



Pancreatitis

Pancreatitis is an inflammation of the pancreas. The pancreas is a long, flat gland that sits tucked behind the stomach in the upper abdomen. The pancreas produces enzymes that help digestion and hormones also help regulate the way your body processes sugar (glucose).

Symptoms

The signs and symptoms of pancreatitis may vary, depending on the type of the disease.

Acute pancreatitis:

- Abdominal pain that radiates to your back.
- Tenderness when touching the abdomen
- Fever
- Rapid pulse
- Nausea
- Vomiting

Chronic pancreatitis:

- Upper abdominal pain
- Abdominal pain that feels worse after eating
- Losing weight without trying
- Oily, smelly stools (steatorrhea)

Causes

Pancreatitis occurs when digestive enzymes become activated while still in the pancreas, irritating the cells of your pancreas and causing inflammation. With repeated bouts of acute pancreatitis, damage to the pancreas can occur and lead to chronic pancreatitis. Scar tissue may form in the pancreas, causing loss of function. A poorly functioning pancreas can cause digestion problems and diabetes.

Risk Factors

- Excessive alcohol consumption
- Cigarette smoking
- Obesity
- Diabetes
- Family history of pancreatitis

Diagnostic tests

- Blood tests
- Abdominal ultrasound
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- Endoscopic ultrasound
- Stool tests

Complications

- Kidney failure
- Breathing problems
- Infection
- Diabetes
- Pancreatic cancer



Social and Emotional Aspect

For recommendations, tools, and resources how you and your family can manage emotional and physical concerns present during and after their medical treatment, please visit your primary care physician or contact the following telephone lines:

Medical Advice Line

1-844-347-7801

TTY/TDD: 1-844-347-7804

APS Healthcare

787-641-9133

Referencias: <https://www.mayoclinic.org/es-es/diseases-conditions/pancreatitis/diagnosis-treatment/drc-20360233> (2022)
<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/pancreatitis/symptoms-causes/syc-20360227> (2022)

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