

# Prevalence and causes of acute abdominal pain in adult patients presenting to the emergency department in Aleppo university hospital: a cross-sectional study

<b>Submission date</b> 01/11/2024	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
		<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 04/11/2024	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
		<input type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 04/11/2024	<b>Condition category</b> Signs and Symptoms	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data
		<input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

## Plain English summary of protocol

### Background and study aims

This study aims to understand the different causes of sudden abdominal pain in patients who come to the emergency department. We want to find out how common each cause is and how accurate different tests and examinations are in diagnosing these conditions.

### Who can participate?

Adults aged 13 years and older who come to the emergency department with sudden abdominal pain can participate in this study. We are not including patients with chronic or unspecified abdominal pain, or those under 13 years old.

### What does the study involve?

Participants will be asked to fill out a questionnaire about their symptoms, medical history, and other relevant information. They will also undergo a clinical examination and may have laboratory tests and imaging investigations as part of their routine care. The data collected will help us identify the causes of their abdominal pain and evaluate the accuracy of different diagnostic methods.

### What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

By participating, patients will contribute to improving the understanding and diagnosis of acute abdominal pain, which could benefit future patients. There are no additional risks beyond those associated with the routine medical care they will receive.

### Where is the study run from?

Emergency Department of Aleppo University Hospital (Syria)

### When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

August 2024 to December 2024

Who is funding the study?  
Investigator initiated and funded

Who is the main contact?  
Mohammad Al-Jawad, mhammadjawad877@gmail.com

## Contact information

### Type(s)

Public, Scientific, Principal investigator

### Contact name

Mr Mohammad Al-Jawad

### ORCID ID

<https://orcid.org/0009-0002-7633-3541>

### Contact details

Aleppo University

Aleppo

Syria

-

+963 946148173

mhammadjawad877@gmail.com

## Additional identifiers

### Clinical Trials Information System (CTIS)

Nil known

### ClinicalTrials.gov (NCT)

Nil known

### Protocol serial number

Nil known

## Study information

### Scientific Title

Understanding acute abdominal pain: a study from Aleppo university hospital

### Acronym

PACAP

### Study objectives

To determine the prevalence causes of differential diagnoses for acute abdominal pain in patients presenting to the emergency department.

### Ethics approval required

Ethics approval required

### **Ethics approval(s)**

approved 25/08/2024, University of Aleppo Ethics Committee (-, Aleppo, -, Syria; +963 212622301; cmoffice@alepuniv.edu.sy), ref: 2408

### **Study design**

Single-center cross-sectional observational study

### **Primary study design**

Observational

### **Study type(s)**

Screening

### **Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied**

Prevalence and causes of acute abdominal pain in adult patients presenting to the Emergency Department at Aleppo University Hospital

### **Interventions**

This study employs a cross-sectional observational methodology. Adult patients presenting with acute abdominal pain at the Emergency Department of Aleppo University Hospital will be assessed. Data will be collected through structured interviews and clinical examinations. Relevant tests, such as blood tests and imaging studies (e.g., ultrasound), will be performed as deemed necessary by the attending physicians. Observations regarding the patients' demographics, clinical presentations, and final diagnoses will be documented to identify the prevalence and causes of acute abdominal pain.

### **Intervention Type**

Not Specified

### **Primary outcome(s)**

Measured at a single time point:

1. Prevalence of differential diagnoses for acute abdominal pain is measured using clinical records
2. Most common cause of acute abdominal pain is measured using clinical records
3. Diagnostic accuracy of clinical examination is measured using sensitivity and specificity analysis
4. Diagnostic accuracy of laboratory investigations is measured using sensitivity and specificity analysis
5. Diagnostic accuracy of imaging investigations is measured using sensitivity and specificity analysis
6. Age is measured using a questionnaire
7. Gender is measured using a questionnaire
8. Marital status is measured using a questionnaire
9. Employment status is measured using a questionnaire
10. Location of abdominal pain is measured using a questionnaire
11. Duration of abdominal pain is measured using a questionnaire
12. Nature of abdominal pain is measured using a questionnaire
13. Associated symptoms are measured using a questionnaire
14. Progression of symptoms is measured using a questionnaire
15. Previous treatment for abdominal pain is measured using a questionnaire

16. Abdominal examination findings are measured using clinical examination
17. Radiation of pain is measured using a questionnaire
18. Alleviating or exacerbating factors are measured using a questionnaire
19. Pain score is measured using the NRS scale
20. Impact on daily activities is measured using a questionnaire
21. Significant clinical findings are measured using clinical examination
22. Laboratory test results are measured using laboratory tests
23. Imaging investigation results are measured using imaging tests
24. Final diagnosis is measured using clinical records

**Key secondary outcome(s)**

There are no secondary outcome measures

**Completion date**

01/12/2024

## Eligibility

**Key inclusion criteria**

1. Adult patients (aged 13 years and above)
2. Patients with acute abdominal pain

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

**Age group**

Adult

**Lower age limit**

13 years

**Upper age limit**

100 years

**Sex**

All

**Total final enrolment**

951

**Key exclusion criteria**

1. Chronic abdominal pain
2. Unspecified abdominal pain
3. Patient under 13 years

**Date of first enrolment**

01/10/2024

**Date of final enrolment**

30/10/2024

## Locations

**Countries of recruitment**

Syria

**Study participating centre**

Aleppo University Hospital

Aleppo

Syria

-

## Sponsor information

**Organisation**

University of Aleppo

**ROR**

<https://ror.org/03mzvz96>

## Funder(s)

**Funder type**

Other

**Funder Name**

Investigator initiated and funded

## Results and Publications

**Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan**

The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study will be available upon request from Mohammad Al-Jawad, [mhammadjawad877@gmail.com](mailto:mhammadjawad877@gmail.com).

**IPD sharing plan summary**

Available on request