

A

abdomen: The anatomical area located between the chest and pelvis, colloquially referred to as the belly or gut. The diaphragm and pelvic bones compose the upper and lower borders, respectively. Classically, it is divided into four quadrants: right upper, right lower, left upper, and left lower.

abdominal girth: The circumference of the abdomen, typically measured at the level of the umbilicus.

abdominal migraine: A disorder of intermittent pain in the abdomen associated with flushing, pallor, nausea, and vomiting that lasts less than 72 hours, with complete resolution of symptoms between attacks. It is most common in children and often lacks a concomitant aura or headache. However, if an aura occurs, symptoms may be prevented by pre-emptive use of triptan-type antimigraine medications.

abdominal pain: Discomfort or distress located in the abdomen. Pain may arise from an organ or disease within the abdomen itself or be referred to the abdomen from another region of the body.

aberrant hepatic artery: A common anatomical variation occurring in approximately 40% of people wherein the hepatic artery origin is from a vessel other than the celiac trunk. The artery can be a replacing artery (one that exists in the absence of a normal hepatic artery) or an accessory artery (one that exists in addition to a normal hepatic artery).

abetalipoproteinemia: An autosomal recessive disorder caused by a mutation in the microsomal triglyceride transfer protein leading to the malabsorption of fats and fat-soluble vitamins secondary to absent apolipoprotein B, an essential component of chylomicrons and very-low-density lipoproteins. Steatorrhea