

Acute coronary syndrome Dx	
Prinzmetal Angina	ECG : ST elevation / Normal in angiography.
Stable angina	Investigation: A. Rest ECG normal. *Best initial test for all forms of chest pain. B. Stress test (by exercise/chemical): (Stress ECG, Stress Echocardiogram, Stress Nuclear Isotopes)
Unstable Angina & NSTEMI	Investigation: A. Rest ECG: shows ST deviation and T wave abnormality. B. Cardiac Marker (CK-MB, Troponins): <b>+ve will indicate NSTEMI</b> / -ve indicate unstable angina. C. Stress test : (Positive as above) D. Catheterization with angiography based on result the patient undergo PCI or CABG

Arrhythmias Dx			
Tachyarrhythmias	ECG findings: (FAT & FAST) Wide and bizarre QRS complexes.		
Ventricular Fibrillation	ECG findings: No P waves identified + No QRS Identified		
Atrial Flutter	ECG findings: <b>Saw-tooth</b> baseline in inferior leads (II, III, aVF) ( QRS complex after 2 or 3 p waves )		
Paroxysmal Supraventricular Tachycardia	AV Nodal Reentrant Tachycardia	ECG findings: Narrow QRS + <b>no</b> discernible P waves	
	Orthodromic AV Reentrant Tachycardia	ECG findings: Narrow QRS + P wave which may be discernible or may not	
Wolff-Parkinson-White Syndrome	ECG findings: Short PR interval + <b>delta waves</b> (upward deflection before QRS) + wide QRS complex. ● <b>Most accurate test is Electrophysiology studies (EP).</b>		
Multifocal atrial tachycardia	ECG findings: Variable P wave morphology and variable PR and RR intervals. At least three different P wave morphologies are required to make an accurate diagnosis.		
Diagnosis of AF	S/S	S/S	cause
		Irregularly irregular pulse palpitations	Irregular heart- beat
		Fatigue Diminished exercise capacity Breathlessness (dyspnoea) Weakness (asthenia)	Decreased cardiac output
		Dizziness and fainting (syncope)	hypotension
		Chest pain (angina)	Cardiac ischemia
		Thromboembolic TIA, stroke * <b>Might be the first presentation.</b>	Increased risk of clot formation
	ECG findings	Irregularly irregular rhythm, no identifiable P waves there is replacement of consistent P wave by fibrillatory waves that vary in size, shape, and timing ( <b>350-600</b> beats/min), associated with an irregular, frequently rapid ventricular response ."AF ECG may show-Left ventricular hypertrophy, Pre-excitation, Bundle branch block or Prior MI"	
Investigations of AF	<b>■ Transthoracic Echocardiography</b> (To rule out cardiac diseases) Used to identify: Size and functioning of atria and ventricles, Ventricle hypertrophy, Pericardial disease and Valvular heart disease. Note: it's the only way to be 99% sure that there is no clots in (LAA) <b>■ Laboratory tests</b>		

	<p>Important parameters to assess include: <b>Thyroid function</b>, Renal function, Hepatic function, Serum electrolytes and Complete blood count.</p> <p>■ <b>Holter monitoring</b> (Portable ECG device "recorder"): Continuous monitoring for a short period of time (typically 24 hours) Useful for: Detecting asymptomatic AF, Evaluating patients with paroxysmal AF, Associating symptoms with heart rhythm disturbance and Assessing response to treatment.</p> <p>■ <b>Transoesophageal echocardiography</b> (for Selected patients): useful for: <b>the only test to know thrombus existence</b> (Accurate assessment of risk of stroke), Sensitive detection of atrial thrombi (Particularly the left atrial appendage, as it is the most common site of thrombi in patients with AF)</p> <p>■ <b>Exercise testing.</b></p> <p>■ <b>Chest radiography:</b> allows evaluation of the lung parenchyma and identifies coexisting lung disease.</p>
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Valvular Heart Disease Dx			
<b>Mitral Stenosis</b>	<b>Echo color doppler test of choice</b>	<b>ECG</b>	<b>CX-ray</b>
	- Left atrial enlargement - Thick classified mitral valve - Narrowed <b>fish mouth</b> shaped orifice - Signs of RVF in advanced disease	- Atrial rhythm disturbance - Atrial fibrillation - <u>Left atrial hypertrophy</u>	- Assess left atrial enlargement - Straightening of the left heart border - Elevation of the left main bronchus - Second bubble behind the heart
<b>Mitral Regurgitation</b>	<b>Echo</b>	<b>ECG</b>	<b>CX-ray</b>
	- Mitral regurgitation - Dilated LA. - LV decreased - LV function	- Left atrial enlargement - <u>Left ventricular hypertrophy.</u>	- Cardiomegaly - Dilated LV - Pulmonary edema
<b>Mitral Prolapse</b>	Echo is the most useful tool		

Rheumatic Heart Disease Dx	
<b>Acute rheumatic fever</b>	<p>No single test to diagnose ARF -Accurate diagnosis is important Diagnosis is primarily clinical and is based on a constellation of signs and symptoms, which were <b>initially established as the -ECHO: to confirm/ refuse Dx of rheumatic carditis</b></p> <p><b>Jones Criteria:</b> A firm diagnosis requires both of the following</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) 2 Major manifestations or 1 Major and 2 Minor manifestation of Jones Criteria</li> <li>2) Evidence of a recent streptococcal infection: → increased or rising ASO titer or Anti-Dnase B titer → A positive throat culture</li> </ol>

