and fluids down.
- There is blood (bright red color) in the poop.
- The poop is black and/or looks like tar.

MAKE SURE YOU:

- Understand these instructions.
- Will watch this condition.
- Will get help right away if you or your child is not doing well or gets worse.

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