

# It's Not Just the Lungs?

## Non-Pulmonary Complications of Cystic Fibrosis

Ashley Otto, PharmD, BCPS

Pharmacy Grand Rounds  
January 5, 2021

# LEARNING OBJECTIVES



Describe the pathophysiology of non-pulmonary clinical manifestations of cystic fibrosis (CF)



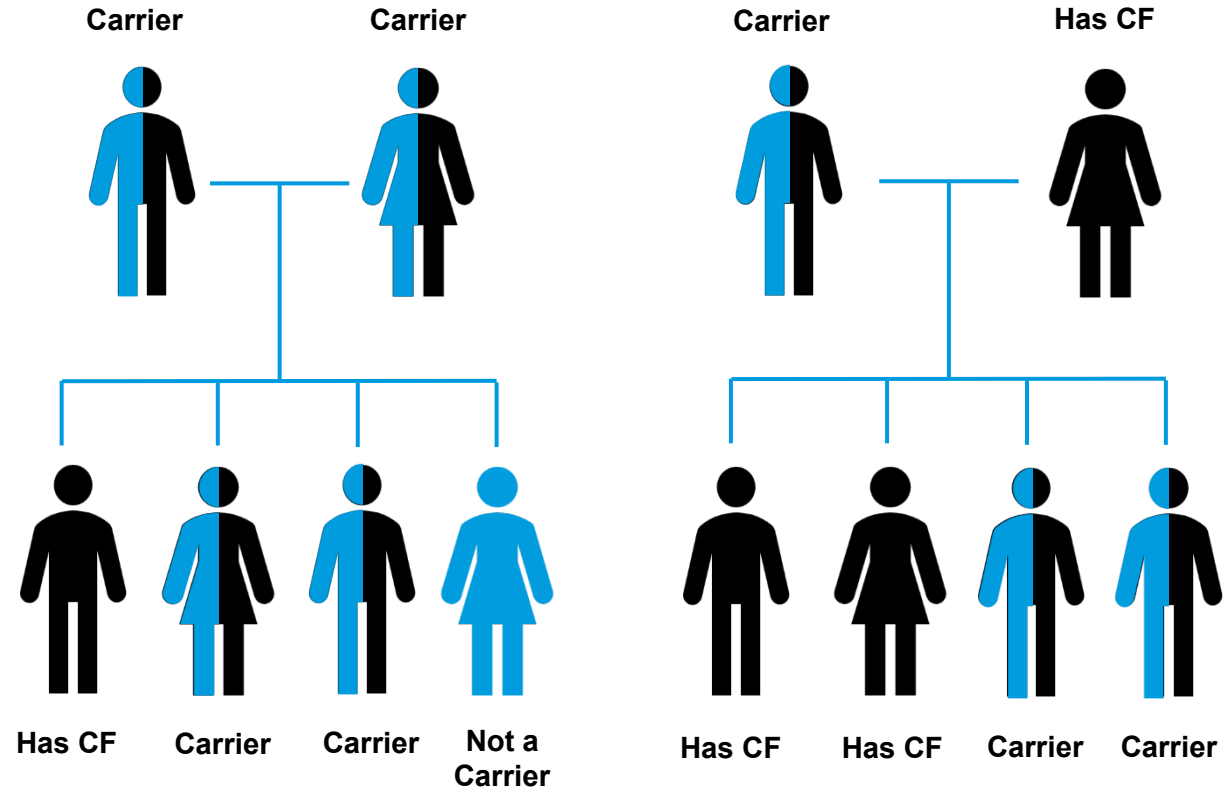
Review guideline recommendations and primary literature to manage non-pulmonary CF complications



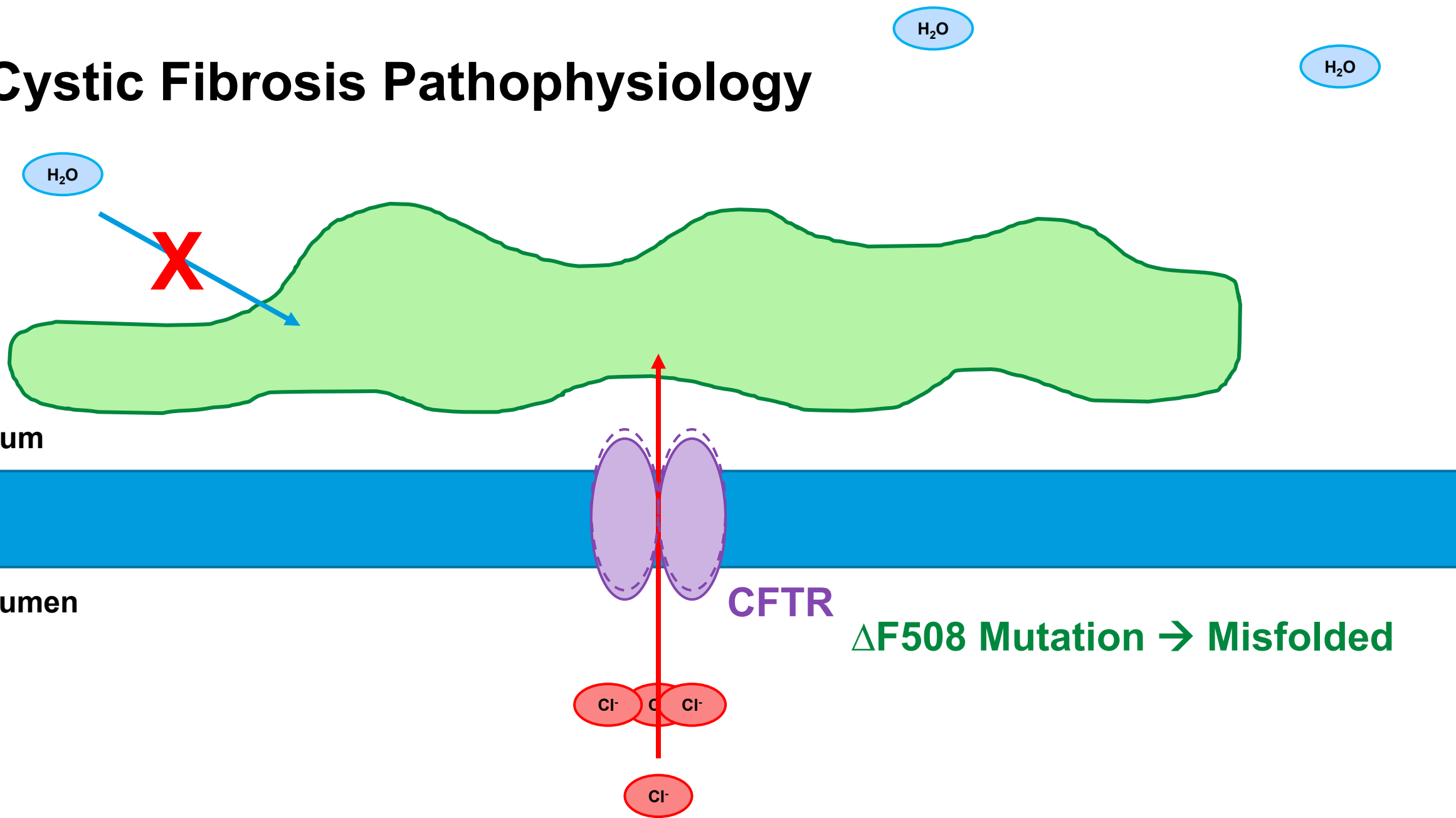
Select appropriate treatment options for patients with non-pulmonary CF complications

