Questionnaire

Introduction:

Dear participant, we are a research team from Al-Balqa Applied University conducting a survey to assess the public's knowledge of acute abdominal pain (AAP). Participation is voluntary, and all responses will remain confidential.	Yes/ No
Do you agree to participate?	

Section 1: Demographics

Gender	1) Male 2) Female
Age	<18, 18-90
Geographical region	1) North Region (Irbid, Ajloun, Jerash, Mafraq) 2) Central Region (Amman, Zarqa, Balqa, Madaba) 3) South Region (Karak, Ma'an, Tafila, Aqaba)
Educational level	1) Below Secondary Education 2) Completed Secondary Education 3) Undergraduate Degree (Bachelor's) 4) Postgraduate Education
Marital status	1) Single 2) Married (or previously married)
Do you have children?	1) yes 2) No
Insurance	1) yes 2) No
Do you work/ specialize or study in the medical field?	1) yes 2) No
Have you ever went through an abdominal surgery?	1) yes 2) No
(if you had a previous abdominal surgery) Have you been misdiagnosed at first then converted to a surgical case?	1) yes 2) No
(if you had a previous abdominal surgery) What type of surgery?	1) Appendectomy 2) Cholecystectomy 3) Bowel obstruction surgery 4) Perforated ulcer surgery 5) Intestinal volvulus surgery 6) Partial bowel resection 7) Splenic rupture surgery 8) Abdominal aortic rupture surgery 9) Other (explain)

Section 2: General Knowledge

In this section of the questionnaire, we aim to assess participants' general understanding of the symptoms and potential causes of acute abdominal pain.	
Symptoms that I think are associated with acute abdominal pain are: (You can choose more than one answer)	1) Severe abdominal pain 2) Nausea 3) Vomiting 4) Fever 5) Abdominal bloating 6) Diarrhea or constipation 7) Muscle cramps in the abdomen 8) Dry mouth 9) Loss of appetite 10) Rapid heart rate
Which of the following might be the cause of severe abdominal pain, according to your point of view? (Choose all that apply or you think are correct)	1) Muscular system (related to abdominal wall muscles) 2) Digestive system (esophagus – stomach – intestines – colon) 3) Appendages of the digestive system (gallbladder – pancreas – liver) 4) Urinary system (kidneys – ureters – bladder) 5) Reproductive system in general (ovaries – uterus – testicles in males) 6) Blood vessels and circulatory system (arteries and veins inside the abdomen – spleen – fluid and clotting diseases) 7) Respiratory system (diseases Lung) 8) Heart disease (heart attacks, fibrillation, and irregular heartbeat)

Section 3: Knowledge Assessment

In this section of the questionnaire, we aim to evaluate participants' knowledge of acute abdominal pain in terms of diagnosis, management, and complications.	
Please choose the correct statement from the following regarding the appropriate description of the levels of acute abdominal pain reported in the questionnaire.	1) Acute abdominal pain means very severe and sudden pain* 2) Acute abdominal pain includes any type of abdominal pain, regardless of its duration or level of pain 3) Acute abdominal pain only occurs in a person who has chronic digestive diseases 4) Acute abdominal pain is pain that recurs for more than two months without a known cause 5) Acute abdominal pain means only a person screaming or crying from pain 6) I don't know
How should acute abdominal pain be treated according to your point of view:	1) It should always be treated as an emergency to find out its causes and treat it* 2) It is not an emergency or critical case (not a priority for the emergency department) 3) It is considered an emergency case if the pain is severe to the point of screaming or crying 4) I don't know
Where is the appropriate place to provide initial diagnosis and treatment for acute abdominal pain requiring medical attention?	1) Primary care center (general practitioner) 2) Family medicine clinic (family medicine or pediatric consultant) 3) Hospital emergency department (emergency physician consults general internist first) 4) Hospital emergency department (emergency physician consults general surgeon first)* 5) Gastroenterology clinic appointment 6) Surgery clinic appointment (general surgery) 7) I don't know
Do you think that severe abdominal pain may require emergency surgery?	1) Yes* 2) No 3) I don’t know
Which of the following is a risk factor for developing severe abdominal pain that requires immediate medical attention?	1) High cholesterol 2) Previous abdominal surgery* 3) Food poisoning 4) Sedentary lifestyle