Investigations	<p><b>Investigations</b></p> <p><b>Recommended for all cases</b></p> <p>White blood cell count</p> <p>Erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR)</p> <p>C-reactive protein (CRP)</p> <p>Blood cultures, if febrile</p> <p>Electrocardiogram (if prolonged P-R interval or other rhythm abnormality, repeat in 2 weeks and again at 2 months, if still abnormal)</p> <p>Chest X-ray, if clinical or echocardiographic evidence of carditis</p> <p>Echocardiogram (consider repeating after 1 month, if negative)</p> <p>Throat swab (preferably before giving antibiotics): culture for group A streptococcus</p> <p>Antistreptococcal serology: both ASO and anti-DNase B titres, if available (repeat 10–14 days later if first test not confirmatory)</p>
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Heart Failure Dx													
<p><b>Echocardiography</b> *Gold standard</p> <p>•<b>Best initial</b> →TTE</p> <p>-It assess the function of both ventricles, valvular abnormality, intracardiac shunts, wall motion abnormality (signify CAD).</p> <p><b><u>-Most important because it's the only way to distinguish systolic from diastolic failure.</u></b></p> <p>-It evaluate Ejection Fraction.</p> <p>-chamber dilatation and/or hypertrophy</p> <p>-follow up pts with long-term drug therapy</p> <p>Other tests are used not to diagnose CHF, They are used to diagnose the cause of CHF:</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center; background-color: #f0f0f0;">Tests to know the etiology</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f0f0f0;">EKG</td> <td>MI (old or recent) ,Heart block,Arrhythmia, LBBB</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f0f0f0;">Chest x-ray</td> <td>Dilated cardiomyopathy, pleural effusion,(Initial and best for pulmonary edema)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f0f0f0;">Cardiac catheter</td> <td>Precise valve diameter, septal defects (when CAD or valvular suspected)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f0f0f0;">Blood tests</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CBC for→ anemia</li> <li>- Liver biochemistry(may be altered do to hepatic congestion)</li> <li>- Brain natriuretic peptide (BNP) , if normal(&lt;100pg/mL) exclude heart failure (particularly pulmonary edema).</li> <li>- T4 &amp; TSH</li> <li>- Electrolytes imbalance → Chronic renal insufficiency</li> <li>- Hemochromatosis</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f0f0f0;">Endomyocardial Biopsy</td> <td>Rarely done; to exclude infiltrative disease such as sarcoid or amyloid, for unexplained CHF.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Tests to know the etiology		EKG	MI (old or recent) ,Heart block,Arrhythmia, LBBB	Chest x-ray	Dilated cardiomyopathy, pleural effusion,(Initial and best for pulmonary edema)	Cardiac catheter	Precise valve diameter, septal defects (when CAD or valvular suspected)	Blood tests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CBC for→ anemia</li> <li>- Liver biochemistry(may be altered do to hepatic congestion)</li> <li>- Brain natriuretic peptide (BNP) , if normal(&lt;100pg/mL) exclude heart failure (particularly pulmonary edema).</li> <li>- T4 &amp; TSH</li> <li>- Electrolytes imbalance → Chronic renal insufficiency</li> <li>- Hemochromatosis</li> </ul>	Endomyocardial Biopsy	Rarely done; to exclude infiltrative disease such as sarcoid or amyloid, for unexplained CHF.
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————— Kerley b lines

## Infective endocarditis

Investigations	<p>1-Initial test:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Blood cultures:3 times, 3 different sites and 3 different needle→to identify the organism</li> <li>● <b>ECHO (hallmark)</b> mostly TTE (vegetation , abnormality of the valves).</li> </ul> <p>2- Further test:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● C.B.C : Shows leukocytosis + anemia ● ESR : Will be elevated ● RFT : Shows Glomerulonephritis ● URINE : Shows hematuria ● ECG: shows first degree block ● Chest X-Ray: Shows cardiomegaly, pulmonary embolism.</li> </ul>
<b>Diagnosis (Based on Duke criteria by either Two major criteria , one major and 3 minor criteria or 5 minor criteria.)</b>	<p style="text-align: center;">Major criteria</p> <p>1. <b>Positive blood culture</b> : → by common organism that cause IE ● Typical organism from two cultures ● Persistent positive blood cultures taken &gt; 12 hrs apart ● Three or more positive cultures taken over &gt; 1 hr ● <b>Single positive blood culture for Coxiella burnetii.</b></p> <p>2. <b>Positive imaging for IE</b> : ● Positive echocardiogram : vegetations , abscess, valve perforation ,prosthetic dehiscence ● Abnormal activity around prosthetic valve by CT , PET or F-FDG ● Paravalvular lesion by CT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Minor criteria (BE FEVEER)</p> <p>1. <b>Predisposing condition</b>: cardiac abnormality , drug injection 2. <b>Fever</b> 3. <b>Vascular phenomenon</b> : janeway lesion . intracranial hemorrhage , major emboli . Mycotic aneurysm, septic pulmonary infarct , conjunctival hemorrhage 4. <b>Immunological phenomenon</b>: Osler's nodes , roth spot , rheumatoid factor , glomerulonephritis 5. <b>Positive blood culture</b>: organism not achieving major criteria.</p>