# Cystic Fibrosis Epidemiology

- Autosomal recessive genetic disorder
- Affects 70,000 people worldwide, of which > 30,000 are living in the United States alone
- Approximately 1,000 new cases diagnosed each year
- > 50 % of patients living with CF are > 18 years old



# Cystic Fibrosis Pathophysiology



# Complications of Cystic Fibrosis

## General

- Growth failure (malabsorption)
- Vitamin deficiencies (A, D, E, K)

## Liver

- Hepatic steatosis
- Portal hypertension

## Gallbladder

- Biliary cirrhosis
- Neonatal obstructive jaundice
- Cholelithiasis

## Intestines

- Meconium ileus, peritonitis
- Rectal prolapse
- Distal intestinal obstruction syndrome
- Intussusception
- Fibrosis colonopathy (strictures)

## Bone

- Hypertrophic osteoarthropathy
- Arthritis
- Osteoporosis

## Lungs

- Bronchiectasis, bronchitis
- Pneumonia, atelectasis
- Hemoptysis
- Pneumothorax
- Reactive airway disease
- Cor pulmonale
- Mucoïd impaction

## Heart

- Right ventricular hypertrophy
- Pulmonary artery dilation

## Spleen

- Hypersplenism

## Stomach

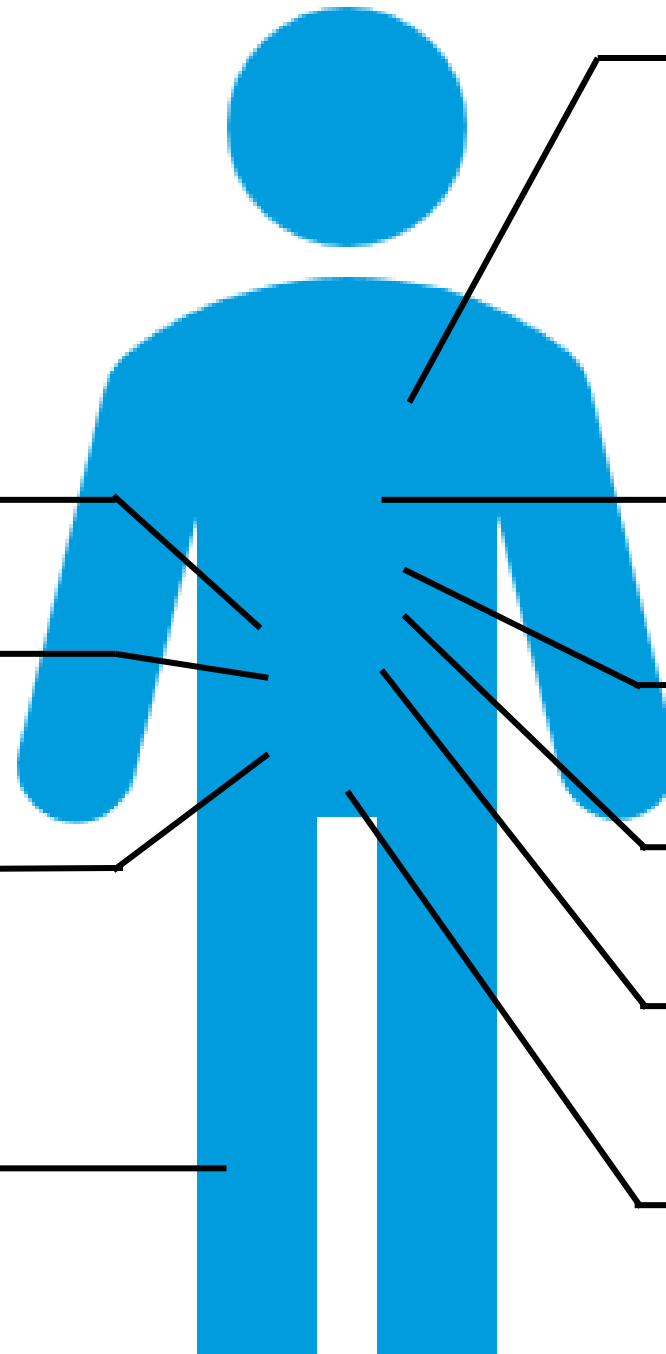
- Gastroesophageal reflux disorder

## Pancreas

- Pancreatitis
- Insulin deficiency
- Diabetes, hyperglycemia

## Reproductive

- Infertility
- Amenorrhea
- Delayed puberty



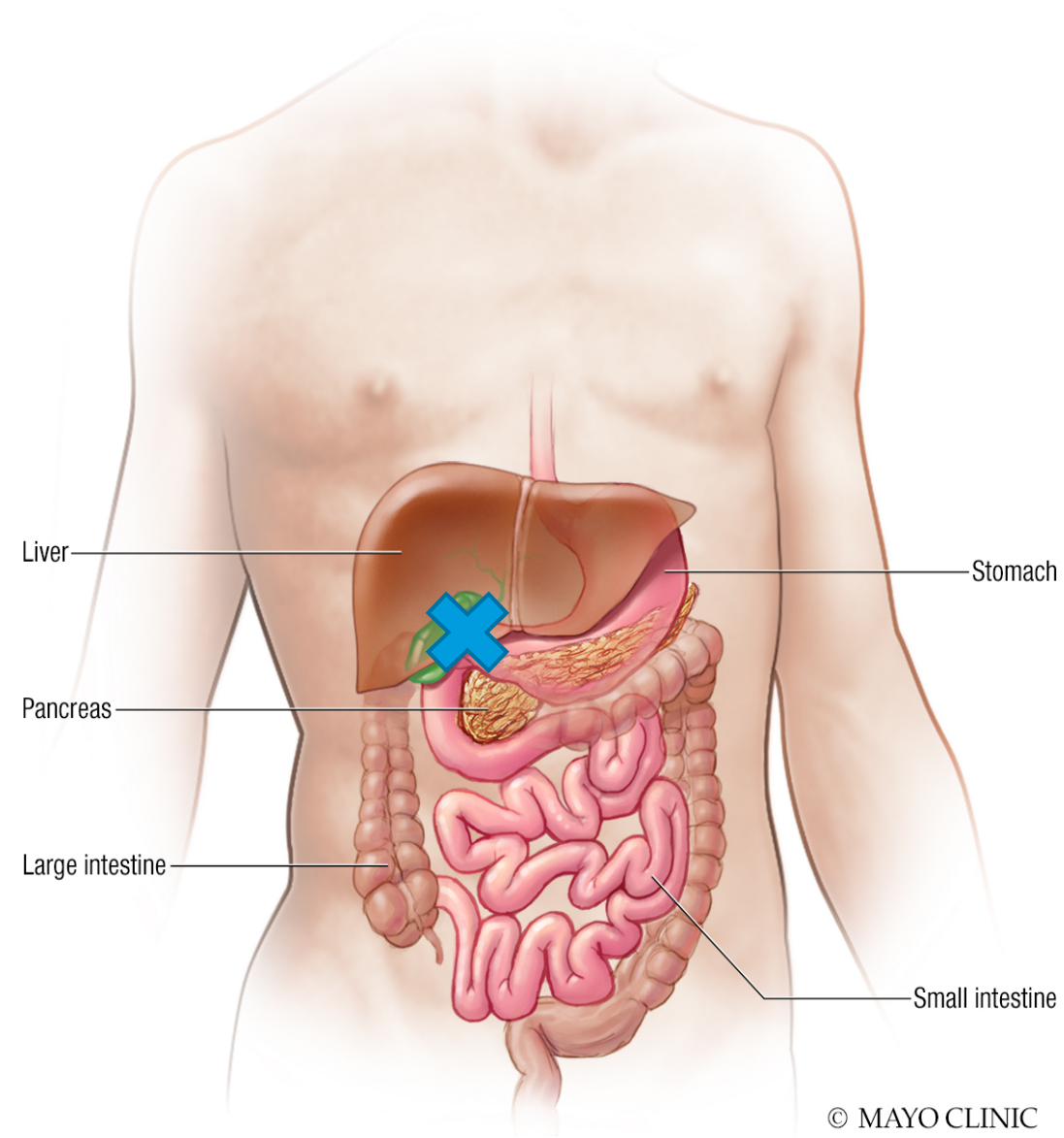
# **Cystic Fibrosis – Related Liver Disease (CFLD)**

# Cystic Fibrosis – Related Liver Disease (CFLD)

Loss of CFTR function in cholangiocytes

Biliary retention leads to obstruction and biliary sludge

Periportal fibrosis → portal hypertension → multi-lobular cirrhosis

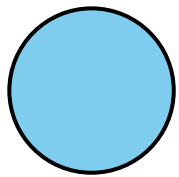


CFTR: cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator

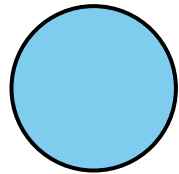
©2020 Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research | slide-7

# Cystic Fibrosis – Related Liver Disease (CFLD)

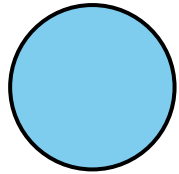
## Presentation



Hepatomegaly +/-  
splenomegaly



Jaundice



Abdominal distention and  
ascites

## Manifestations

Hepatic Complication	Approximate Frequency
Neonatal cholestasis	Infrequent
Hepatic steatosis	20 – 60%
Focal biliary cirrhosis	11 – 70%
Multi-lobular cirrhosis	5 – 15%
Synthetic liver failure	Infrequent



