

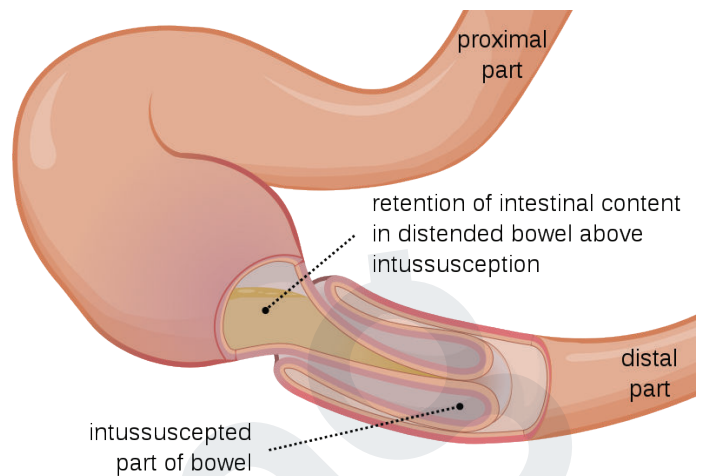
INTUSSUSCEPTION PATHOCHART

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

The most common cause of bowel obstruction in children is intussusception. It is a telescoping movement where part of the intestine slides over itself making the intestine shorter, as if closing a telescope. When this happens, the intestine begins to swell from inflammation, food can't pass through and the blood supply is cut off. Tissue death, bowel perforation and infection may occur.

ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

- Colicky abdominal pain
- Crying or fussiness
- Fever
- Blood and mucus in stool (red currant jelly stools)
- Lethargy
- Vomiting or Diarrhea
- Palpable lump in abdomen



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DIAGNOSTICS

- Ultrasound
- X-ray
- CT Scan
- Barium enema

NURSING PRIORITIES

- Promote comfort
- Address elimination needs
- Ensure adequate nutrition

THERAPEUTIC MANAGEMENT

- May self-correct with enema or time
- May require surgical intervention
- NG tube for gastric decompression
- Monitor for and treat dehydration
- Assess and monitor abdominal pain
- Assess and monitor stool characteristics

MEDICATION THERAPY

- Analgesics
- IV fluids