Pulmonary embolism									
diagnosis	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>History and Physical examination</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Initial tests</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CXR (chest x-ray) : usually normal , use to exclude alternative diagnosis. The abnormality can be seen <b>Atelectasis</b> (most common abnormality ) or pleural effusion and less likely humpton hum &amp; westermark sign</li> <li>ABG : low PaO<sub>2</sub> (due to Hypoxia )and PaCO<sub>2</sub> (due to hyperventilation), metabolic acidosis <u>respiratory alkalosis</u>.</li> <li>ECG (electrocardiogram) (<b>S1, Q3, T3</b>): shows sinus tachycardia , anterior T-wave inversion , ST-segment and T- wave changes, rarely right bundle branch block</li> </ol>								
	<b>Confirm test → Divided into two:</b>								
	<b>High Clinical suspicion</b>								
	<b>Low clinical suspicion</b>								
	<p>1. <b>CT angiogram (spiral CT):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visualize Pulmonary vessels allow us to see small clots • May miss clots in the periphery • if the clots present → confirm PE. • <b>Contraindicated in Renal Insufficiency</b></li> </ul> <p>2. <b>Ventilation perfusion Lung scan (V/Q)</b> Used when CT angiogram contraindicated or the result inclusive.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>The test shows either:</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Normal V/Q →</td> <td>Exclude the PE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>High Probability</td> <td>Confirm PE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Low or intermediate Probability (patient might have underlying chronic lung disease only)</td> <td>Do Lower extremities duplex ultrasound</td> </tr> </table> <p>3. <b>Lower Extremity doppler ultrasound</b> :. IF the result is positive so we don't need to do further test because the treatment of PE = DVT</p> <p>4. <b>Pulmonary Angiography</b> : Used when all above are equivocal It is the <b>gold standard</b> (can show the periphery )</p>	<b>The test shows either:</b>		Normal V/Q →	Exclude the PE	High Probability	Confirm PE	Low or intermediate Probability (patient might have underlying chronic lung disease only)	Do Lower extremities duplex ultrasound
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Bronchial Asthma	
Dx	<p><b>Initial test</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Peak expiratory flow rate</b>( self-monitoring test) it will be decrease.</li> <li><b>Arterial blood gases</b> : Typically shows 1-Resp. Alkalosis 2-Hypocapnia 3-↓PCO<sub>2</sub> 4- hypoxemia may be present</li> <li><b>Chest x-ray</b> : usually normal but can shows hyperinflation <b>Remember Best initial test is ABG or PEF. Then use CXR to exclude Pneumothorax and pneumonia.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Conformity test</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pulmonary function tests (<b>Spirometry</b>): <b>*Most accurate test</b></li> </ul> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Before Bronchodilation (albuterol): shows decrease in expiratory flow , FEV , FVC and FEV/ FVC</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> After Bronchodilation(albuterol) : shows Increase at least <b>12%</b> FEV</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Bronchoprovocation test:</b> *Most accurate test if the patient asymptomatic ☐ Give the patient methacholine (muscarinic agent ) or histamine shows decrease of FEV at least 20 %.</li> </ul>
<b>Acute exacerbation of asthma Dx</b>	<b>Diagnostic Tests</b> 1- <b>PEF</b> → decreased (not done when patient has acutely shortness of breath) 2- <b>ABG</b> (increase A-a gradient ) 3- <b>Chest X-ray</b> (because the <u>most common cause of acute exacerbation is pneumonia</u> ).

Cough							
<b>Acute Cough</b>	No tests are indicated in a patient with acute cough → most acute cough resolve within 2 weeks.						
<b>Sub-Acute Cough</b>	● History and Chest examination ● PFT (spirometry ) or PEF: Measure of airflow obstruction						
<b>Chronic Cough</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● History( including occupation) &amp; Examination ● CHEST X-RAY ● PFT (Spirometry ). ● CBC: if the infection is suspected. ● Bronchoscopy : if the diagnosis is unknown after above workup</li> </ul> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="background-color: #003366; color: white;">Chest X-Ray and Differential of Cough</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Normal CXR:</th> <th style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Abnormal CXR:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gastro-oesophageal reflux.</li> <li>- Post-nasal Drip.</li> <li>- Smokers cough/Chronic Bronchitis.</li> <li>- Asthma.</li> <li>- COPD.</li> <li>- Bronchiectasis.</li> <li>- Foreign body</li> </ul> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Left ventricular failure.</li> <li>- Lung cancer.</li> <li>- Infection/ TB.</li> <li>- Pulmonary fibrosis.</li> <li>- Pleural effusion</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Chest X-Ray and Differential of Cough		Normal CXR:	Abnormal CXR:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gastro-oesophageal reflux.</li> <li>- Post-nasal Drip.</li> <li>- Smokers cough/Chronic Bronchitis.</li> <li>- Asthma.</li> <li>- COPD.</li> <li>- Bronchiectasis.</li> <li>- Foreign body</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Left ventricular failure.</li> <li>- Lung cancer.</li> <li>- Infection/ TB.</li> <li>- Pulmonary fibrosis.</li> <li>- Pleural effusion</li> </ul>
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COPD & bronchiectasis	
<b>COPD investigations</b>  <b>X ray is the best initial test while PFT is the most accurate</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chest X-ray a. To look for other diseases: lung cancer, CHF, and bullae</li> <li>2. High resolution CT scans: used, particularly to show <u>emphysematous bullae</u>.</li> <li>3. Lung function tests</li> </ol> <p>A. <b>Spirometry</b> → gives FEV1/FVC a. which should be decreased and do not improve with bronchodilators (vs. asthma)</p>

	<p>B. <b>Lung volumes</b> might be measured a. Expect them to be increased (Increased total lung capacity TLC), functional reserve capacity (FRC) and residual volume. b. Decreased vital capacity.</p> <p>C. <b>Gas transfer value (DLCO)</b> a. Suspect <u>emphysema</u> if it is decreased - increased blood in the lungs (<u>pulmonary hemorrhage, Goodpasture syndrome</u>) → ↑DLCO</p> <p>D. <b>Pulse oximetry</b> a. Less than 93% → patient might need oxygen therapy</p> <p>E. <b>Measure alpha 1 antitrypsin levels</b> in patients with premature emphysema (&lt; 50 years) especially (<u>cirrhosis</u>)</p> <p>F. <b>ABG</b> a. Low <b>PaO2</b> Normal <b>PaCO2</b> b. Low <b>PaO2</b> High <b>PaCO2</b> c. <b>pH</b> acidic or low normal. d. HCO3 raised (<u>compensatory metabolic alkalosis</u>)</p>
<b>Bronchiectasis investigations</b>	<p>1. Should <b>culture</b> patient's sputum because they often have special infections (<u>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</u>) and we should know their antibiotic sensitivity by culture in order to properly treat it</p> <p>2. <b>CT scan</b> ( the <b>best non-invasive test</b>) shows dilated bronchi <b>most accurate test, study of choice.</b>"</p> <p>3. <b>Chest x-ray: best initial test.</b> It might be normal BUT in advanced cases it may show 1 to 2 cm cysts and crowding of bonchi (<u>tram tracking</u>)</p> <p>4. Can also look for diseases that cause this condition For example: screen for <u>ciliary dysfunction, CF.</u></p>

<b>Pleural effusion</b>	
<b>Dx</b>	<p>1- <b>History &amp; 2- Physical examination</b> → gives 85% of diagnosis.</p> <p>3- <b>Chest x-ray: Initial diagnostic test for pleural effusion.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Postero-anterior and lateral look for: <u>blunting of costophrenic angle</u>. About <u>250</u> mL of pleural fluid must accumulate before an effusion can be detected.</li> <li>● Lateral decubitus films (patient lying on one side) are more reliable for detecting small pleural effusions, with the new technology even (<u>10</u> ml) of fluid is detected.</li> </ul> <p>4-<b>Ultrasound: More sensitive and specific and it can detect minimal fluid.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It will help you to rule out others like pneumothorax and fluid collection.</li> <li>●Can help identify free vs. loculated effusions.</li> </ul> <p>5- CT scan: (when there is malignant suspicion). More reliable than CXR for detecting effusions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● For additional information about parenchymal lung or mediastinum like more consolidation or masses.</li> </ul>

6- Thoracentesis: It's aspiration of fluid. Provides diagnosis in 75% of patients and therapeutic as it provides relief for large effusions.