# CFLD Classification

## CFLD WITH cirrhosis / portal hypertension

### Diagnosis based on the following

- Clinical exam
- Imaging
- Histology
- Laparoscopy

## CFLD WITHOUT cirrhosis / portal hypertension

### Must have at least **ONE** of the following

- Persistent AST, ALT and GGT >2x ULN
- Intermittently elevated AST, ALT or GGT
- Steatosis
- Fibrosis
- Cholangiopathy
- US abnormalities inconsistent with cirrhosis

CFLD: cystic fibrosis-related liver disease AST: aspartate aminotransferase  
ALT: alanine aminotransferase GGT: gamma-glutamyltransferase  
US: ultrasound

# CFLD Management

**Liver and Biliary Tract Disease in Cystic Fibrosis Guidelines (1999)**

**Cystic Fibrosis-Related Cirrhosis  
Consensus Statement (2017)**

## Referral

Hepatology

Liver biopsy  
versus  
imaging

## Nutrition

Increase in  
daily caloric  
intake by  
50%

Evaluation  
and repletion  
of fat-soluble  
vitamins

## Liver Disease Reduction

Hepatitis A  
and B  
immunization

Avoidance of  
alcohol and  
hepatotoxic  
substances

## Ursodeoxycholic Acid (UDCA)

?

# Ursodeoxycholic acid (UDCA) / Ursodiol

## Proposed Mechanism of Action - CFLD

- Increase hepato- and cholangiocellular secretion → increased bile flow

## Dosing

- 15 – 20 mg/kg/day in divided doses (MAX 450 mg/day)

**Primary Biliary Cirrhosis:**  
**10 – 15 mg/kg/day**

## Adverse Reactions (>10%)

- GI (diarrhea, constipation, nausea, dyspepsia), headache, dizziness

## Contraindications for Use

- Allergy to bile acids

# UDCA – Effectiveness in CFLD

	Design	Population	Intervention	Results
Colombo C, et al 1996 <sup>1</sup>	Multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled (n=55)	CFLD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Male, 13.8 years</li> </ul>	UDCA 15 mg/kg/day + taurine 30 mg/kg/day (n=15) vs. UDCA + placebo (n=15) vs. Taurine + placebo (n=12) vs. Placebo + placebo (n=12) X 1 year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UDCA ↓GGT (p= 0.06)</li> <li>Stable clinical condition with UDCA via Shwachman-Kulczycki Score (p= 0.02)</li> <li>No severe side effects reported</li> </ul>

UDCA: ursodeoxycholic acid CFLD: cystic fibrosis-related liver disease  
GGT: gamma-glutamyl transferase

