

Gallbladder Diarrhea Conversation Card

Use this to prepare for a clinician conversation. It is not a diagnosis tool.

1. Stop signs

Seek medical care for sudden or severe upper-right abdominal pain, pain with fever or chills, yellow skin or eyes, persistent vomiting, blood or black stool, dehydration signs, fainting, or severe/worsening abdominal pain.

2. Gallbladder history

- Gallstones or gallbladder attack history.
- Gallbladder removal date.
- Symptoms before and after surgery.
- Upper-right pain, shoulder/back radiation, nausea, or fever.

3. Diarrhea pattern

- Watery vs loose.
- Frequency and urgency.
- After fatty meals or most meals.
- Nighttime symptoms.
- Weight loss, fever, blood, dehydration.

4. Questions to ask

- Does my gallbladder history change the diarrhea workup?
- Should bile-acid diarrhea be considered?
- What tests are available in my setting?
- What should make me seek urgent care?