\*After you get the fluid send fluid for CBC, protein, LDH, glucose, gram stain, and cytology. THE 5 C's

1. **Cytology:** to tell you if there's malignancy or not.
2. **Culture:** for diagnosis of a. Parapneumonic effusion b. Empyema c. TB
3. **Cell count:** a. Neutrophils → Parapneumonic and Empyema b. Lymphocytes → Malignancy, TB, Connective tissue disease. c. Eosinophils → Lymphatic obstruction, Fungal Infection, Drugs (FYI).
4. **Color:** a. Red : Blood (Hemorrhagic effusion): Malignancy, TB, Connective tissue disease. b. White: Lymphatic obstruction: Lymphoma, Thoracic duct injury, Chylothorax. c. Turbid Pneumonia (Parapneumonic effusion) d. Yellow "most common color" Any of the mentioned causes above can cause yellow, but the most common cause is CHF → because of proteins. e. Black. f. Purulent ( white mixed with greenish color) → Pus → Empyema.
5. **Chemistry:** For certain test to minimize your DDX. g. PH → low in empyema. h. Glucose → low in infections and malignancies. i. Proteins.

### Pneumonia Dx

**CAP**

- History and Physical examination : To differentiate is it upper or lower respiratory tract infection
  - CXR(lateral and PA) : Differentiate between pneumonia and acute bronchitis
    - Acute Bronchitis → Normal
    - Atypical Pneumonia → Diffuse reticulonodular (interstitial ) infiltration
    - Typical Pneumonia → Either lobar consolidation or Multilobar consolidation
  - Sputum Gram stain and Culture : To determine specific organism of typical Pneumonia  Blood culture
- Specific diagnostic test :



	Organisms	Diagnostic test
	<b>Mycoplasma pneumoniae</b> (commonest)	<b>Cold agglutinin</b> , PCR, Serology, Special culture media.
	<b>Chlamydia pneumoniae</b>	Rising serological titre.
	<b>Legionella spp.</b>	<b>Urine antigen</b> , culture.
	<b>Coxiella burnetii (Q fever)</b>	Rising serologic titers.
	<b>Pneumocystis jiroveci (PCP)</b>	Bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL).
	<b>Chlamydia psittaci</b>	Rising serologic titers.
	<b>Viruses:</b> influenza virus (A and B), adenoviruses, parainfluenza virus, RSV.	Not specified
	<input type="checkbox"/> Bronchoscopy and thoracentesis → unclear etiology + patient doesn't respond to treatment	
<b>Ventilator Associated pneumonia</b>	Bronchoalveolar lavage but <b>most accurate is lung biopsy</b> .	

<b>Hypertension Dx</b>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Measure the BP By either ;</b> • Sphygmomanometer : from 3-6 visits. • Home Blood Pressure Monitoring : patient record the results in about 2 weeks → then doctor takes average of the readings • Ambulatory Pressure Monitoring: for anxious people a device fixed in the arm for 24 hours.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>History and physical examination:</b> • Abdominal Bruit auscultated in flank → secondary HTN caused by Renal artery stenosis. • Upper limbs BP &gt; lower limbs → secondary HTN caused coarctation of aorta (radiofemoral delay) • Episodic HTN with flushing, palpitation, headache and sweating → Pheochromocytoma • Weakness with Hypokalemia → Hyperaldosteronism (Conn's) • Acne + abdominal striae → cushing's • Congenital adrenal hyperplasia → hairy woman</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>lab tests</b> • Urinalysis • Fasting Glucose level • Cholesterol screening • ECG</p>
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<b>Acute Kidney Injury Dx</b>	● <b>Best initial test is BUN and Creatinine.</b> ● Best initial imaging is Renal sonogram (without contrast)					
	<b>Lab findings in AKI</b>					
	<b>Etiology</b>	<b>Pre-renal</b>	<b>Post-renal</b>	<b>Renal</b>		
	<b>Signs</b>	Discussed in the Diagnosis of ARI		<b>ATN</b>	<b>AIN</b>	<b>AGN</b>
				Hypovolemia , hypotension	Skin rash	Presentation of primary disease
	<b>Urinalysis (urine sediment)</b>	Hyaline casts	-	"Muddy brown" casts	WBCs casts, Eosinophils Hansel stain for Eosinophils	RBCs casts,RBCs
	<b>BUN/Cr ratio</b>	> 20:1		< 20:1 (10:1)		
	<b>FENa</b>	<1%		>2% - 3%		
	<b>Urine osmolarity</b>	>500 mOsm/kg	< 350 mOsm/kg	>350 variable		
	<b>Urine sodium</b>	< 20 mEq/L	>20 mEq/L	variable		
<b>Pre-renal</b>	Clear history of hypoperfusion or hypotension.					
<b>Post-renal</b>	- Renal ultrasound to identify the area of obstruction commonly would show dilated collecting system ( <u>hydronephrosis</u> ). - Distended bladder or massive release of urine after inserting catheter.					
<b>Renal (Acute Tubular necrosis ATN)</b>	CVA, ischemic digits, blue toe syndrome, absent pulses, livedo reticularis, low serum C3 & C4, peripheral eosinophilia , eosinophiluria, FENa (>2%)					
<b>Renal (Acute Interstitial Nephritis (AIN))</b>	History of systemic disease known to be associated with AIN → Skin rash → Eosinophilia → WBC cast in urine → Eosinophiluria not common → Renal biopsy					

