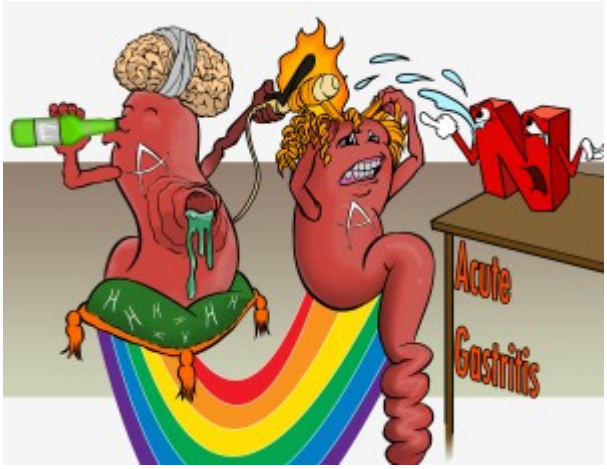
Acute Gastritis

Acute gastritis is a general term that encompasses a broad spectrum of entities that induce inflammatory changes in the gastric mucosa. Acute gastritis is commonly described as an erosive gastritis with disruption of the gastric mucosal barrier. Common causes include stress, NSAID use, alcohol, uremia, burns, and brain injury. Acute gastritis can present with an array of symptoms including nondescript epigastric discomfort, nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, belching, and bloating. The diagnosis can be confirmed histologically by biopsy specimens taken during endoscopy.



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Erosive
Eroded
Acute gastritis is commonly described as an erosive gastritis with disruption of the gastric mucosal barrier while chronic gastritis is typically described as nonerosive.

Disruption of Mucosal Barrier
Mucus Dripping Through Disrupted Mucosal Barrier
Acute gastritis is commonly described as an erosive gastritis with disruption of the gastric mucosal barrier caused by damage to mucosal defenses.

Caused by Stress
Stressfully Pulling Out Hair
There are several proposed mechanisms of stress induced acute gastritis. It is thought that the mucous lining during periods of intense stress have decreased bicarbonate concentration and unable to buffer the harsh acidic content. Other mechanisms include decreased blood flow to the mucosa during stress, causing ischemia and destruction of the mucosal lining.

NSAIDs (Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs)
N-Sad
NSAIDs are the most common agents associated with acute erosive gastritis. These agents reduce prostaglandin secretion in the stomach, which play a role in the maintenance of the mucosal lining of the stomach. This mucosal lining is important as it protects the stomach from the harmful effects of gastric acid.

Alcohol
Alcohol Bottle
Certain doses of alcohol can stimulate hydrochloric acid secretion causing erosion of the mucosal lining of the stomach.

Uremia
U-rainbow
Uremia is characterized by azotemia or increased nitrogenous waste in the blood and the inability to concentrate urine indicating renal failure. Uremia can cause fibrinoid necrosis of the gastric vessels causing ischemic necrosis of the gastric mucosa.

Burns
Burning Curling-iron
Individuals with burns have significant loss of plasma volume, which leads to sloughing of the gastric mucosa. This specific mechanism is called a Curling ulcer.

Curling's Ulcer
Curling-iron
Individuals with burns have significant loss of plasma volume, which leads to sloughing of the gastric mucosa. This specific mechanism is called a Curling ulcer.

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Brain Injury

Brain

In head trauma, increased intracranial pressure causes increased vagal stimulation. Vagal stimulation leads to increased gastric acid production in the stomach leading to erosive acute gastritis. This specific mechanism is called a Cushing ulcer.

Cushing Ulcer

Cushion

In head trauma, increased intracranial pressure causes increased vagal stimulation. Vagal stimulation leads to increased gastric acid production in the stomach leading to erosive acute gastritis. This specific mechanism is called a Cushing ulcer.

Increase H+ Production

H on Cushion

In head trauma, increased intracranial pressure causes increased vagal stimulation. Vagal stimulation leads to increased gastric acid production in the stomach leading to erosive acute gastritis.

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