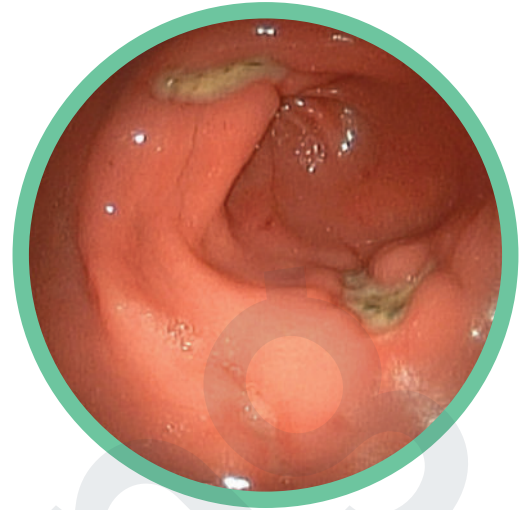


# PEPTIC ULCER DISEASE PATHOCHART

## PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

Defects (open sores) in the protective lining of the stomach and upper small intestine. Gastric ulcers occur on the inside of the stomach and duodenal ulcers occur on the inside of the upper portion of the small intestine (duodenum). These ulcers are at risk for bleeding. Common causes include chronic NSAID use, H.Pylori infection, and chronic alcohol use



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## ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

- Epigastric pain (gnawing or burning) after meals
- Heartburn
- Constipation
- Feeling full
- Unexplained weight loss
- Dysphagia
- Bleeding, tarry stools
- Anemia
- Vomiting
- Hypovolemia

## DIAGNOSTICS

- Upper endoscopy
- Tissue biopsy

## NURSING PRIORITIES

- Optimize Nutrition
- Promote Comfort
- Monitor for Bleeding

## THERAPEUTIC MANAGEMENT

- Monitor coagulation and blood counts
- Antibiotic therapy for H. Pylori
- Avoid acid and gas-producing foods
- Eat small, frequent meals
- Smoking cessation
- Avoid alcohol and stress

## MEDICATION THERAPY

- Proton pump inhibitor
- H2 Histamine blockers
- Antacids
- Cytoprotective agents (Sucralfate)
- Antibiotics
- AVOID NSAIDS