

INDICATIONS FOR REFERRAL

Table 8.1 Indications for referral.

- Persistent, severe, or recurrent abdominal pain
- Shock
 - Tachycardia (heart rate >70 beats/min)
 - Injected or toxic oral membranes
 - Poor jugular vein refill time
 - Cool extremities
 - Dull mentation
- Tachycardia or increasing heart rate
- Nasogastric reflux, especially large volumes of reflux
- Decreasing or absent intestinal borborygmi
- Severe or increasing abdominal distention
- Absence of fecal production for >24 h and despite treatment
- Palpation per rectum findings (p. 22)
 - Cecal impaction
 - Small colon impaction
 - Colonic displacement (nephrosplenic entrapment or right dorsal displacement)
 - Severe colonic distention
 - Distended small intestinal loops
 - Abdominal mass(es)