<b>GLOMERULAR DISEASES Dx</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Urinalysis (hematuria, proteinuria, RBC casts). 2. Blood tests (renal function tests). 3. <b>Needle biopsy of the kidney (is the most accurate test)</b> to establish a diagnosis (though not always needed).</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Glomerular diseases are named based on their histopathological characteristics seen under the microscope.</li> <li>❖ Glomerular diseases can be presented clinically as: A) Nephrotic syndrome B) Nephritic syndrome.</li> </ul>
<b>nephrotic Syndrome</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The <b>best initial test is a urinalysis</b>, however since renal function varies with the time of day, as well as posture (flat or upright), the UA is not sufficiently accurate</li> <li>2. The urine albumin/creatinine ratio: gives a measure of the average protein produced over 24 hours</li> <li>3. The urine albumin/creatinine spot urine ratio is equal to a 24-hour urine</li> </ol>

	<p>4. <b><u>Renal biopsy is the most accurate test</u></b></p> <p>Urine Analysis in Nephrotic Syndrome will show :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Proteinuria or called Nephrotic range proteinuria (&gt;3.5 g/24h urine)</li> <li>— No RBCs ( some times few are occasionally seen).</li> <li>— No RBCs casts</li> <li>— Fat (Lipiduria) Fatty casts, oval fat bodies &amp; fat droplets.</li> <li>— No WBCs ( few may be seen).</li> </ul>
<b>IgA Nephropathy (Berger diseases)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Needs <u>kidney biopsy</u> to reach the diagnosis.</li> <li>• The diagnosis is made by finding <u>abnormal deposition of IgA</u></li> </ul>
<b>Post streptococcal glomerulonephritis (PSGN)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serum will show <u>positive Antistreptolysin (ASO) titer.also anti-DNAse antibodies.</u></li> <li>• Low C3, Normal or slightly low C4 in the serum.</li> <li>• No need for biopsy.</li> <li>• May have positive throat culture.</li> </ul>
<b>Lupus Nephritis</b>	<p>*<u>Kidney biopsy</u> is mandatory to make the diagnosis.</p> <p>*Low complements (C3, C4) level along with the positive Lupus marker (Antinuclear antibody ANA ), abnormal urine analysis &amp; abnormal renal function should make you think of its presence.</p>
<b>ANCA vasculitis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnosis is made by <u>kidney biopsy</u> and <u>positive ANCA</u> titer in the serum.</li> <li>• Hemoptysis , SOA, chest x-ray abnormal , hematuria , increase PB, increases carnitine in blood (whiter ANCA or goodpasture)</li> </ul>

<b>Chronic Kidney Failure investigations</b>	<p>-Family history can suggest PCKD (<b><u>Polycystic kidney disease</u></b>) or hereditary nephritis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CBC: Anemia, thrombocytopenia</li> <li>● Urinalysis: Hematuria and proteinuria may indicate cause. Proteinuria indicates risk of progressive CKD requiring preventive ACE inhibitor or ARB therapy</li> <li>● Measure Cr clearance to estimate GFR</li> <li>● urea &amp; Serum electrolytes Uremia Hyperkalemia, hypocalcemia and hyperphosphatemia</li> <li>● PTH: Secondary hyperparathyroidism</li> <li>● Vit-D: Hypovitaminosis D</li> <li>● Renal ultrasound: evaluate size of kidneys/rule out obstruction ○ Small kidneys are suggestive of chronic renal insufficiency with little chance of recovery. ○ Presence of normal-sized in (DM, amyloid, MM) or large kidneys does not exclude CKD.</li> <li>● Renal biopsy—in select cases to determine specific etiology.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Acute Viral Hepatitis Dx</b></p>	<p><b>Laboratory Test</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Increased <u>direct</u> bilirubin.</li> <li>❑ Liver function test (LFT) increase 5-10 times above normal, both ALT or AST (<b>ALT Higher</b>)</li> <li>● Increased ratio of alanine aminotransferase (ALT) to aspartate aminotransferase (AST).</li> <li>❑ Increased alkaline phosphatase Note: Severity of Disease is assessed by the prothrombin time (PTT), and serum bilirubin. Specific Diagnostic Tests.</li> <li>❑ PCR : which tells the amount of active viral replication. (<u>Disease activity of hepatitis</u> )</li> <li>❑ Serology ( antibody and antigen )</li> <li>● Hepatitis A, C, D, and E : The "<b>best initial diagnostic test</b>" for each of these is simply an <b>IgM antibody for the acute infection and IgG antibody to detect resolution of infection.</b></li> <li>● Hepatitis B</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hepatitis A</b></p>	<p><b>Anti-HAV: -IgM</b> diagnostic of <b>acute infection</b>. fall to low levels within about 3 months of recovery (<b>acute</b>)  <b>-IgG</b> previous infection or <b>immunity</b>. persists for years (<b>chronic</b>)</p>
<p><b>Hepatitis B</b></p>	<p><b>HBsAg:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Present in <b>acute or chronic</b> infection</li> <li>- Detectable as early as 1-2 weeks after infection</li> </ul>

	<p>- It persists in chronic hepatitis regardless of whether symptoms are present or not. If virus is cleared, then HBsAg is undetectable. In <b>acute liver failure from hepatitis B</b>, the liver damage is mediated by viral clearance and so HBsAg is negative, with evidence of recent infection shown by the presence of <u>hepatitis B core IgM</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>HBeAg</b>: - Reflects <b>active viral replication</b>, and presence indicates infectivity. - Appear shortly after HBsAg.</li> <li>● <b>Anti-HBsAg Antibody</b>: - Present after vaccination or after clearance of HBsAg, usually detectable 1 to 3 months after infection. - In most cases, it indicates <b>immunity</b>.</li> <li>● <b>Hepatitis B core antibody (Anti-HBc)</b>: - Assay of IgM &amp; IgG combined. - Useful because it may be the only serologic marker of HBV infection during the “<b>window peek</b>” in which HBsAg is disappearing, but anti-HBsAg is not yet detectable.</li> <li>● <b>Viral load: HBV DNA</b> measured by <b>PCR</b>; if it persists <b>&gt; 6 weeks</b>, patient is likely to <b>develop chronic disease</b></li> </ul>
<b>Hepatitis C</b>	<p><b>Serum serology:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Hepatitis C antibody (Anti-HCV)</b> : <b>Key marker of HCV infection</b>. Sometimes not detectable until months after infection, so its absence does not rule out infection.</li> <li>● <b>Viral load: HCV RNA</b> measured by <b>PCR</b> . Detectable 1 to 2 weeks after infection- <u>more sensitive than HCV antibody</u>.</li> </ul>

