

PROBLEM-SOLVING EXERCISE: INFLAMMATION & REPAIR

Aim

To derive an understanding of the pathogenesis, manifestations and management of a common inflammatory disorder through discussion of the underlying pathological processes.

Part One

1. Picture A is a macroscopic view of a portion of the stomach viewed from the mucosal surface.
2. Describe the main pathological feature.
3. Pictures B, C, D are microscopic views.
4. From where would these histological sections be taken in relation to picture A?
5. Picture E is a high power view of an area of picture D.
6. What are the components of this tissue?
7. From the above macroscopical and microscopical observations, what do you deduce about the nature of this disease?

Part Two

Doctors have treated this disease in the following ways:

1. Advice on diet and way of life, to include small but frequent meals, additional alkaline foods (e.g. milk), and avoidance of aspirin.
2. An operation in which both vagus nerves were cut as they run towards the stomach, and a portion of the stomach was removed.
3. Tablet treatment with either a histamine H₂ receptor antagonist or a proton pump inhibitor.
4. Tablet treatment with antibiotics.

Discuss the rationale behind each of these.

Part Three

Sketch out a flow diagram, linking the aetiology and pathogenesis of this disease to its presentation, the subjective symptoms the patient might have felt and the physical signs of disease he or she might have exhibited.

Part Four

What other disease of the stomach could have a similar appearance?
How would you distinguish between them?