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van de Meeberg PC, et al 1997 <sup>2</sup>	Single center, randomized (n=30)	CFLD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Male, 18.3 years</li> </ul>	UDCA 10 mg/kg/day (n=17) vs. UDCA 20 mg/kg/day (n=13) X 1 year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High-dose UDCA: ↓ AP (p&lt; 0.01), GGT (p&lt; 0.002), AST (p&lt; 0.01), ALT (p&lt; 0.02)</li> </ul>

UDCA: ursodeoxycholic acid    CFLD: cystic fibrosis-related liver disease  
GGT: gamma-glutamyl transferase    AP: alkaline phosphatase  
AST: aspartate aminotransferase    ALT: alanine aminotransferase

# UDCA – Safety in CFLD

	Design	Population	Intervention	Results
Siano M, et al 2010 <sup>1</sup>	Single center, retrospective cohort (n=26)	CF with MI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8.4 years</li> <li>1989-2008</li> </ul>	Early UDCA (n=14) vs. CFLD-onset UDCA (n=12)  *Mean dose: 15 mg/kg/day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prevalence of chronic liver disease: CFLD vs Early (40% vs 0%, p&lt;0.05)</li> <li>No significant differences seen in glucose control or GI side effects</li> </ul>

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Colombo C, et al 2016 <sup>2</sup>	Single, center, prospective, observational (n=20)	CFLD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16 years</li> <li>Cirrhosis (n=13)</li> </ul>	UDCA 20 mg/kg/day  Duration: at least 2 years (median = 8 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary serum bile acid: UDCA</li> <li>No significant changes in lithocholic acid concentrations observed</li> </ul>

UDCA 15 – 20 mg/kg/day is safe and effective for the management of CFLD

CF: cystic fibrosis  
MI: meconium ileus  
UDCA: ursodeoxycholic acid  
CFLD: cystic fibrosis-related liver disease

# Audience Participation Question

**Which of the following describes the pathophysiology of cystic fibrosis-related liver disease (CFLD)?**

- A. Gain of CFTR function , biliary obstruction , subsequent fibrosis and cirrhosis
- B. Loss of CFTR function , biliary obstruction , subsequent fibrosis and cirrhosis
- C. Loss of CFTR function , increase in biliary secretion , subsequent fibrosis and cirrhosis
- D. Gain of CFTR function , biliary obstruction , improvement in overall liver function



# **Pancreatic Insufficiency**

# Pancreatic Insufficiency

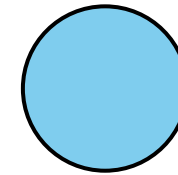
Loss of CFTR function in pancreatic ducts

Impairs transport of chloride (absorption) and bicarbonate (secretion)

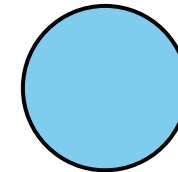
Impaired bicarbonate secretion → inactivation of viable lipases

Intestinal lipid insolubility and fat malabsorption

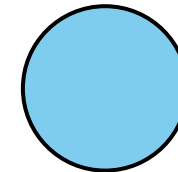
## Presentation



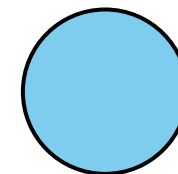
Weight loss



Gas, bloating



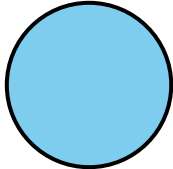
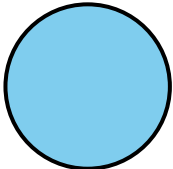
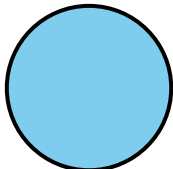
Dyspepsia



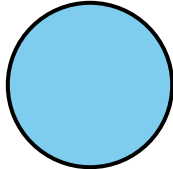
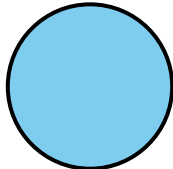
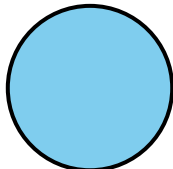
Steatorrhea (loose, oily stool)

# Pancreatic Insufficiency

## Pancreatic Insufficient

-  2 severe CFTR Mutations
-  Classes I, II, III, VI
-  Early diagnosis (birth)

## Pancreatic Sufficient

-  2 mild CFTR Mutations
-  Classes IV and V  
OR 1 severe and 1 mild
-  Able to grow and maintain health without supplemental enzyme therapy

# Pancreatic Insufficiency Management

**Pancreatic Enzyme Therapy in Cystic Fibrosis Guidelines (1995)**

**Pancreatic Insufficiency in Cystic Fibrosis Consensus Statement (2017)**

## Diagnosis

72h stool fat estimation  
(gold standard)  
> 7g fat/ 24hr

Fecal elastase-1  
(most common)  
< 100 mcg/g

## Nutrition

Evaluation and  
repletion of fat-  
soluble vitamins

## Pancreatic Enzyme Replacement Therapy (PERT)

For those who  
classify as  
“pancreatic  
insufficient”

# Pancreatic Enzyme Replacement Therapy (PERT)

## FDA-Approved PERT Products

- Creon®
- Pancreaze®
- Ultresa®
- Zenpep®
- Pertzye®

## Formula Characteristics

- Enteric-coated, gelatin capsule
- Porcine-derived
- Dissolves at pH 5 - 5.5 (more distal)
- No acid suppression required

## Dosage Strength and Administration

- Strength: units of lipase per capsule in 1000s
- Should be taken during or just after a meal
- May open capsule and mix with small amount of soft, acidic food (i.e. applesauce)

# PERT Dosing Strategies

## Dosing by Body Weight

- 500 – 2,500 units lipase/kg/meal
- Half of this content with snacks

## Dosing by Meal Fat Content

- 500 – 4,000 units of lipase per gram of fat ingested per day
- Mimics natural pancreatic enzyme response

**\*Difficult for some patients to calculate\***

## Dosing by Pancreatic Lipase Output

- 480,000 – 960,000 units of lipase secreted during a meal
- 50,000 – 100,000 units of lipase required per meal (> 5-10% of normal levels)