<b>Gastrointestinal Bleeding Dx</b>	<p><b>Tests to order in patients with GI bleeding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Hematemesis: Upper GI endoscopy is the initial test</li> <li>● Hematochezia: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1st rule out any anorectal cause (e.g., hemorrhoids)</li> <li>○ Colonoscopy should be the initial test (because colon cancer is the main concern)</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Melena: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Upper endoscopy is usually the initial test (because it's most likely upper GI bleeding)</li> <li>○ Colonoscopy if no bleeding site identified by endoscopy</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Occult blood: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Colonoscopy is the initial test (because colon cancer is the main concern)</li> <li>○ Upper endoscopy if no bleeding site is identified by colonoscopy</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p><b>Lab tests</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stool guaiac test for occult blood - Hemoglobin/hematocrit level</li> <li>● May not be decreased in acute bleeds</li> <li>● Level <b>&gt;7 to 8 g/dL</b> is generally acceptable in young, healthy patients without active bleeding</li> <li>● Most elderly patients (especially with <u>cardiac disease</u>) should have <b>Hb &gt;10 g/dL</b> - Mean corpuscular volume (MCV)</li> <li>● <u>Low MCV suggests iron deficiency anemia</u> (chronic blood loss)</li> <li>● Acute bleeding → normocytic RBCs - Coagulation profile (platelet count, PT, PTT, INR) - LFTs, renal function - BUN-creatinine ratio</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Elevated with upper GI bleeding</li> <li>● Suggestive of upper GI bleeding if there's no renal insufficiency</li> <li>● The higher the ratio the more likely the bleeding is from upper GI</li> </ul>
<b>Upper endoscopy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Most accurate</b> diagnostic test in evaluation of upper GI bleeding</li> <li>- Both <u>diagnostic and therapeutic</u></li> <li>- Most patients with upper GI bleeding should have endoscopy <b>within 24 hours.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Nasogastric tube</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It is <b>often the initial procedure to determine whether it's upper or lower GI bleeding</b></li> <li>- Used to empty the stomach to prevent aspiration</li> <li>- False -ve findings are possible: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Intermittent upper GI bleeding. Or 2. Lesion in the duodenum</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Evaluation of aspirate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Bile but no blood → upper bleeding unlikely</li> <li>● Bright red blood or “coffee grounds” → upper GI bleeding</li> <li>● Nonbloody aspirate (clear gastric fluid) → upper unlikely but cannot be ruled out (may be in the duodenum)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Anoscopy or proctosigmoidoscopy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Can exclude anal/rectal source</li> <li>- Perform if there is no obvious bleeding from hemorrhoids</li> </ul>
<b>Colonoscopy</b>	- <b>Identifies the site of lower GI bleed</b> (in 70% of cases) - Can be <u>therapeutic</u>
<b>Bleeding scan</b>	- <u>Reveals bleeding even with a low rate of blood loss</u>
<b>Radionuclide scanning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does NOT localize the lesion</li> <li>- Its role is controversial, but may help determine whether arteriography is needed</li> </ul>
<b>Arteriography</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Definitively locates the point of bleeding</b> (unlike bleeding scan)</li> <li>- mostly used with <b>lower</b> GI bleeding</li> <li>- performed during active bleeding</li> <li>- potentially <u>therapeutic</u> (endoscopy &amp; colonoscopy are too) (embolization or intra-arterial vasopressin infusion)</li> </ul>
<b>Exploratory laparotomy</b>	Last resort

<b>Jaundice Dx</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> History and Physical Examination: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Biliary stone obstruction:</b> Fever Pale stool dark urine &amp; Tender abdomen.</li> <li>● <b>Biliary malignant obstruction :</b> Associated constitutional symptoms.</li> <li>● <b>Liver cirrhosis:</b> Lower edema, dilated veins, splenomegaly and ascites.</li> </ul>
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- **Alcohol abuse:** Parotid gland enlargement, gynaecomastia, and Dupuytren's contracture.

❑ **Laboratory Test:**

➤ Total bilirubin with fractionation of the bilirubin (direct and indirect)

○ **Indirect hyperalbuminemia** → CBC, Reticulocyte count, haptoglobin, LDH, peripheral smear may aid in the diagnosis of hemolysis.

○ **Direct hyperalbuminemia** → LFT's may point to the cause. ➤ CBC, Creatinine

○ **Leukocytosis** might indicate the presence of biliary tract obstruction or other inflammatory disorder that may be associated with cholestasis.

○ **Anemia** leaves open the possibility that a hemolytic disorder is responsible for bilirubin overload.

○ **Thrombocytopenia** (Low platelet count) is suggestive of portal hypertension or alcohol abuse.

➤ PT, INR, Albumin

○ An **increased PT and INR** when coupled with a **low albumin** is indicative of synthetic liver dysfunction and suggestive of cirrhosis or acute liver failure.

➤ **LFT (ALT, AST, ALP, GGT)**

○ **Aminotransferases (ALT and AST):**

- ALT is more specific and sensitive than AST for liver damage

- ALT and AST usually have similar increase, exception in alcoholic hepatitis AST is higher than ALT ratio may be >2:1.

Why? Due to Pyridoxine deficiency in alcoholics, and for ALT to be produced in the serum we need pyridoxal phosphatase.

- ALT & AST are **mildly** elevated in → chronic viral hepatitis or alcoholic hepatitis

- ALT & AST are **moderately** elevated in → acute viral hepatitis

- ALT & AST **severely** elevated in → Severe viral hepatitis or extensive hepatic necrosis due to: 1- Ischemia (vascular injury) 2- acetaminophen toxicity

- ALT & AST are normal or low in Cirrhosis or metastatic liver disease.