Which of the following is a serious complication of untreated acute abdomen?	1) Chronic fatigue 2) infection spread to blood(sepsis)* 3) Chronic constipation 4) Persistent headache
Which of the following conditions is not usually associated with an acute abdomen?	1) Irritable bowel syndrome* 2) Kidney stones 3) Pancreatitis 4) Appendicitis
What symptom might indicate a perforated peptic ulcer in a patient with an acute abdomen?	1) Gradual, mild pain 2) Sudden, severe pain with abdominal wall stiffness* 3) Pain that does not get worse with food 4) Pain that gets better with antacids
What is the most common cause of severe abdominal pain requiring emergency surgery in Jordan?	1) Appendicitis* 2) Internal bleeding due to ruptured blood vessels 3) Bowel obstruction 4) Perforated peptic ulcer
What is the treatment for acute appendicitis?	1) Antibiotics only 2) Appendectomy* 3) Painkillers 4) Dietary changes
Which of the following symptoms is a sign of gastrointestinal bleeding?	1) Change in stool color to dark black* 2) Persistent cough 3) Sudden weight gain 4) Green vomit
In cholecystitis, where is the pain most often located?	1) Upper left abdomen 2) Upper right abdomen* 3) Lower left abdomen 4) Lower right abdomen
Can angina (heart attack) present as severe abdominal pain?	1) yes* 2) no
Which of the following symptoms might indicate intestinal obstruction as the cause of acute abdominal pain?	1) Nausea and vomiting 2) Abdominal bloating 3) Inability to pass gas or stool 4) All of the above*
Pancreatitis usually presents as pain in which area?	1) Pain in the upper right abdomen 2) Pain in the upper abdomen extending to the back* 3) Chest pain 4) Pain in the lower abdomen

Section 4: Attitudes

In this section of the questionnaire, we aim to explore participants' attitudes toward the importance of AAP awareness and their interest in learning more.	
How interested would you be to learn more about acute abdominal pain and how to deal with it effectively from reliable sources?	1) Not at all interested 2) Not interested 3) Neutral 4) Interested 5) Very interested
I think spreading awareness about acute abdominal pain is an important topic.	1) Strongly Disagree 2) Disagree 3) Neutral 4) Agree 5) Strongly Agree

Section 5: Practices

In this section of the questionnaire, we aim to examine participants' typical behaviors and responses when experiencing acute abdominal pain.	
If I feel sudden, severe abdominal pain, what is the first thing I think about doing?	1) Take painkillers and wait 2) Go to the doctor immediately 3) Try to rest at home

	4) Consult friends or family first 5) Consult a pharmacist first
I would seek urgent medical care if abdominal pain is accompanied by any of the following symptoms? (You may choose more than one answer)	1) You felt pain in your chest, neck, or shoulder 2) The pain was accompanied by shortness of breath or dizziness 3) You vomited blood 4) Your stool was black or bloody 5) You found blood in your urine 6) Your abdomen was swollen and tender 7) You had a high fever 8) You had persistent nausea or vomiting 9) None of the above

Section 6: In this section of the questionnaire, we aim to identify potential barriers that may prevent individuals from seeking timely medical care for acute abdominal pain and consulting a surgeon when needed.

1. Barriers to Surgical Consult

The reasons that may prevent me from consulting a surgeon first or asking for his opinion when there is sudden, severe abdominal pain are: (You can choose more than one answer)	1) Fear of having surgery done directly without confirmation. 2) Asking for a surgeon's opinion takes longer. 3) The decision to see a surgeon is up to the doctor who evaluated the case, and I have no right to discuss it. 4) All cases of acute abdominal pain do not need to be evaluated by a surgeon, but by an internist first. 5) A surgeon is not asked to perform surgery unless the internist or emergency physician decides to do so. 6) I don't know.

2. Barriers to seeking medical help in the presence of acute abdominal pain

Barriers that may prevent me from seeking immediate medical care for acute abdominal pain are: (You may choose more than one answer)	1) Transportation problems: Difficulty accessing transportation to get to the medical facility. 2) Waiting times: Concern about long waits at medical facilities. 3) Trust in healthcare providers: Lack of confidence in healthcare providers' ability to effectively manage acute abdominal pain. 4) Financial constraints: Concern about medical costs. 5) Previous negative experiences. 6) Lack of information: Not enough information about where to seek medical care. 7) Fear of side effects of treatment: Concern about possible side effects of proposed treatments

Section 7: Sources of knowledge about acute abdominal pain

In this section of the questionnaire, we aim to investigate the primary sources from which participants obtain information about acute abdominal pain.

What sources do I use to get information about acute abdominal pain/abdominal pain in general?: You may choose more than one answer	1) Consultation with doctors or health professionals 2) Personal experiences or experiences of friends and family 3) Medical websites such as (Mayo Clinic, WebMD) 4) General online research through any medical courses and seminars site 5) Online health forums and groups 6) Medical books and journals