**\*Not typically done in cystic fibrosis\***

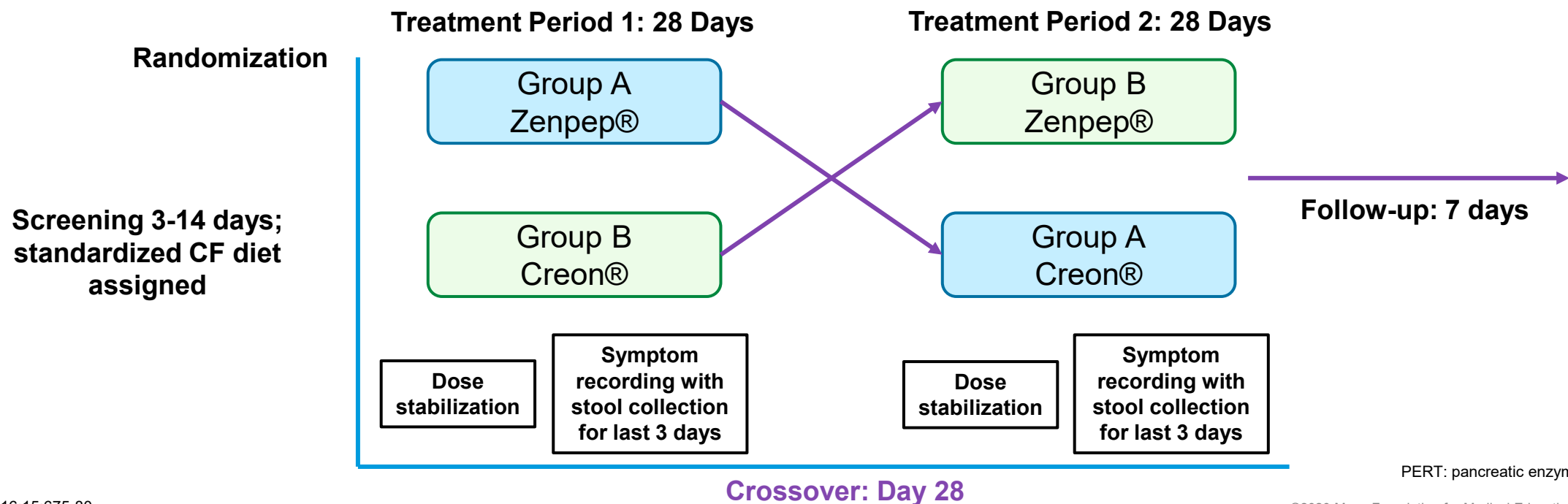
# PERT Products – Mayo Clinic Rochester

<b>Creon® 3,000 units</b>	Lipase 3,000 units Protease 9,500 units Amylase 15,000 units
<b>Creon® 6,000 units</b>	Lipase 6,000 units Protease 19,000 units Amylase 30,000 units
<b>Creon® 12,000 units</b>	Lipase 12,000 units Protease 38,000 units Amylase 60,000 units
<b>Creon® 24,000 units</b>	Lipase 24,000 units Protease 76,000 units Amylase 120,000 units
<b>Creon® 36,000 units</b>	Lipase 36,000 units Protease 114,000 units Amylase 180,000 units

<b>Zenpep® 5,000 units</b>	Lipase 5,000 units Protease 17,000 units Amylase 24,000 units
<b>Zenpep® 10,000 units</b>	Lipase 10,000 units Protease 32,000 units Amylase 42,000 units
<b>Zenpep® 15,000 units</b>	Lipase 15,000 units Protease 47,000 units Amylase 63,000 units
<b>Zenpep® 20,000 units</b>	Lipase 20,000 units Protease 63,000 units Amylase 84,000 units
<b>Zenpep® 25,000 units</b>	Lipase 25,000 units Protease 79,000 units Amylase 105,000 units

# PERT – Effectiveness in Pancreatic Insufficiency

Taylor CJ, et al 2016	
<b>Design</b>	Multicenter, randomized, double-blind, active-controlled, crossover, non-inferiority (n=96)
<b>Population</b>	CF (Male, mean age 19.2 years) with PI on PERT
<b>Intervention</b>	Zenpep® vs Creon® x 28 days (MAX 10,000 lipase units/kg/day OR 4,000 units/g fat/day)





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<b>Intervention</b>	Zenpep® vs Creon® x 28 days (MAX 10,000 lipase units/kg/day OR 4,000 units/g fat/day)
<b>Results</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CFA-72h: Zenpep® (84.1%) vs Creon® (85.3%) – non-inferior</li> <li>• Signs/Symptoms of PI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average number stools/day: Zenpep® (1.5) vs Creon® (1.5)</li> <li>• No difference in number of patient-days with bloating</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Similar in overall health, well-being, and CF symptoms (except lung function)</li> </ul>

**CFA-72h:**  $\{[\text{dietary fat intake (grams)} - \text{stool fat excretion (grams)}] / \text{dietary fat intake (grams)}\} \times 100$

# Audience Participation Question

**The 2017 Pancreatic Insufficiency in Cystic Fibrosis Consensus Statement recommends which of the following for the management of pancreatic insufficiency?**

- A. Evaluation and repletion of water-soluble vitamins
- B. Increase fat in diet to promote pancreatic activity
- C. PERT (i.e. Creon®) dosed 500 – 2,500 units amylase/kg/meal + none with snacks
- D. PERT (i.e. Zenpep®) dosed 500 – 2,500 units lipase/kg/meal + half content with snacks