- ALT & AST can be elevated in asymptomatic patients.

○ **Alkaline phosphatase (ALK-P)**

- Not specific to liver, also found in bone gut and placenta.

- ALK-P is elevated when there is an obstruction to bile flow (cholestasis).

- If levels are high measure GGT to confirm obstruction, if normal suspect bone, intestinal disease or pregnancy.

○ **Gamma-glutamyl- transferase (GGT)** - Often is used to confirm that ALK-P elevation is of hepatic origin.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Prothrombin time - PT</b> is not prolonged until most of liver's synthetic capacity (80%) is lost.</li> <li>- It reflects the severity of damage and advanced liver disease.</li> <li>● <b>Acetylcysteine</b> is given for <u>acetaminophen toxicity</u>.</li> <li>● Low or normal aminotransferases is due to reduced number of functioning hepatocytes.</li> <li>● The liver synthesizes all clotting factors <b>except factor 8 and VWF</b>.</li> <li>● GGT is sensitive also for alcohol abuse → liver might be normal yet GGT is still elevated.</li> </ul> <p>☐ <b>Specific test</b> (based on result)</p> <p>➤ High levels of ALP, GGT (suspected extrahepatic obstruction) :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>CT or US</b> (for fatty liver or cirrhosis) ● <b>ERCP</b> ● <b>PTC</b> ● <b>MRCP</b></li> </ul> <p>➤ High levels of ALT, AST (suspected intrahepatic) ● Viral Hepatitis serologies ● Alcohol level ● Drug level for Tylenol ● Urine toxins: cocaine ● Doppler US ● ANA, ASMA, IgG, AMA, celiac screen 2 3 4 ● Serum Ceruloplasmin ● Fibroscan</p> <p>☐ Liver Biopsy should be considered if needed (unknown reason yet)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Normal LFT and <b>Conjugated</b> hyperbilirubinemia → <u>Rotor syndrome or dubin Johnson syndrome</u>.</li> <li>● Normal LFT and <b>Unconjugated</b> hyperbilirubinemia → <u>hemolysis or gilbert syndrome</u>.</li> </ul>
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<b>Liver cirrhosis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Biopsy (Gold standard)</b></li> <li>● Noninvasive tests : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1- Serum score systems</li> <li>2- Elastography (e.g fibroscan)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Assess Severity and Prognosis of Liver Disease :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1- <b>Child-Turcotte-Pugh score or Child Criteria (CPT score) (The best)</b></li> </ul> <p>MELD score (model for end-stage liver disease)</p>
<b>Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis</b>	most accurate test is Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography
<b>Ascites</b>	Diagnostic aspiration of ascitic fluid should be carried out in a new ascites, Routine: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cell count and differential</li> <li>2. Albumin and total protein "To measure SAAG"</li> </ol>
<b>Spontaneous bacterial peritonitis</b>	Diagnosis: PMN count (>250 cells/mm <sup>3</sup> ) and positive ascitic fluid bacterial culture
<b>Hepatorenal syndrome</b>	present as: azotemia, oliguria, hyponatremia, hypotension, low urine sodium < 10 mEq/L.
<b>Portopulmonary Syndrome</b>	○ Suggested by echocardiography ○ Confirmed right heart catheterization



<b>Hepatocellular carcinoma (Hepatoma)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Blood tests (<b>Alpha Fetoprotein AFP</b>)</li> <li>● Radiology (most important) Dynamic CT and MRI</li> <li>● Biopsy only performed when there is diagnostic doubt as there is risk of tumor seeding in the percutaneous needle biopsy tract.</li> </ul>
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<b>IBD Dx</b>	
<b>Crohn's Disease</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Endoscopy</b> with biopsy ( Colonoscopy Or sigmoidoscopy )</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Imaging:</b> MR enterography</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Serological Test</b> :presence of Anti-Saccharomyces cerevisiae antibodies (<b>ASCA</b>) ,used when the diagnosis is unclear .</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Stool marker (fecal calprotectin)</b> : differentiate between IBS and IBD.</li> </ul>
<b>IBD</b>	<p><b>Lab test :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Fecal leukocyte</b> : Positive → Stool culture (to rule out infection)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Stool marker (fecal calprotectin)</b> : differentiate between IBS and IBD.</li> </ul> <p>Specific test : <input type="checkbox"/> Endoscopy with biopsy ( Colonoscopy Or sigmoidoscopy )</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Imaging:</b> MR enterography</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Serological Test</b> : used when the diagnosis is unclear . ● Anti-Saccharomyces cerevisiae antibodies (<b>ASCA</b>) → <u>crohn's</u> ● Antineutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies (<b>pANCA</b>) → <u>UC</u></li> </ul>

<b>Esophageal Diseases Dx</b>	
<b>Achalasia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD) is done for alarm symptoms</b> (to rule out cancer):               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Onset after age 60</li> <li>2. Anemia</li> <li>3. Heme-positive stools,</li> <li>4. &gt;6-month duration of symptoms,</li> <li>5. Weight loss.</li> </ol> </li> <li>○ <b>Chest X-ray:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Absent of gastric bubble.</li> <li>✓ Wide mediastinum/esophagus.</li> <li>✓ Fluid level.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Barium Swallow:</b> -acceptable to do <b>first</b> in most patients-               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Esophageal dilatation.</li> <li>✓ Terminal part of the esophagus show “bird’s beak” beak-like.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Manometry -is the most accurate diagnostic test-</b></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Elevated LES Pressure with no or partial relaxation amplitude contraction, no propagating (simultaneous).</li> <li>○ <b>Upper endoscopy</b> ✓ Will show normal mucosa; useful in some patients to exclude malignancy</li> </ul>
<b>Esophageal Cancer</b>	○ <b>Barium Swallow: -best initial test-</b> ○ Upper endoscopy with biopsy -required for confirmation-
<b>Esophageal Diverticula</b>	○ <b>Barium swallow -is the best diagnostic</b> for diverticula Note: <u>Endoscopy Should be avoided</u>
<b>Infectious Esophagitis</b>	○ Barium swallow ○ Endoscopy with biopsy
<b>GERD</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Endoscopy -only in refractory cases- biopsy to assess mucosal changes.</li> <li>○ Barium swallow -helpful in identifying complication (strictures/ulcerations)-</li> <li>○ <b>24 Hours pH monitoring -most accurate</b> “sensitive and specific”-</li> <li>○ Manometry -if a motility disorder is suspected-</li> </ul>
<b>Benign esophageal stricture</b>	<b>endoscopy</b> , when biopsies of the stricture can be taken to exclude malignancy. Endoscopic balloon dilatation is helpful.
<b>Gastric volvulus</b>	<b>Diagnosis: CXR (air bubble in the chest) and barium swallow.</b> <b>Endoscopy is the investigation of choice</b>

