

What Does Location of Abdominal Pain Say, Anatomically and Homoeopathically

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Abstract

Background and justification for the study: Every symptom is an indication of bodily derangements which a patient feels when sick. The medical personal has to recognize these derangements only by symptomatic study of the disease without making any hypothetical theories. Therefore, examining symptoms is the sole correct method for determining the presentation of a disease. In Homoeopathy, a complete symptom is that which covers location, sensation, modalities and concomitant symptoms. The **Location** means the anatomical site from where the disease is generating and manifesting its clinical presentation in form of the symptoms. It specifies the precise location, ranging from cellular to organ levels, where the lesion or symptom is manifested. The meaning of location in the definition of complete symptom is, the seat of the disease; it means the part of the body which is involved in the generation of the disease. In Homoeopathy, some medicines have affinities to particular location of the symptoms and their particular medicines are documented in Homoeopathic Materia Medica by various Homoeopaths. Every organ of the abdominal cavity has its specific location region wise; and disorders related to them are reflected in signs and symptoms expressed by the patient himself or observed by the physician. Here we are trying to state about the location of the symptom in relation to nine anatomical abdominal regions, i.e., epigastric region, right and left hypochondriac regions, umbilical region, right and left lumbar regions, hypogastric region and right and left iliac regions and Homoeopathic medicines related to pathological symptoms of that particular region described by various Homoeopaths.

Keywords: Nine abdominal regions, abdominal disorders, homoeopathic medicines

INTRODUCTION

A symptom is described as an outward manifestation of an internally disrupted vital force. Each symptom serves as an indication of a departure from the typical state of well-being. The wise physician does not make hypothetical theories to recognize the disease but he understands the derangements by symptomatic study of the disease [1]. Therefore, analysing symptoms is the sole method to discern the disease presentation since the disease is solely manifested through symptoms. In homeopathy, it is

essential to thoroughly examine each symptom in its entirety to properly comprehend its significance. One of the Homoeopathic pioneers conceived the idea of clinical completing symptoms by comparing the clinical pictures of the diseases and by observation of curative effects of homoeopathic medicines [2]. He discovered that the situations increasing or decreasing the intensity of the symptoms of a case were general in their relation and thus formulated the concept of complete symptom including modalities. During the process of case taking in homeopathy, every symptom mentioned by the patient must be thoroughly investigated, covering all aspects of the symptoms.

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The entirety of symptoms represents more than just the cumulative sum of individual symptoms; it embodies a singular comprehensive manifestation, serving as the patient's symptom [3].

In Homoeopathy, a complete symptom is that which covers location, sensation, modalities and concomitant symptoms. The **Location** means the anatomical site from where the disease is generating and manifesting its clinical presentation in form of the symptoms. It specifies precisely the location, ranging from the cellular level to the organ level, where the lesion is situated or the symptom is manifested.

The meaning of location in the definition of complete symptom is, the seat of the disease; it means the part of the body which is involved in the generation of the disease [4].

Here we are trying to state about the location of the symptom in relation to nine anatomical abdominal regions [5–7], i.e., epigastric region, right and left hypochondriac regions, umbilical region, right and left lumbar regions, hypogastric region and right and left iliac regions. Every organ of the abdominal cavity has its specific location region wise; and disorders related to them are reflected in signs and symptoms expressed by the patient himself or observed by the physician.

Our Homoeopathic Materia medica has various symptomatology according to location of the symptoms in relation to abdominal regions and their particular medicines which have affinities to these particular regions. For each region of the abdomen there is a list of particular Homoeopathic medicines which cover the pathologies related to the organs, located in that particular region.

ANATOMY OF ABDOMINAL REGIONS

The abdomen is the largest part of the human body which contains many of the important viscera related to various metabolic activities of the body. Anatomically the abdomen is subdivided into nine anatomical regions by four imaginary planes [5–7]. These are the two longitudinal/vertical planes and two transverse/horizontal planes. The two transverse planes are transpyloric plane and transtubercular plane (Figure 1).