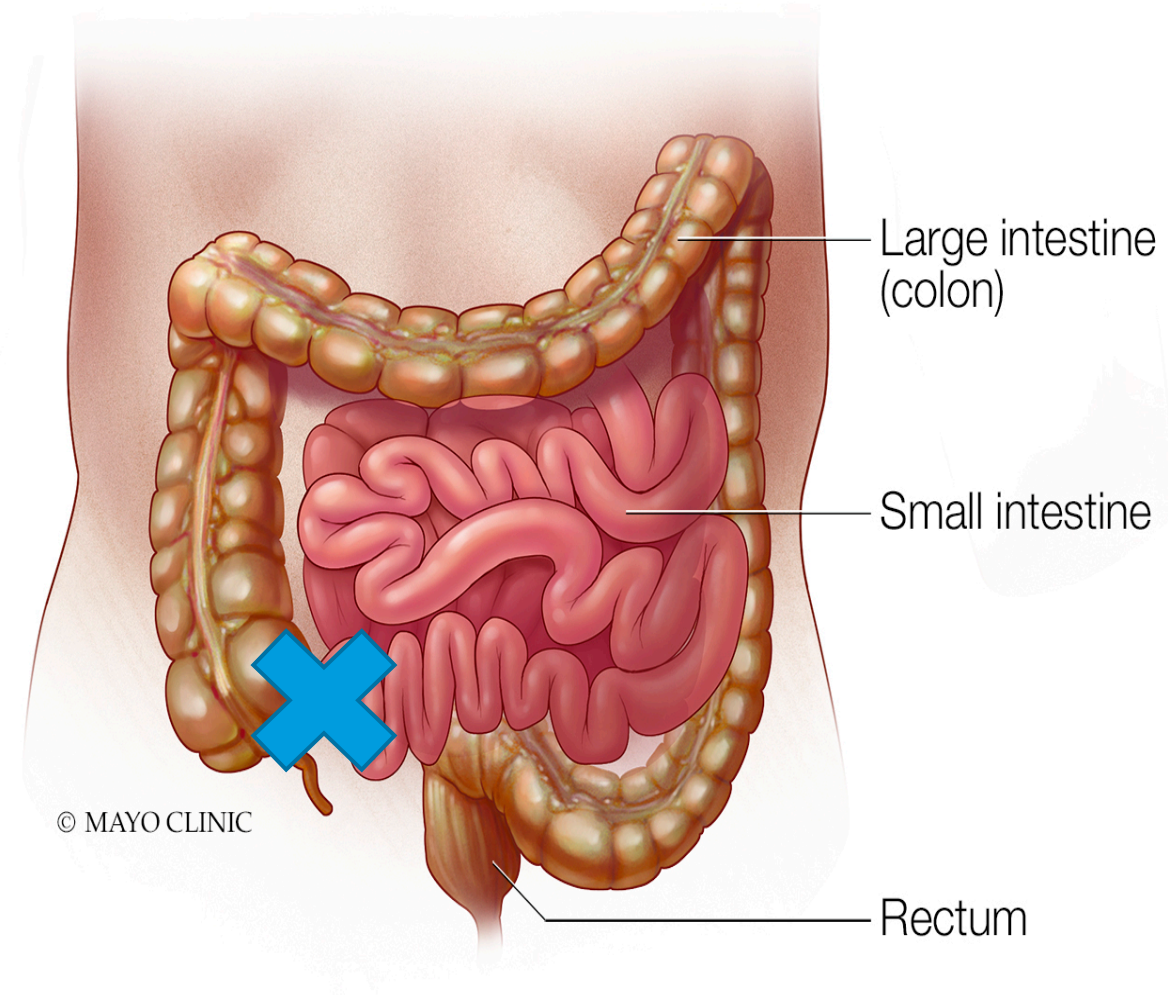
# **Distal Intestinal Obstruction Syndrome (DIOS)**

# Distal Intestinal Obstruction Syndrome (DIOS)

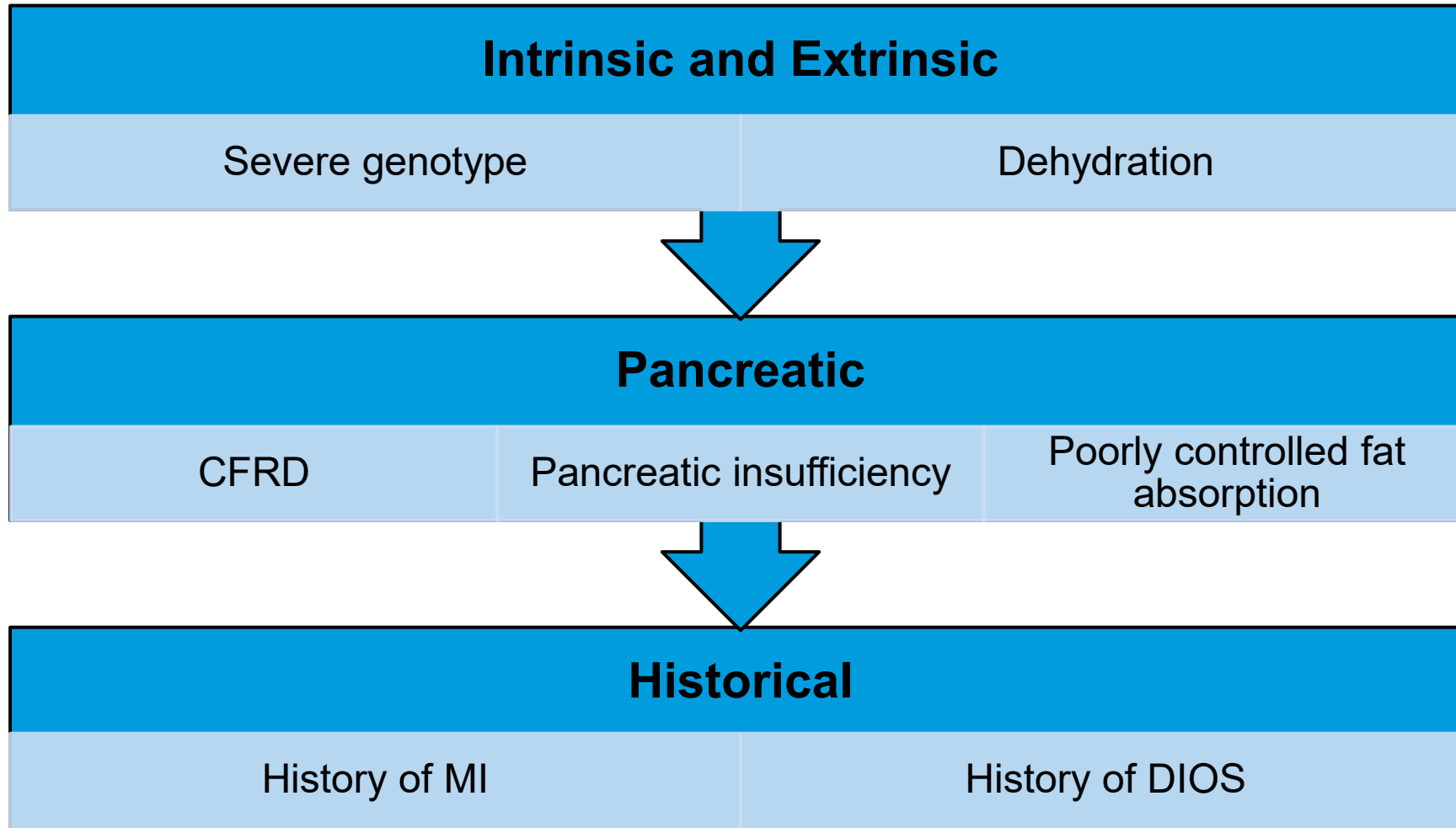
Loss of CFTR function → decreased chloride and fluid secretion

Dehydrated mucosa, altered mucin properties → mucus plugging, viscid stool

Prolongation of gut transit and accumulation in distal ileum and proximal colon → obstruction