Abdominal pain & IBS Dx	
<b>Abdominal pain</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/>History ● Type of pain ● Location and radiation ● Character and Severity ● Onset (sudden...) and duration ● Exacerbating or relieving factor ● Associated symptoms (fever,vomiting ● Medications (aspirin or NSAIDs)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/><b>Physical Exam:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● General and Vital Signs (Abnormality of vital signs suggest acute abdomen.)</li> <li>● <b>Guarding</b> : ➤Voluntary: Diminished by having patient flex their knees ➤Involuntary: Reflex spasm of abdominal muscles ● Rigidity ● Rebound (can be normal in 25%): Suggests peritoneal irritation</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/><b>Labs:</b> ● CBC ● LFT ● Renal function ● Urine analysis (To exclude renal stones, pyelonephritis) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● X-ray (to check for obstruction (air fluid level) or perforation) ● US abdomen ● CT scan (To seek evidence of pancreatitis, retroperitoneal collection or masses, including an aortic aneurysm</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Peptic ulcer disease</b>	<b>Endoscopy (most accurate test )</b>

Acute pancreatitis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Serum Amylase and lipase (Best initial test )</li> <li>● CT-scan (,most accurate test )</li> </ul>
IBS	<p><b>By Rome III criteria</b> : Recurrent abdominal pain or discomfort &gt; or = 3 days per month in last 3 months:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pain or discomfort improve with defecation</li> <li>2. Symptoms onset is associated with change in frequency of stool</li> <li>3. Symptoms onset is associated with change in form of stool</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ask about Alarm symptoms that suggest other serious diseases . (to exclude them) <input type="checkbox"/>PR bleeding , Weight loss <input type="checkbox"/>Family history of cancer , Onset &gt;45 years of age <input type="checkbox"/>Fever , Anemia <input type="checkbox"/>Progressive deterioration, Steatorrhea and dehydration</li> <li>● Order CBC, renal panel, fecal occult blood test, stool examination for ova and parasites, erythrocyte sedimentation rate, and possibly a flexible sigmoidoscopy.</li> </ul>

### Chronic diarrhea & Malabsorption Dx

<b>Malabsorption Investigations</b>	<p>1) <b>Laboratory Tests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Hematological tests: - CBC “to detect anemia” - Serum iron, vitamin B12 and Folate - Prothrombin time</li> <li>➤ <b>Electrolytes and chemistries:</b> - Hypokalemia, hypocalcemia, hypomagnesemia, and metabolic acidosis. - Protein malabsorption may cause hypoproteinemia and hypoalbuminemia. - Fat malabsorption can lead to low serum levels of triglycerides, cholesterol. - ESR which is elevated in Crohn’s disease and Whipple's disease.</li> <li>➤ <b>Stool analysis</b> - Stool pH may be assessed. Values of</li> <li>➤ <b>Bacterial overgrowth:</b> - Bacterial overgrowth cause an early rise in breath hydrogen - Diagnosed by jejunal culture. - <b>14c D-xylose breath test, high sensitivity and specificity</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Serology:</b> - No serologic tests are specific for malabsorption - <b>Serum Anti-TTG and antiendomysial antibodies</b> can be used to help diagnose <u>celiac sprue</u> - <b>Serum IgA</b> to rule out IgA deficiency - Determination of fecal elastase and chymotrypsin (2 proteases produced by the pancreas) can be used to try to distinguish between pancreatic causes and intestinal causes of malabsorption.</li> </ul> <p>2) <b>Imaging studies:</b></p>
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	<p>➤<b>Small bowel barium studies</b> : • Strictures • Mucosal changes • Diverticula (bacteria overgrowth usually occurs) ➤CT scan of the abdomen: • Strictures, mucosal changes • Diverticula, wall thickness • Masses, lymph nodes</p> <p>➤(ERCP): • Pancreatitis (duct changes, or calcification in chronic pancreatitis) • Biliary diseases ➤Plain abdominal x-ray film: • <u>Pancreatic calcifications are indicative of chronic pancreatitis</u></p> <p>3) Endoscopy:</p> <p>➤<b>Upper endoscopy with small bowel mucosal biopsy:</b> Examples: - Celiac sprue - Giardiasis - Crohn's disease - Whipple's disease - Amyloidosis - Lymphoma</p> <p>➤<b>Lower GI endoscopy:</b>for colonic and terminal ileal pathology ( e.g Crohn's disease)</p>
<b>Celiac</b>	<p><b>Investigation</b> : • Small intestine biopsy demonstrate <u>villous atrophy</u>. • Stool → ↑ Fat • Serology is +ve for IgA to tissue transglutaminase or IgG to deamidated gliadin or anti-endomysial antibodies</p>
<b>Chronic diarrhea</b>	<p><b>Investigations:</b> • CBC, Look for anemia, WBC elevation • ESR • Electrolytes • Total protein and albumin • TFT • Stool: occult blood, C/S (stool culture and sensitivity), ova and parasites C-D toxins (if history is suggestive) • CT (might be helpful for Diverticulitis and IBD suspected.) • Colonoscopy/ sigmoidoscopy (if unknown of chronic diarrhea→ due to risk of perforation)</p> <p>Specific Investigations The history and physical examination may point toward a specific diagnosis for which testing may be indicated</p>

**Fatima Alddin**