

## Chapter 16: GI, GU and Reproductive System Emergencies

- The abdominal and pelvic cavities have both solid and hollow organs that must be distinguished
- There are four general quadrants in the abdomen and you should be able to identify which organs are where when doing abdominal palpations
- Signs and symptoms can present as referred pain and can also be extremely painful
- Abdominal pain may be the first sign to indicate a life threatening emergency
- An assessment includes palpating all four quadrants
- Assessment should gauge if ALS immediate transport is necessary or not
- If abdominal pain exists, do not give patient anything by mouth
- A heart attack can present as abdominal pain

### Key terms:

Acute Abdomen  
Bladder infection  
Ectopic pregnancy  
Guarding  
Hematemesis  
Jaundice  
Ovarian Cyst  
Pancreatitis  
Peritoneum  
Referred pain

Also important: Learn how to apply a SAM pelvic splint and practice pelvic wrap. Both of these techniques are best done with two patrollers. This chapter has important images from figure 16-1 to 16-11 that are really helpful for memorization.