# DIOS Risk Factors



CFRD: cystic fibrosis-related diabetes

MI: meconium ileus

DIOS: distal intestinal obstruction syndrome

# DIOS Classification

## CF Related Constipation

- Abdominal pain and/or distension
- Reduced frequency of BMs in the last few weeks/months
- Increased stool consistency in the last few weeks/months
- Symptoms relieved using laxatives

## Incomplete or Impending DIOS

- Fecal mass in the ileo-cecum
- Abdominal pain and/or distension

## Complete DIOS

- Fecal mass in the ileo-cecum
- Abdominal pain and/or distension
- Complete intestinal obstruction: vomiting bilious material and/or fluid levels in intestine on abdominal imaging

# Distal Intestinal Obstruction Syndrome Management

**Cystic Fibrosis & Disorders  
of the Large Intestine –  
DIOS Consensus Statement  
(2017)**

## Diagnosis

Abdominal  
radiography

Symptoms  
(see previous slide)

## Nutrition

Bowel rest

Urgent  
nasogastric  
decompression  
(complete DIOS)

## Management

Osmotic  
Laxatives

Sodium  
meglumine  
diatrizoate  
(Gastrografin®)

N-acetyl  
cysteine

# Diatrizoate meglumine and diatrizoate sodium (Gastrografin®)

## Mechanism of Action

- Hypertonic radiopaque (iodine-containing) contrast agent
- Highly osmolar (osmolality 2150 mOsm/kg H<sub>2</sub>O at 37°C)

## Dosage Form

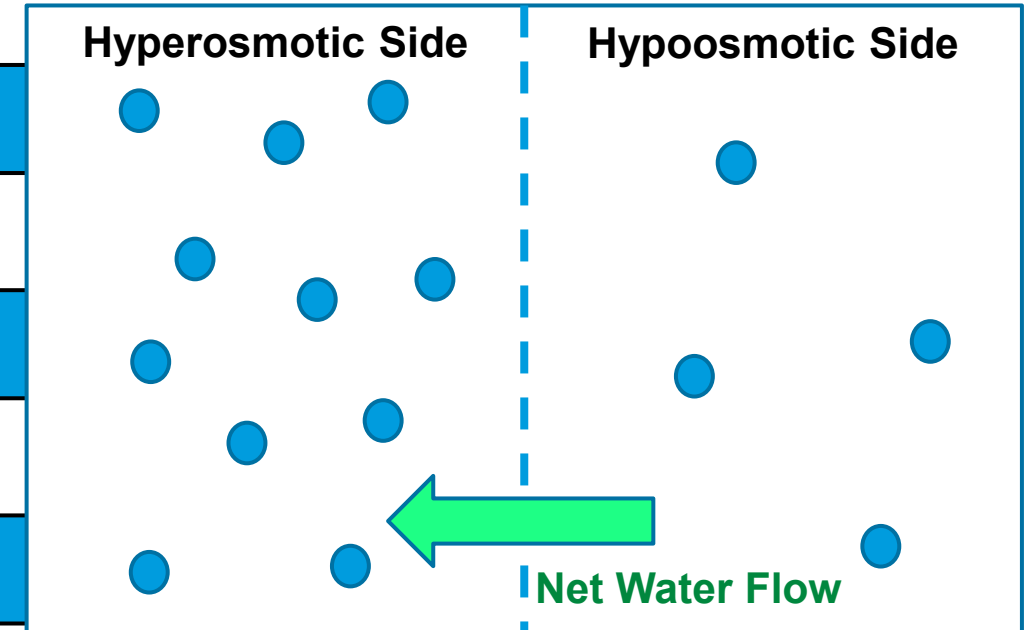
- Sodium diatrizoate 100 mg/mL
- Meglumine diatrizoate 660 mg/mL

## Adverse Reactions (undefined frequency)

- GI (diarrhea, nausea, vomiting)
- Respiratory (dyspnea, hypoxia)
- Erythema, urticaria
- Hypotension secondary to fluid shifts

## Precautions for Use

- CI with iodine hypersensitivity, pre-existing dehydration, prolonged obstruction





# DIOS Treatments – Effectiveness

	Design	Population	Intervention	Results
O'Halloran S, et al. 1986 <sup>1</sup>	Single center, case series (n=67, 37 episodes)	CF, DIOS episode <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Female, 9.8 years (mean)</li><li>Follow-up: 12 months</li></ul>	Oral Gastrografin® (50mL or 100mL) solution followed by 4x oral volume repletion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>30 episodes treated with single dose (81%)</li><li>6 episodes required a second dose 24 hours later (16%)</li><li>1 treatment failure requiring Gastrografin® enema (3%)</li></ul>

CF: cystic fibrosis DIOS: distal intestinal obstruction syndrome.

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Koletzko S, et al. 1989 <sup>2</sup>	Case series (n=22)	CF, R iliac fossa mass <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Male, 21.8 years (mean)</li> <li>Follow-up: 26 months</li> </ul>	Iso-osmotic polyethylene glycol 5.6 +/- 1.9L oral or NG x 5.6 +/- 2.4 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↓ radiologic impaction signs (p&lt;0.001) and hospital duration (p&lt;0.02)</li> <li>Mean 3 months symptom/pain free with minor adverse effects</li> </ul>

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Zahra M, et al. 2014 <sup>3</sup>	Single center, case series (n=8, 12 episodes)	CF, DIOS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Male, 22.5 years (mean)</li> </ul>	Gastrografin® enema <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mean dilution 1220 mL OR 31 mL/kg</li> <li>Range 240 – 3500 mL OR 19 – 59 mL/kg</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete resolution (100%)</li> <li>3 patients required repeat enemas on consecutive days</li> <li>1 patients with 3 enemas on 3 consecutive days</li> </ul>