1. The longitudinal planes are *lateral/parasagittal planes*, running parallel to median/sagittal plane (dividing the body into two equal right and left halves), passing through the midpoint of the clavicle. It traverses the costal margin slightly to the side of the tip of the 9th costal cartilage (notable as a distinct step on the costal margin) and extends through a spot halfway between the anterior superior iliac spine (the front boundary of the iliac crest) and the pubic symphysis. This plane corresponds the lateral border of the rectus abdominis muscle.
2. The transpyloric plane is a horizontal plane situated halfway between the suprasternal notch of the manubrium sterni and the upper edge of the pubic symphysis. It corresponds to the level of the first lumbar vertebra and intersects the costal margin at the tips of the 9th costal cartilages bilaterally.
3. The *transtubercular plane* is also a transverse plane which is the line joining the tubercles of the iliac crest; the tubercles are situated on the outer lip of the iliac crest (which is the lowest limit of the abdominal wall at the side) 5 cm behind the anterior superior iliac spine. This plane lies at the level of fifth lumbar vertebra.

The nine anatomical abdominal regions and the viscera located in these regions are shown in Table 1.

APPLIED ANATOMY OF NINE ABDOMINAL REGIONS

Each abdominal region shows distinct clinical presentation when its contained viscera are affected. We have to identify the organ affected according to the location of pain indicated by the patient or observed by the physician during examination. The list of the diseases which can be the probable diagnosis according to the location of abdominal pain is shown in Table 2.

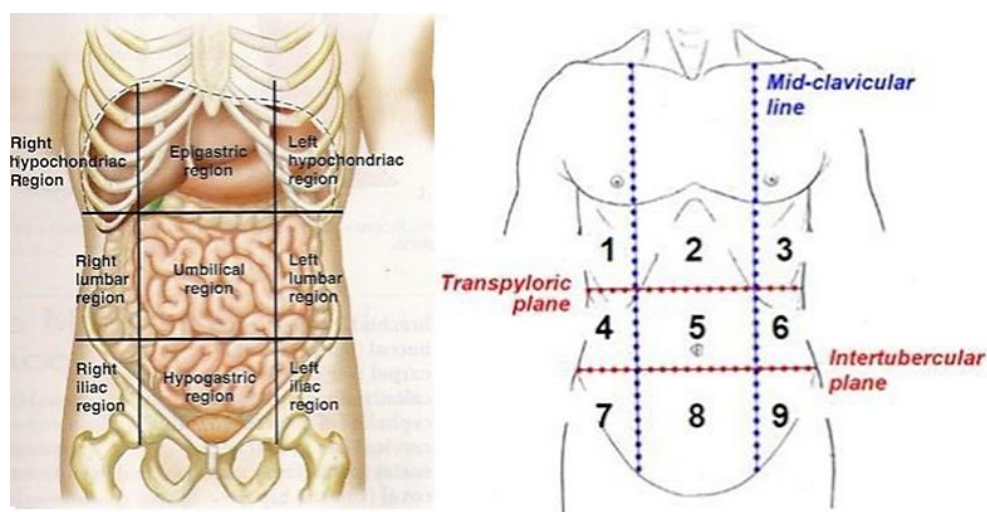


Figure 1. Nine abdominal regions with abdominal planes [8, 9].

Table 1. Nine abdominal region and the viscera located in them [5–7].

Abdominal regions	Viscera located
1. Right Hypochondriac Region	Ascending Colon
	Gall Bladder
	Liver
	Right Kidney
	Small Intestine
	Transverse Colon
2. Epigastric Region	Oesophagus
	Liver
	Pancreas
	Right and Left Adrenal Glands
	Right and Left Kidneys
	Small Intestine
	Spleen
	Stomach Transverse Colon
3. Left Hypochondriac Region	Descending Colon
	Left Kidney
	Liver
	Pancreas
	Small Intestine
	Spleen
	Stomach
	Transverse Colon
4. Right Lumbar Region	Ascending colon
	Gall Bladder
	Liver
	Right Kidney
	Small intestine
5. Umbilical	Cisterna chyli
	Pancreas
	Right and Left Kidneys

Abdominal regions	Viscera located
	Right and Left Ureters
	Small Intestine
	Stomach
	Transverse colon
6. Left Lumber Region	Descending Colon
	Left Kidney
	Small Intestine
7. Right Iliac Region	Appendix
	Caecum and Ascending Colon
	Right Fallopian Tube (F)
	Right Ovary (F)
	Small Intestine
8. Hypogastric Region	Prostate
	Rectum
	Right and Left ureters
	Seminal Vesicle (M)
	Sigmoid Colon
	Small Intestine
	Urinary Bladder
	Uterus (F)
	Vas Deferens (M)
9. Left Iliac Region	Left fallopian Tube (F)
	Left Ovary (F)
	Small Intestine
	Descending Colon
	Sigmoid Colon

Table 2. Nine abdominal regions and the organ related diseases [10].

