

**UNIVERSITY OF BASRAH**  
**AL-ZAHRA COLLEGE OF MEDICINE**  
**FIRST STAGE**  
**SECOND LECTURE**

Assist . Prof. Dr. Alaa Abdul-Imam Al-Riyahi

# Parts of the Body 2

## The abdomen

- The main organs of the body have ordinary English names and doctors use these words. But an anatomical word is used when an adjective is needed.

disease of the liver (**hepatic disease**)

The pancreas has no ordinary name.

- **Bowel** or **intestine** are used when doctors talk about the digestive system: **the small intestine** or **the small bowel**, **the large intestine** or **the large bowel**.
- When speaking to patients, doctors refer to the **anus** and **rectum** as **the back passage**.

# The Chest

- The chest (**thorax**) contains the organs of respiration and the heart. The main parts of the respiratory system are the airways and the lungs. The left lung is divided into two lobes and the right into three. The airways consist of the larynx, the trachea (or windpipe), the right and left bronchus and the bronchioles. The chest is separated from the abdomen by the diaphragm.

# The Pelvis

- A doctor is explaining the function of the bladder to a patient

*The bladder is situated in the pelvis, as you know, and it is connected to each kidney by a long tube called the ureter-one on each side. The ureters carry the urine from the kidneys to the bladder, where it is stored until you decide to empty your bladder. When that happens, the urine passes down another tube, called the urethra, to the outside.*

3.1 Label the diagram using words from the box. Look at B opposite to help you.

diaphragm	lobes	windpipe	heart
lung	airways	bronchioles	



**3.2** Match the conditions (1–8) with the organs affected (a–h), using your medical knowledge.

- |                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| 1 hepatitis          | a bladder      |
| 2 pneumonia          | b gall bladder |
| 3 nephritis          | c heart        |
| 4 gastric ulcer      | d kidney       |
| 5 cystitis           | e liver        |
| 6 angina pectoris    | f lung         |
| 7 cholecystitis      | g stomach      |
| 8 ulcerative colitis | h large bowel  |

3.3 Complete the textbook extract. Look at A and C opposite to help you.

## Examination of the abdomen

To examine the patient for enlarged abdominal (1) ....., first feel for the (2) ..... and the (3) ..... on the right side. To do this, ask the patient to take a deep breath, while pressing with the fingers upwards and inwards. Next, feel for the right (4) ..... and then cross over to the other side for the left (5) ..... Still on the left side, palpate for an enlarged (6) ..... Finally, moving to the lower abdomen, feel for the (8) ..... which is only felt if it is full.

*Over to you*



Many patients do not know the location or function of the spleen or the pancreas. How would you explain them to a patient, in English?



# 4 Functions of the Body

## ■ A Eating

**You're hungry.  
You're in a  
restaurant and the  
waiter brings you  
food.**

**You smell it. It  
stimulates your  
appetite. You  
want to eat. Your  
mouth waters,  
filling with saliva.**

**You take a  
bite of the  
food. It  
tastes good  
and you  
chew it and  
swallow it.**


**You eat  
more, but  
then  
suddenly you  
taste  
something  
unpleasant.  
You feel  
nauseous.**

**You rush to  
the toilet,  
and get there  
just in time  
before  
vomiting all  
the food  
you've eaten.  
Something  
has  
disagreed  
with you**

## □ **B The Five Senses**

In addition to smell and taste, the senses include sight (or vision), hearing and touch (also called sensation or feeling).

<b>What is your</b>	<b>sight</b>	<b>like?</b>
<b>Is your</b>	<b>hearing</b> <b>sense of smell</b> <b>sense of taste</b>	<b>normal?</b>



To ask about the sense of touch, doctors talk about numbness  
(loss of sensation)

e.g. Have you noticed any numbness (in your fingers or toes?)

# Other Functions

Function	Verb	Noun
speaking	speak	speech
walking	walk	gait
breathing respiration	inhale / breathe in / take a breath in exhale / breathe out	breath
urination micturition	urinate micturate pass urine / pass water	urine
defecation	defecate pass faeces / pass stools	faeces stools
menstruation	menstruate have a period	(menstrual) period (monthly) period

When taking a history, doctors can ask:

Do you have any	trouble difficulty problems	walking? breathing? passing urine? with your speech?
	pain	when you breathe in?

When auscultating a patient's lungs, the doctor tells the patient:

Take a deep breath in, hold your breath, then breathe out completely.

## D Less common functions

There are some things we do less often. When we are hot, we **sweat**. When we are nervous, we **shake**. When we are sad, we **cry**.

Doctors can ask:

Do you	sweat shake	more than usual?
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4.1 Match the symptoms (1–5) to the questions (a–e), using your medical knowledge.

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 1 dysuria   | a What is your breathing like?                 |
| 2 dysphagia | b Do you have any pain when you pass water?    |
| 3 diplopia  | c Do you have any difficulty with your speech? |
| 4 dysphasia | d Do you have any trouble swallowing?          |
| 5 dyspnoea  | e Is your vision normal?                       |

4.2 Patients are describing symptoms of the conditions shown in brackets. Complete the sentences. Look at C and D opposite to help you.

- 1 I've got pain and ..... in both feet. (peripheral neuropathy)
- 2 I'm having difficulty ..... solid food. (oesophageal stricture)
- 3 I have a lot of problems ..... . (prostatic hypertrophy)
- 4 I've been ..... more than usual, even when it's not hot. (hyperthyroidism)
- 5 I've noticed that my hands ..... when I'm not using them. (Parkinsonism)
- 6 I have trouble ..... when I climb the stairs. (left heart failure)

4.3 Complete the sentences. Look at A, B, C and D opposite to help you.

1 When I eat solid food, I have to ..... (bite/chew) it for a long time before I can ..... (swallow/eat) it.

2 Do you have any pain when you ..... (pass/have) stools?

3 I have no ..... (taste/appetite) and I've lost five kilos in the last few weeks.

4 When did you last ..... (have/pass) a period?

5 The garden is full of flowers, but my ..... (sense/sensation) of smell has disappeared and I can't enjoy the perfume.

6 Take a deep ..... (breathe/breath) in.

# Over to You

You think a patient may have diabetes. Think of five questions you can ask the patient to investigate further. Try to use the question types presented in this lecture.