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O'Halloran S, et al. 1986 <sup>1</sup>	Single center, case series (n=67, 37 episodes)	CF, DIOS episode <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Female, 9.8 years (mean)</li> <li>Follow-up: 12 months</li> </ul>	Oral Gastrografin® (50mL or 100mL) solution followed by 4x oral volume repletion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 episodes treated with single dose (81%)</li> <li>6 episodes required a second dose 24 hours later (16%)</li> <li>1 treatment failure requiring Gastrografin® enema (3%)</li> </ul>
Koletzko S, et al. 1989 <sup>2</sup>	Case series (n=22)	CF, R iliac fossa mass <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Male, 21.8 years (mean)</li> <li>Follow-up: 26 months</li> </ul>	Iso-osmotic polyethylene glycol 5.6 +/- 1.9L oral or NG x 5.6 +/- 2.4 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↓ radiologic impaction signs (p&lt;0.001) and hospital duration (p&lt;0.02)</li> <li>Mean 3 months symptom/pain free with minor adverse effects</li> </ul>
Zahra M, et al. 2014 <sup>3</sup>	Single center, case series (n=8, 12 episodes)	CF, DIOS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Male, 22.5 years (mean)</li> </ul>	Gastrografin® enema <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mean dilution 1220 mL OR 31 mL/kg</li> <li>Range 240 – 3500 mL OR 19 – 59 mL/kg</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete resolution (100%)</li> <li>3 patients required repeat enemas on consecutive days</li> <li>1 patients with 3 enemas on 3 consecutive days</li> </ul>
Munck A, et al. 2016 <sup>4</sup>	International, multicenter, prospective, observational (n=102 patients, 112 episodes)	CF, new DIOS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Male, 14.7 years (median)</li> <li>Follow-up: 1.6 years (median)</li> </ul>	Gastrografin® enema (n=36/108) Gastrografin® enema + PEG lavage (n=11/108) PEG lavage (n=52/110) Oral osmotic laxative (n=73/106) Colonoscopy or Surgery (n=6/112)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medical treatment was successful for all IDIOS episodes</li> <li>Most patients with CDIOS were treated with Gastrografin®</li> <li>Medical failure occurred in 6 patients (all CDIOS, required colonoscopy or surgery)</li> </ul>

CF: cystic fibrosis DIOS: distal intestinal obstruction syndrome R: right  
NG: nasogastric PEG: polyethylene glycol IDIOS: incomplete DIOS CDIOS: complete DIOS

# Incomplete DIOS – Recommendations

## Cystic Fibrosis & Disorders of the Large Intestine – DIOS Consensus Statement (2017)

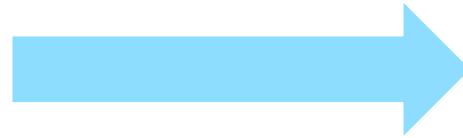
Oral rehydration +  
Polyethylene glycol 2 g/kg/day (max  
80 – 100 g/day)  
OR  
Iso-osmotic PEG (i.e. Golytely® 20 –  
40 mL/kg/hour (max 1L/hour over 8  
hours)

Diatrizoate meglumine and  
diatrizoate sodium (Gastrografin®)  
PO/NG 100 mL (diluted in 400 mL)  
on Day 1 + half dose on subsequent  
days if needed

# Complete DIOS – Recommendations

## Cystic Fibrosis & Disorders of the Large Intestine – DIOS Consensus Statement (2017)

**Moderate obstruction without vomiting**

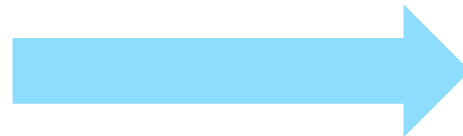


Oral rehydration +  
Polyethylene glycol 2 g/kg/day  
(max 80 – 100 g/day)

OR

Iso-osmotic PEG (i.e. Golytely®)  
20 – 40 mL/kg/hour (max 1L/hour  
over 8 hours)

**More severe obstruction with bilious vomiting**



IV hydration +  
NG decompression +  
Diatrizoate meglumine and  
diatrizoate sodium  
(Gastrografin®) enema 100 mL  
diluted x 4 with water as  
retrograde lavage with hydrostatic  
pressure (IR procedure)



**Failure**

# DIOS Prevention – Recommendations

## Cystic Fibrosis & Disorders of the Large Intestine – DIOS Consensus Statement (2017)

### Prophylaxis with history of DIOS

- Polyethylene glycol 0.5 – 1 g/kg/day (max 40 g/day) x 6-12 months
- Lactulose



Avoidance of dehydration



Reassess adequate PERT

# Audience Participation Question

AB is a 27 yo female with a PMHx significant for CF with PI who was admitted from CF clinic for worsening abdominal pain and constipation. Her current symptoms include 10/10 cramping abdominal pain and nausea without vomiting. She states she has not had time to get to the grocery in the past week and has been eating more fast food with limited water intake. CT abdomen/pelvis reveals a large, obstructing mass in the right ileocecal region with inspissated bilious material.



# Audience Participation Question

**Given the current presentation, how would you classify AB's DIOS episode per the 2017 Cystic Fibrosis & Disorders of the Large Intestine – DIOS Consensus Statement?**

- A. CF-Related Constipation
- B. Incomplete DIOS
- C. Complete DIOS
- D. CF-Related Diarrhea

# Audience Participation Question

During rounds, AB has had multiple episodes of bilious vomiting without improvement in symptoms despite multiple treatments with polyethylene glycol.

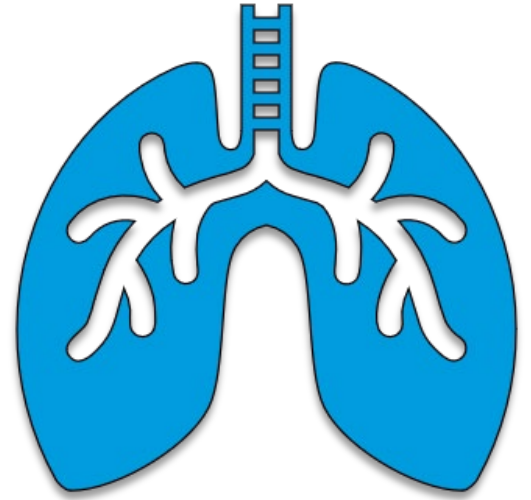
# Audience Participation Question

**Which of the following would be an appropriate next treatment for AB's DIOS episode?**

- A. Oral lactulose titrated to bowel movements
- B. IV rehydration + NG decompression + oral diatrizoate meglumine and diatrizoate sodium (Gastrografin®)
- C. IV rehydration + NG decompression + diatrizoate meglumine and diatrizoate sodium (Gastrografin®) enema
- D. Re-trial oral polyethylene glycol + rectal lactulose titrated to bowel movements

# Summary

- Cystic fibrosis is an autosomal recessive disease that carries a high risk of mortality and extrapulmonary complications
- Ursodiol may prevent the progression of cystic fibrosis – related liver disease, but larger trials with long-term data is needed
- Pancreatic insufficiency is managed with pancreatic enzyme replacement therapy that is individualized to the patient in order to prevent malabsorption
- Those patients with DIOS should receive aggressive bowel regimens, possibly including sodium meglumine diatrizoate, in order to prevent surgical interventions



# It's Not Just the Lungs?

## Non-Pulmonary Complications of Cystic Fibrosis

Ashley Otto, PharmD, BCPS

Pharmacy Grand Rounds  
January 5, 2021