Abdominal regions	Organ Related
1. Right Hypochondriac Region	Cholecystitis, Cholelithiasis, Hepatitis, Cirrhosis of Liver.
	Right Renal diseases like Calculi, Nephritis, Tuberculosis of Kidney. Peptic Ulcer
2. Epigastric Region	Gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) Gastritis
	Gastric Ulcer, Pancreatitis
3. Left Hypochondriac Region	Gastro-oesophageal reflux disease (GERD)
	Gastritis Gastric Ulcer, Left Renal diseases like Calculi, Nephritis, Tuberculosis of Kidney
	Pancreatitis Splenomegaly
4. Right Lumber Region	Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Diverticulosis
	Right Renal diseases like Calculi, Nephritis, Tuberculosis of Kidney.
5. Umbilical Region	Umbilical Hernia.
	Right and left Ureteric Colic, Peptic Ulcer, Early appendicitis Enteritis
6. Left Lumber Region	Left Renal diseases like Calculi, Nephritis, Tuberculosis of Kidney
7. Right Iliac Region	Appendicitis Amoebiasis, Caecitis. Right Salpingitis, Right Ovarian Cyst, Carcinoma of rt. Ovary Meckel's Diverticulitis, Inguinal hernia
8. Hypogastric Region	Prostatitis, Prolapse of Rectum, Carcinoma of Rectum, Constipation
	Cystitis, Urinary Tract Infections
9. Left Iliac Region	Left salpingitis Left Ovarian cyst Colitis
	Colon carcinoma Inguinal hernia

Table 3. Nine abdominal regions and Homoeopathic Medicines [2, 11, 12].

Abdominal regions	Homoeopathic Medicines
1. Right Hypochondriac Region	ACO, AM-C, BAR-C, BELL, BRYO, CHEL, COCCL, COLCH, KALI-C, LYC, MAG-M, MERC, NAT SULPH, NUX-V PODO, RHUS TOX, SIL, STANN, VARAT ALB
2. Epigastric Region	BELL, BRY, LYCO, CAL
	CARB, CICU, COCCU, HELL, LYCO, NAT-M, PULS
3. Left Hypochondriac Region	ASAF, CAUST, CON, FERR, FLU-AC, IGN, IOD, MUR AC, NIT-AC, SEP, SUL
4. Right Lumbar Region	BOR, CARD-M, MERC
5. Umbilical Region:	CHEL
6. Left Lumbar Region	BERB, BROM, CARB-V, CARD-M, CAST, CAUST, EUP-PUR, EUPI, FERR, GRAT, MAG-C, NAJA
7. Right Iliac Region	COCC, KALI-C, PIC-AC
8. Hypogastric Region	ARS, BELL, BRY, CACT, CALC-P, CARB-V, CARD-M, CAUST, COLOC, DIOS, GELS, KALI-C, KALI-P, KREOS, LYC, MED, MERC, NUX-V, PHOS, PLAT, PULS, SEC, SEP, SIL, SULPH, VERAT, ZINC
9. Left Iliac Region	CAUST, CIMIC, COLCH, CROT-H, CUPR, DIOS, EUPI, GELS, NAJA, NAT-A, OX-AC, PULS-N, THUJ

HOMOEOPATHIC MEDICINES ACCORDING TO LOCATION/REGION AFFINITY IN ABDOMEN

According to Kent [11] Bonning Hausen [2] and Boericke [12], there is a list of Homoeopathic medicines which are mentioned by them according to their affinity to particular region and organs of the abdomen (Table 3)

CONCLUSION

Now we can understand, that how the knowledge of anatomical regions of the abdomen is helpful when correlating location or seat of disease with the anatomical structures within those areas. The treatment part is also related to this location part of the disease as there are many medicines related to that particular location/region of the abdomen. So, we can apply our knowledge of totality of symptoms and drug affinity to the particular region and to the particular organ and then we can select the correct *similimum* for the patient.

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